



ANNUAL REPORT 2022





From left to right and from top to bottom:

► A trader expresses a view for a Studio Kalangou programme in Niger. @Apsatou Bagaya / Fondation Hironnelle. ► A young woman listens to Radio Ndeke Luka in the Central African Republic. © Gwenn Dubourthoumieu / Fondation Hironnelle. ► During a training session, two Ukrainian journalists show the newspapers they work for. © Florent Vergnes / Fondation Hironnelle. ► A live broadcast by Studio Sifaka, our partner in Madagascar. © Iako Randrianarivelo / Fondation Hironnelle. ► A Studio Yafa journalist reporting in the streets of Ouagadougou. © Olympia de Maismont / Fondation Hironnelle



Cover : from left to right and from top to bottom:

► Two men listen to news on the radio in Pakistan. © AFP. ► A Ukrainian photographer covers a ceremony for media outlets. © Florent Vergnes / Fondation Hironnelle. ► Two Frontier Myanmar journalists during production of a Doh Athan podcast. © Lam Duc Hien / Fondation Hironnelle. ► A Studio Kalangou journalist reporting in the streets of Niamey, Niger. © Apsatou Bagaya / Fondation Hironnelle. ► A listener concentrates on the radio in the Central African Republic. © Adrienne Surprenant / Collectif Item. ► A Studio Tamani journalist captures an artisan during a report. © Florent Vergnes / Fondation Hironnelle. ► A woman being interviewed in a market in Kasserine, Tunisia. © Gwenn Dubourthoumieu / Fondation Hironnelle. ► A journalist records during a report in Niger. © Apsatou Bagaya / Fondation Hironnelle.

SWIFT AND RESPONSIVE MEDIA SUPPORT IN CRISES

The year 2022 was marked by the Ukraine war - a conflict that played out not only on the ground but also on social media, where disinformation and misleading images were rampant. In conflict zones, disinformation is a powerful weapon, and Fondation Hirondelle has always worked to fight it. In Ukraine, Fondation Hirondelle acted swiftly, providing financial and material support to independent media, and training journalists in the coverage of international justice within weeks of the war's outbreak. This ability to be rapid and responsive has been the hallmark of the organisation's work for more than 25 years.

Fondation Hirondelle maintains its presence in Africa and Asia, with media programmes in 10 countries. The vital role of journalism is most evident in major crises. Reliable, comprehensive, independent and pluralistic information can not only rekindle dialogue and facilitate conflict resolution, it can serve as a lifeline to the victims of disasters or human rights violations and give them a voice. Sincere thanks to all our staff and contributors for their unwavering commitment.

Tony Burgener

Chairman of the Fondation Hirondelle Board

REINVENTING OUR APPROACH: MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF GLOBAL "POLYCRISES"

In 2022, we faced an unprecedented degradation of the security environment in several countries where we work. This had an impact on our field activities and on the way we operate at headquarters. We have had to reinvent ourselves and our activities in order to be able to carry out our mission, namely to provide information to populations so they can take action in their daily lives and as citizens. It has become essential to be able to cope with repeated shocks. In the New York Times, political scientist Thomas Homer-Dixon and climate scientist Johan Rockström describe the current environment as "permanently dangerous". The chain of crises - humanitarian, climate, health, political and financial - creates a complex set of global emergencies, whose overall impact is greater than the sum of their parts. This requires us to adapt our media responses and approaches. Basic support to the media is no longer sufficient. We need to enhance their expertise to address urgent concerns such as climate change, international justice, and misinformation in a way that is rigorous and relevant to audiences.

Caroline Vuillemin

Executive Director of Fondation Hirondelle



FONDATION HIRONDELLE'S STRATEGIC PROGRAMME

ADAPTING OUR MEDIA RESPONSES AND APPROACHES

Our 2021-2024 strategic programme aims to foster peaceful, inclusive, democratic and just societies through independent news media and to support spaces for dialogue between all components of society. 2022 - half way through this programme - was an intense year for Fondation Hironnelle, which had to respond to new humanitarian crises in the countries where it worked and deal with several departures from its teams. Despite these challenges, Fondation Hironnelle remained focused on its strategic objectives and is pleased that half of its projects now focus on strengthening the capacity of partner media.

In an increasingly fragile and uncertain environment, succeeding in this mission requires us to be adaptable and flexible in our media responses and approaches. We must meet the evolving information needs of populations, especially in places where civic and media spaces are shrinking. Our first allies are our media partners in the countries where we work, as well as those who support us financially and who understand that inaction is not a solution to these crises.

Key figures 2022

12 media operations in **12** countries,
on **3** continents

11 916 hours of audio programmes

238 hours of video programmes

10 706 articles on the Internet

1 315 748 users of our websites

747 290 followers on Facebook and Twitter

519 media supported

1 427 people trained



hirondelle.org   

A Studio Tamani journalist films fishermen in Segou on the banks of River Niger. © Florent Vergnes / Fondation Hirondelle.

GLOBAL POLARIZATION, LOCAL VULNERABILITIES

The year 2022 was marked by new international crises requiring a high degree of responsiveness. These included the war in Ukraine, the floods in Pakistan, and a deterioration in the political, security and humanitarian situation in the Sahel and in central Africa.

In order for us to be consistently engaged and flexible, we rely on committed teams with diverse areas of expertise, both in the field and at headquarters. The women and men who make up Fondation Hirondelle and its media programmes are our most valuable asset, but this resource is fragile. In 2022, Fondation Hirondelle saw several departures of colleagues in key positions, for various reasons, and would like to thank them for their work and commitment.

Despite the challenges posed by the deteriorating security situation in several of the countries where we operate, Fondation Hirondelle has remained focused on its core activities while launching new initiatives in Mali, Burkina Faso, and Myanmar. Unfortunately, we have been forced to give up some of our off-site training and programmes, which will result in a lower volume of activities in 2022 than in the previous year. Nonetheless, we have made every effort to develop our activities where possible.


One of our key initiatives in 2022 was the launch of an emergency response by Justice Info to support coverage of judicial initiatives against human rights violations and crimes in Ukraine. Within weeks of the war starting, this transitional justice news outlet began explaining the judicial stakes of the conflict on its website while simultaneously training Ukrainian journalists on the mechanisms of international justice. Additionally, a dozen regional media outlets received financial and technical support.

In the Central African Republic, we installed two new FM transmitters for Radio Ndeke Luka, thus consolidating broadcasting of the flagship favourite radio station of Central Africans in this unstable country. The very positive results of an audience survey conducted in the country at the end of 2022 confirmed the trust and attachment that the Central African population has for Radio Ndeke Luka.

In our countries of operation, we also conducted several research studies on misinformation and how to deal with it. These results were presented in briefings to embassies and public authorities preoccupied by misinformation and the polarization of opinions in Europe and Africa.

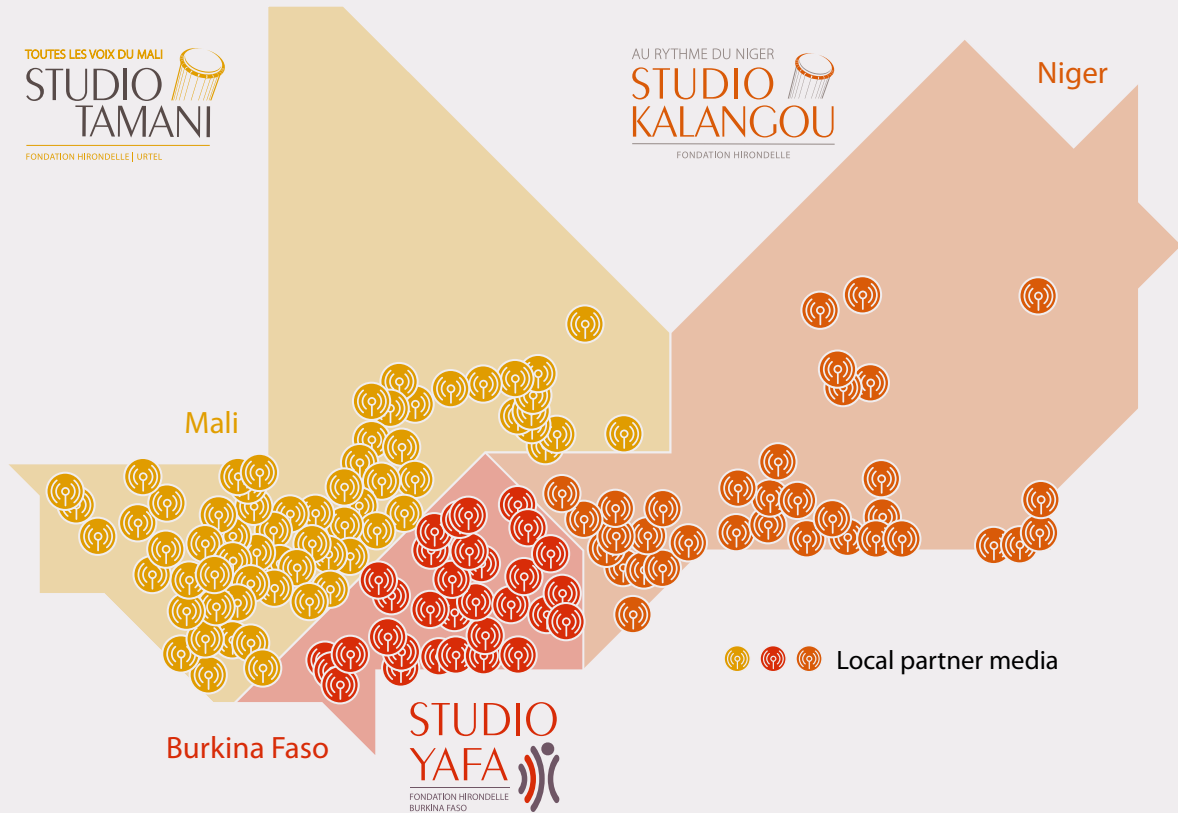
On an institutional level, two new members joined the Fondation Board: Marie-Jeanne Eby, who brings a wealth of experience in the humanitarian sector acquired at the ICRC, and the Editor-in-Chief of Le Monde Diplomatique, Akram Belkaïd. The Board validated a new Editorial Charter with four points: independence, honesty, universality, and respecting differences and a spirit of openness.

MAINTAINING SOCIAL TIES IN CONTEXT OF GROWING TENSION



In a context of growing political tension where organized armed violence is gaining ground and freedom of the press is threatened, Fondation Hirondelle is adapting its programmes in the Sahel to combat misinformation and train West African journalists in conflict prevention.

Studio Kalangou's "Tous à la Fada" programme is an important rendez-vous for young people in Niger, providing a place to express themselves.
© Apsatou Bagaya / Fondation Hirondelle.



The context in the Sahel countries remained unstable in 2022. On the security front, various armed groups affiliated with Al-Qaeda and Islamic State in the Greater Sahara (IS-GS) continued to operate in Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso, targeting civilians and regular armed forces. In northern Burkina Faso, nearly 40% of the territory has fallen under the control of armed groups, and attacks on villages have killed more than 100 civilians. The same is true in Mali and Niger, with a concentration of attacks around the regions of Gao, Menaka, Mopti and Tillabéri. With both armed violence and climate change, people in the Sahel are seeing their environment change dramatically.

Over the past year, floods have killed hundreds of people in the region, displaced thousands more, and destroyed more than one million hectares of cultivated land. The low productivity of the land and rising prices of food and basic goods have aggravated the food crisis in the region. Average annual inflation reached 4.2% in 2022, the highest rate in the last ten years. In addition, there is political instability in Mali and Burkina Faso. The latter experienced two coups in January and September 2022.

The narrowing of civic space and a climate of repression against the media have become more pronounced. In April 2022, international media outlets France 24 and RFI were forced to stop broadcasting in Mali. In November, the Malian channel Joliba TV News was also suspended by the authorities for defamatory statements. In Burkina Faso, RFI was also suspended from the country in December. Misinformation and hate speech against government opponents have found new ways to manifest themselves, through social platforms.

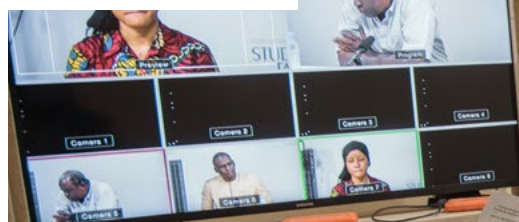
The fragility of the region's media is at an all-time high, and there is a widespread risk that extremist rhetoric will be relayed without any critical distance. The threat of suspension hangs over those who want to continue providing independent information. Yet the role of the media in the prevention of multifaceted crises is crucial. This requires reliable and inclusive information, accessible to as many people as possible, and the highlighting of concrete initiatives that strengthen the resilience of communities.

To support the media in the region, Fondation Hironnelle launched a "Media and Violence Prevention in the Sahel" programme in 2022. This programme, financed by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAE), is aimed at professional journalists from seven French-speaking West African countries: Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso, Benin, Togo, Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire. For one year, a group of 25 journalists, including 7 women, will benefit from theoretical and practical training, composed of four individual teaching blocks and support from the Fondation's editorial expert.

As for the three Fondation Hironnelle media present in this region, Studio Tamani (Mali), Studio Kalangou (Niger) and Studio Yafa (Burkina Faso), they have adapted their programmes to fight against disinformation, misinformation and propaganda. Several short, accessible programmes in local languages have been set up to deconstruct false information and fill the information void. These local programmes, broadcast by a network of more than 180 media partners, constitute reference points for the populations in this extremely fragile context. ■

“There is a need for reliable information, which can be met by existing initiatives such as the serious and reflective network of radio stations supported by Fondation Hironnelle (Studio Tamani in Mali and Studio Kalangou in Niger). The state propaganda machines can muzzle their voice, yet it exists and should be maintained.”

Extract from the study "Civilian-Jihadist Interactions in Mali and Niger" Research Findings and Policy Lessons - By Ferdaous Bouhleb and Yvan Guichaoua - University of Kent.



MALI STUDIO TAMANI

Studio Tamani is a radio studio whose news programmes have been accompanying the daily lives of Malians since 2013 by giving them a voice and access to reliable information in five languages (French, Bambara, Peulh, Tamasheq, Songhai). It was born out of a partnership between Fondation Hironnelle and the Union of Free Radios and Televisions of Mali (URTEL).

Studio Tamani broadcasts four hours and 30 minutes of programmes daily, from Monday to Friday: news bulletins, features, the debate programme “Le Grand Dialogue” and an educational programme. On weekends, two hours of programmes are devoted to youth and their concerns.

The daily broadcast reaches 95% of Malian territory and is regularly followed by 28% of Malians. This coverage is made possible by a network of 85 partner radios and three private television stations. Collaboration with the company Viamo extends the audience to an additional 1,188,050 people, through listening on a telephone platform available throughout the country.

FINANCIAL VOLUME

1 936 064 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- Sweden (ASDI)
- Denmark (FAMOC)
- Switzerland (SDC Programme contribution)
- Czech Republic
- United Kingdom (FCDO - CSSF)
- UNICEF
- Fondation Nicolas Puech
- Fondation Madeleine
- Fondation d'Aide à l'Enfance et au Tiers-monde
- Income generated
- Private donations

studiotamani.org



Studio Tamani technicians during “Le Grand Dialogue” televised debate in Mali. © Florent Vergnes / Fondation Hironnelle.

PROXIMITY, INCLUSIVENESS, AND ACCESSIBILITY

“ Studio Tamani, the whole Bafoulabé [administrative] circle is proud of you, because we are informed about everything that happens in the circle. And it is also very clear information. Every time I call the village and tell them what has happened there, they are surprised and ask me how I know. Credible and reliable information. Congratulations. ”

Boubacar SABE, a citizen of the administrative circle of Bafoulabé, in the region of Kayes in southwest Mali, who lives in Bamako and is a faithful listener of Studio Tamani programmes.

To strengthen proximity to Malians and improve Studio Tamani’s productions, 70 reporting, discussion and training missions were organized in the interior of Mali (outside the capital) between May and December 2022, with an average of 10 productions per mission.

For the first time, Studio Tamani moved all the programmes outside the capital to Segou and Kayes (south-central and south-western Mali) to give voice to local populations. For each of these two missions, 22 hours and 30 minutes of news and debate were broadcast over five days from the chosen location.

Gender equality, diversity and social inclusion are at the heart of Studio Tamani’s work. Women’s representation on the air is up 48%, and Studio Tamani’s information comes from correspondents throughout the country.

In 2022, the security situation in Mali deteriorated severely as attacks on civilians by armed Islamist groups and killings of suspects by pro-government forces in counterterrorism operations increased. The government tightened its crackdown on the media and opposition voices, reducing civic space.

In this tense political and socio-economic context, Studio Tamani continued its mission to inform and encourage dialogue and thus contribute to stability and a return to peace. 26 hours and 30 minutes of impartial, independent and credible programmes close to the people were broadcast each week in five languages through five broadcasting platforms (radio, TV, web, social networks, mobile phones).

In 2022, Studio Tamani revamped its programme schedule with new daily thematic magazines on health, economy and governance issues. The popular magazines on gender and migration, as well as environment and climate change, were maintained.



Studio Kalangou's environment focal point talks to growers in Niamey about the impact of climate change.
 © Apsatou Bagaya / Fondation Hironnelle.

NIGER STUDIO KALANGOU

Studio Kalangou project supports the media sector in Niger in two ways: production and broadcast of journalistic content; and strengthening the capacities of partner media. The Studio Kalangou editorial team is composed of about 50 local journalists based in Niamey and about 50 correspondents across the whole country. Since 2016, it has been producing two hours of daily radio programmes in the evening from 5pm to 7pm, in five languages. These are broadcast by 52 partner radio stations reaching nearly 80% of the country's population. Since February 13, 2023, an additional hour of programming is produced at noon. These programmes are also available on a toll-free telephone number. In addition, the editorial staff produces programmes and video reports for social networks and six partner televisions. In parallel, Studio Kalangou provides technical and financial support and capacity building to Niger media so that they can become autonomous, able to produce and broadcast quality information programmes.

FINANCIAL VOLUME
 1 622 367 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- Switzerland (SDC Mandate)
- Switzerland (SDC Programme Contribution)
- United Kingdom (FCDO - CSSF)
- European Union (EIDHR)
- UNICEF
- GIZ (ProRES)
- Czech Republic
- US Embassy
- University of Sheffield
- IFPIM (International Fund for Public Interest Media)
- Private donations
- Income generated

studiokalangou.org



BEST MEDIA PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS IN NIGER

“ **What I take from Studio Kalangou's programmes is the information on means of conflict resolution. They give us information on the ways and means to adopt in case of a dispute with others.** ”

Listener of Azourou de Tchirozerine radio - interview of 16/07/2022

In 2022, Studio Kalangou continued to expand its national reach, boosting its partners from 47 to 52 radios and from six to seven television stations. The work of 54 correspondents across the country's eight regions has made it possible to reach the most remote areas. As part of a co-production of Fondation Hironnelle's media partners in the Sahel, Studio Kalangou, Studio Tamani in Mali and Studio Yafa in Burkina Faso broadcast seven Sahel magazines in 12 languages through 176 radio stations in the three countries. Themes such as inflation, education, gender-based violence and gold panning were at the heart of the programmes.

In the field of media support, Studio Kalangou trained 189 journalists and 61 technicians in the management of media structures, ethics and deontology, digital audio editing techniques and crisis communication. In order to build capacity, the trainees then coached 52 media partners on these techniques.

In 2022, the University of Zurich and the Abdou Moumouni University of Niamey published a study that illustrates the contribution of Studio Kalangou to the evolution of gender attitudes. According to the study, the programmes have had an impact on certain perceptions and practices.

At the end of December 2022, Studio Kalangou won the "Media of 2022" prize in Niger, an annual competition organized by the Network of Journalists for Human Rights (RJDH) on the theme "Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Niger". Studio Kalangou also won a grant from the International Fund for Public Interest Media (IFPIM), which supports independent and trustworthy journalism to guarantee reliable information for citizens.



A Studio Yafa journalist interviews a trader in Ouagadougou. © Olympia de Maismont / Fondation Hirondelle.

BURKINA FASO STUDIO Yafa

Studio Yafa, the multimedia programme for youth has met successfully the challenges set at its launch four years ago. Produced by a team of 20 journalists in Ouagadougou and a network of 35 correspondents in the regions, Studio Yafa's programmes are broadcast by 35 radio stations across the country and the main public television channel BF1. The programmes are accessible free of charge on a partner telephone platform, as well as on the Internet and social networks.

Studio Yafa produces the daily magazine «Yafa Soir» in five languages (Dioula, French, Fulfuldé, Gulmencema and Mooré), as well as a major weekly dialogue programme "Ya'Débat", which offers young people and women the opportunity to exchange directly with resource persons on accountability issues. Since 2022, Studio Yafa is also broadcasting a radio programme for internally displaced persons.

FINANCIAL VOLUME

1 360 285 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- Swedish development aid
- Swiss development aid
- European Union
- Czech Republic
- Crisis and Support Centre
- Private donations
- Income generated

studionyafa.org



MOBILIZING YOUTH, WOMEN AND DISPLACED PERSONS IN A COUNTRY WEAKENED BY VIOLENCE

“ The work is professional. The relevance of the topics and themes addressed are of an indisputable originality. This gives Studio Yafa a place of choice in the habits of listeners. ”

A listener, in the "guestbook" of Studio Yafa

and IDPs to discuss issues such as trauma management, gender-based violence and International Humanitarian Law. These programmes are broadcast on 51 radio stations and through collective listening sessions led by 90 community relays.

2022 also marked the launch of the Young Leaders Programme, piloted by the Institut Général Tiémoko Marc Garango pour la Gouvernance et le Développement (IGD). This programme is designed to support 15 young people in building and carrying out their entrepreneurial project. Studio Yafa was in charge of the "media training" part, which included participation in several national radio and television programmes. These young people had the opportunity to present their projects on air and inspire other young people to do the same.

The Fasoveil programme (Facilitating Accountability and Citizen Watch with Civil Society), in partnership with Burkinabè association Laboratoire Citoyennetés, has also developed new audiovisual productions for youth and women, including a monthly "Fasoveil" programme on accountability. This is produced by Studio Yafa and aired monthly on BF1, the leading private television channel.



FACT-CHECKING AND NEWS TO FIGHT DISINFORMATION

In fragile contexts where Fondation Hironnelle operates, disinformation plays a notable role in fuelling violence and insecurity. We counter this by providing audiences with fact-checks and verified information.

*A young Central African listens to the radio via his telephone in Bangui, Central African Republic.
© Adrienne Surprenant / Collectif Item.*



A reporter for Radio Ndeke Luka interviews a citizen in the capital of the Central African Republic. © Gwenn Dubourthoumieu / Fondation Hironnelle.

In Fondation Hironnelle's countries of operation, political instability and worsening security provided fertile ground for fresh waves of disinformation, which fed on - and fuelled - uncertainty, tension and division. State and non-state actors, domestic and foreign, deliberately spread false claims to further their own interests, be it to make money, win elections, undermine government institutions, discredit foreign powers, justify wars, promote extremist ideologies or stir hatred against rival ethnic groups.

The consequences of disinformation can be grave, leading people to use false or incomplete information as a basis for their decisions. Poorly-informed choices on who to vote for or whether to get vaccinated can have far-reaching, even life-threatening, outcomes. Disinformation is often at the root of acts of violence - Fondation Hironnelle was

Disinformation is often at the root of acts of violence

founded in response to hate speech and false claims spread on Rwandan media in 1994, which sparked the killing of over 800,000 people. Nearly three decades later, the strategy of using media to incite violence continues, and is greatly amplified by social media, as tragically exemplified in the case of the Burmese Rohingya community, who continue to suffer the consequences of hate-mongering propagated widely on Facebook, galvanising support for a military campaign of killing, rape and arson against the Muslim minority. Fondation Hironnelle maintains its partnership with Frontier Myanmar - a respected media organisation now in exile - to produce weekly podcasts exposing human rights abuses in Myanmar to counter the deluge of propaganda which is harming minorities and the wider civilian population.

The spread of false information occurs through a multi-channel ecosystem, requiring a multi-channel response. In 2022, radio - the most used and trusted source of information for most of our target audiences - remained our primary means to reach populations with verified, contextualised news, analysis and debate to help them make their decisions based on facts, not speculation or rumour. All our media in the Sahel now have dedicated "fact-check" programmes. We increased our efforts to reach audiences via social media and messaging apps. This entailed

monitoring of the spread of false information, in partnership with organisations such as the Institute for Strategic Dialogue and CASM Technology, whose live Facebook-monitoring dashboard allowed journalists to follow trends and identify which false information was gaining traction. We developed content for web and social media to debunk specific rumours. Messaging apps such as WhatsApp are difficult to monitor as information is shared privately, but they are also a way to spread accurate information widely and quickly. Radio Ndeke Luka in Central African Republic became the first of our media to establish a dedicated WhatsApp channel to share its content - a successful experiment which we will likely expand.

In Ukraine, many media faced the challenge of having to switch channels of communication entirely due to the war. As Russian forces sought to take control of media in occupied areas to broadcast pro-Kremlin output, media outlets were closed or taken over and journalists fled. In April, Fondation Hironnelle launched a project to help media facing financial, logistical and security difficulties as a result of the invasion. A second phase will include focus on helping journalists work with messaging apps such as Telegram to reach audiences with reliable information. ■

SHARING EXPERIENCES

Fondation Hironnelle presented at two major events its experiences with disinformation and how to fight against it. In September, it co-organized with the Czech presidency of the European Union an informal meeting of the Political and Security Committee (PSC) on disinformation in the Sahel. Studio Kalangou's representative in Niger shared Fondation Hironnelle's approach of sticking to the facts and building trust. In Nairobi, at a meeting bringing together researchers and fact-checkers, the Fondation highlighted Radio Ndeke Luka's work in CAR and its #StopATènè (stop rumours) project, illustrating the vital role of traditional media in the fight against misinformation.



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RADIO NDEKE LUKA

Radio Ndeke Luka (RNL) is the only Central African media that produces and broadcasts independent and professional news in French and Sango throughout the country. Created and supported for 23 years by Fondation Hironnelle, it is a general interest radio station targeting the whole country. It offers 13 daily news bulletins, features, debates and entertainment.

RNL broadcasts live 24 hours a day, seven days a week throughout the country with 13 FM transmitters (in Bangui, Berberati, Bouar, Bambari, Bozoum, Bossangoa, Ndele, Mobaye, Bangassou, Bria, Beloko, Birao and Obo). Twenty community radio partners also rebroadcast RNL programmes between 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. All programmes can be streamed or podcasted on the radiondekeluka.org website and news is relayed on Facebook, Twitter and WhatsApp. These programmes are produced by a team of about 50 journalists, technicians and support staff, as well as 30 regional correspondents.

FINANCIAL VOLUME

2 526 053 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- European Union (Fonds Békou + IcSP)
- Switzerland (SDC Programme Contribution)
- Switzerland (SDC Project Contribution)
- Fondation Nicolas Puech
- UNICEF
- Income generated

radiondekeluka.org



A Radio Ndeke Luka journalist edits sound for broadcast on Radio Ndeke Luka, the leading radio in Central African Republic. © Gwenn Dubourthoumie / Fondation Hironnelle.



A Radio Ndeke Luka journalist reporting by the Oubangui River in Bangui. © Léo Torrétton / Fondation Hironnelle.

“Radio Ndeke Luka must continue to raise awareness among the general public and offer live broadcasts, especially with the upcoming municipal elections.”

(A listener from Mbaiki)

the programmes and debates broadcast, which they find clear and diverse. One third of RNL listeners consider RNL programs to be indispensable for them, while two-thirds consider them useful.

In 2022, the political, security, economic and social situation in the country did not improve significantly. In this context, Radio Ndeke Luka worked actively to make quality of information available for all. Municipal elections, which were to be held for the first time in 30 years, were finally postponed until 2023, due to a lack of budget and consensus among political actors.

The media environment remains fragile, with increasing threats to press freedom and journalists, and disinformation that continues to spread, including at the community level, where rumours have dramatic consequences on social cohesion and reconciliation. In this context, RNL’s investigative unit has strengthened the #StopATènè (“stop rumours”) campaign and diversified its action. In addition to articles published periodically and the radio broadcasts, dozens of testimonies have been collected throughout the country.

Radio Ndeke Luka (RNL) is the radio of Central Africans. According to the latest audience survey conducted at the end of 2022, 72% of the Central African population aged 15 and over listen to the radio daily and 92% listen to it weekly. These figures place RNL as the country’s leading media outlet. 82% of listeners feel that they have a better understanding of the Central African Republic and how it works thanks to

Community awareness has been developed, informing the population about the causes and consequences of misinformation and rumours. A survey conducted in Bangui and in the southwest of the country shows the support of listeners, who call for the continuation of these programmes:

Radio Ndeke Luka has also focused on building the capacity of its 20 community radio partners by offering journalism training, a governance and management support programme, and equipment grants.

In 2023, the Central African Republic is expected to hold its first local elections since 1988. Initially scheduled for September 11, 2022, these elections have been postponed to the second half of 2023. The local elections should help strengthen the presence of the state in areas still plagued by insecurity, mainly in the northwestern and eastern prefectures. Radio Ndeke Luka will cover these events before, during and after the electoral process. It will also continue to fight against misinformation through the broadcasting of specific content and the intensification of community awareness sessions.

An impact study to measure RNL’s programmes in an electoral context will take place during the second half of 2023. ■

“I think that the radio must continue to raise awareness every day so that the population is better informed and can change its behaviour.”

(A listener from Bangui)

A close-up photograph of a man with short dark hair, wearing an orange button-down shirt. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a neutral expression. He is holding a pair of black headphones with a white headband. In the foreground, a professional microphone with a black foam windscreen is visible, positioned to the right of the man. The background is a textured green fabric with dark, abstract patterns.

SUPPORTING INDEPENDENT MEDIA IN FRAGILE CONTEXTS

Today, Fondation Hironnelle works more at the local level, with a large number of media partners in the field. This is what we call localization of aid. Three directors outline the major challenges for independent media in fragile contexts.

A presenter for Radio Munku puts headphones away after a programme, in the Mbakana region in Democratic Republic of Congo. © Justin Makangara / Fondation Hironnelle.

Since 2021, *Frontier Myanmar* has been forced to produce the human rights podcast and videos *Doh Athan (Our Voice)* in exile. The podcast's senior editor, *Win Zar Ni Aung*, explains why support for Burmese independent media is needed today.



"Myanmar's independent media are driven underground and largely dependent on international aid. Due to the extremely tense political situation, many journalists have had to flee the country and are now living illegally in Thailand. We must support not only these refugee journalists, but also the journalists who

have remained in the country and are working at risk of their lives. The regime censors the media and prevents them from covering many human rights violations. The rate at which journalists are being sentenced to long prison terms for false information, defamation, or simple third-party dispute of information is terrible. Yet media freedom is an important part of the protection of all other human rights. It is investigative journalists who have uncovered many cases of human rights violations. There is a need for more investigative reporting, which requires time and resources."

Studio Sifaka is a radio and web content production studio for young Madagascans. It was created in 2019 by the United Nations in Madagascar, in partnership with Fondation Hironnelle. Since July 2021, Studio Sifaka is an independent entity. Its director Harison Ratovondrahona stresses that media independence is a legal challenge as well as a financial one.



"Even though Studio Sifaka's funding as a project ended in June 2021, we maintained the radio programming. Studio Sifaka has evolved into a national NGO and has opened itself to various types of partnerships to ensure the sustainability of this radio programming by youth for youth. For the past two years, Fondation

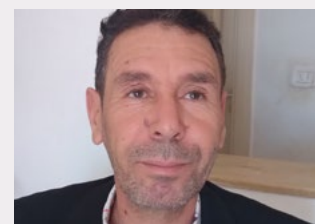
Hironnelle has supported us in building institutional capacity in management, project management, fundraising and revenue generation, and we have since been able to capitalize on our achievements. We have expanded our team with the hiring of four journalists and almost doubled the number of partner radio stations that broadcast our programme. We are now a recognized and established player in the country's media environment. The priority today is the acquisition of radio licenses and frequencies, while maintaining our network of 42 local radio partners, which reaches nearly 63% of Madagascar's the total population."



A man expresses himself during a report in Metlaoui, western Tunisia. © Gwenn Dubourthoumieu / Fondation Hironnelle.

Since 2020, Fondation Hironnelle has been implementing the media component of Swiss Cooperation in Tunisia's "Active Participation of Tunisian Citizens" project. Project head Thameur Zoglami stresses that independent local media are necessary for democracy.

"We want to bring the regional stations closer to the concerns of the population. We do this by setting up a network of professional correspondents trained in local governance issues, who boost their local editorial content. The local media thus become tools for informing and monitoring public policies.



They contribute to accountability, dialogue and building trust between the governors and the governed. We want to give a voice to the forgotten people in a still very centralized political system. Although the rural population represents 60% of the total population, the concerns of the rural world are not relayed to the government. Most governorates are now using social networks to get information. Strong and independent media are essential for a functioning democracy. They ensure more inclusive and citizen-based local governance." ■



A journalist of Studio Sifaka, Fondation Hirondelle's partner in Madagascar, gives a voice to a young man during a training session. © Iako Randrianarivelo / Fondation Hirondelle.

MADAGASCAR STUDIO SIFAKA

Studio Sifaka produces radio programming for and by youth. It was created in 2019 by the United Nations in Madagascar, in partnership with Fondation Hirondelle. Since the summer of 2021, Studio Sifaka has been an independent NGO under Malagasy law. With the support of Fondation Hirondelle, the Studio's young team has been working to strengthen its own capacities, both institutional and editorial. Today, Studio Sifaka and Fondation Hirondelle operate as a partnership.

Studio Sifaka aims to improve the access of young women and men to reliable and quality information, while making their voices heard, thus contributing to peace building in Madagascar. Since its inception, Studio Sifaka has produced "Feon'ny tanora maroloko" ("all the colours of youth"), a two-hour daily radio broadcast in Malagasy and French for the youth of Madagascar. Contents include a national and regional news bulletin as well as programmes dedicated to advice (e.g. on health and employment), dialogue, music and Malagasy culture.

FINANCIAL VOLUME
405 776 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- Switzerland (SDC Programme contribution)
- Switzerland (SDC Project contribution)
- FEDEVACO (Fédération vaudoise de coopération)
- UNDP
- European Union (EIDHR)

studiosifaka.org



A VOICE FOR YOUTH

In Madagascar, where 72% of the population is under the age of 25 and youth are still marginalized from democratic, political, and economic life, Studio Sifaka produced over 700 hours of content for youth in 2022. A recent study conducted by the University of Michigan showed that listeners of the "Youth Debate" programme appear to be more engaged in the political life of the country. Of the 7,000 young people surveyed, many report attending more of their community meetings and are more likely to discuss politics. They feel more empowered of bringing about policy change and promote inclusive dialogue to resolve conflicts.

The "Youth Debate" programme is also available on social networks and the radio website. Over the past year, Studio Sifaka's network of community radio partners has grown. By the end of 2022, 40 community radios throughout the country were broadcasting its two hours of daily production, including the "Ketrika Sy Kadra" programme on employment and entrepreneurship for youth.

"Your programme on the sewing cafe allowed me to shape my project on creation of a training centre in cutting and sewing," says one young woman. These programmes also allowed Erica, a young chicken breeding entrepreneur in Sambava, on the north-eastern coast of Madagascar, to develop her activities. "Your report on breeding helped us optimize our investments and so develop our small business," she says. "We are already present on the local market and we are even starting to have a few points of sale in Antananarivo, the capital!"

Presidential elections are scheduled to be held in Madagascar in 2023. Studio Sifaka and its partners will redouble their efforts to ensure reliable coverage and, once again, give young people the necessary tools to engage in the democratic life of their country.



A Frontier Myanmar journalist prepares the Doh Athan podcast in the studio. © Lam Duc Hien / Fondation Hirondelle.

MYANMAR DOH ATHAN

Since 2017, Fondation Hirondelle has been producing a human rights podcast in partnership with Frontier Myanmar, a Burmese online news magazine. Doh Athan, "Our Voice," is a weekly podcast in the Burmese language accompanied by videos and articles in English for the web and social networks. The programme covers human rights abuses in Myanmar and on the Thai border, where thousands of Burmese have fled repression by the military junta in power since 2021. Production is by Frontier's team as well as local reporters and media partners from Myanmar's different states, regions and ethnicities. The programme is broadcast online via social media, as well as on Voice of America radio in Myanmar. Journalism training is also provided to Frontier and partner media. Since late 2021, Frontier has been working in Thailand, where it had to relocate to protect its team.

FINANCIAL VOLUME

262 370 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- UNDP
- Switzerland (SDC Programme Contribution)
- Büchi Foundation

SUPPORTING BURMESE MEDIA IN FACE OF A SERIOUS AND LASTING CRISIS

The February 1, 2021 coup d'état has resulted in massive human rights violations. The army has engaged in a merciless crackdown, arresting over 10,000 activists. In July 2022, for the first time in 30 years, the country implemented the death penalty. In March 22, the regime enacted the Myanmar Police Force Law, which introduced a series of new criminal restrictions, many of which limit freedom of expression and assembly.

Indeed, little civic and democratic space remains. The quality of journalism and media content has deteriorated. There is a rise in increasingly polarized media, some of which try to attract attention with sensationalist and poorly sourced content. Journalists' salaries are declining, and the country lacks adequate training for junior reporters and mid-senior level journalists. Yet professional media is essential to report on the complexity of violence and its impact on society in the country.

In this context, our Doh Athan podcast has continued to promote quality journalism that provides access to in-depth, accurate, and unbiased information for crisis-affected populations. This year, the project covered topics such as displaced people, the impact of the crisis on women, and discrimination. It has also helped train journalists and media correspondents in the country. In addition, it has continuously sought to evolve its themes and formats to best meet a demand for quality and engage its online community.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO STUDIO HIRONDELLE DRC

Active in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) since 2002, Fondation Hironnelle continues its efforts to inform the population. Studio Hironnelle DRC works to produce and broadcast local content and fight disinformation. Studio Hironnelle DRC's network of media partners includes more than 133 radio partners and 24 television stations. This network is the most structured in the country and represents about 25% of the Congolese media environment.

FINANCIAL VOLUME

501 935 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- Income generated
- Switzerland (SDC Programme contribution)
- Switzerland (SDC Project contribution)

The security and humanitarian situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) continues to deteriorate, especially in the east of the country. The failure of decentralization reforms increased governance problems. The Congolese media find themselves in a precarious situation with limited resources. The role of the media in citizen engagement is being questioned.

In 2022, the emphasis was on strengthening the quality of public service information. Fondation Hironnelle set up an information and awareness programme on the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. Forty programmes were broadcast by 108 radio partners in five national languages. They focused on the fight against misinformation about vaccines, and on the social consequences of Covid-19 in the country.

Fondation Hironnelle also supported media and professional media organizations. In particular, 40 radio journalists in South Kivu were trained in various journalism techniques. This project includes a strong gender dimension, with support to women journalists' organizations to develop their advocacy capacities, particularly on the place and image of women in the media.

In 2022, activities had to be reduced due to lack of funding. DRC schedules presidential and parliamentary elections for Dec 2023. Fondation Hironnelle will produce and broadcast specific local programs and support media partners all over the country.

“ This awareness campaign is very pertinent, especially for us, the elderly. I appreciate the presenters' mastery of the Tshiluba language, unlike some programmes where the language is used improperly. [...] We must maintain these programmes to alert the population. ”

Nestor Kabongo, father of a family in Kananga, Kasai-Central.

HUMANITARIAN INFORMATION TO RESPOND TO THE FLOODS

The floods caused by monsoon rains in Pakistan in the summer of 2022 resulted in a humanitarian disaster that severely affected the population, especially in rural areas of several regions.

Pakistan lacks journalists and media trained to respond to environmental and humanitarian crises. In addition, there is little or no collaboration between media professionals and the broader humanitarian community.

In the aftermath of Pakistan's floods, Fondation Hironnelle, along with its partner Tribal News Network (TNN) and over 30 offline and online media partners, produced vital content and in-depth reporting in four of the provinces most affected by the floods. The objective of this project, supported by H2H Network, was to provide essential information to the population.

The project produced news content, public service announcements, and key messages in local languages to reach the largest number of people. Special attention was paid to particularly vulnerable group such as IDPs, women, and the elderly. Long format programmes were also produced and broadcast to explain the issues and impacts of the floods on the country's development.

These programmes integrated communication between the affected population, humanitarian workers and responsible authorities. Mentoring helped the project's radio, online and television partners to produce their programmes, helping them reach a diverse audience.

PAKISTAN TRIBAL NEWS NETWORK

Fondation Hironnelle has been collaborating with Tribal News Network (TNN) since 2020. TNN is a Pakistani multimedia agency located in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa region, on the border between Pakistan and Afghanistan. Together, Fondation Hironnelle and TNN have developed a project to provide essential information to the populations affected by the floods that severely impacted the country in 2022. This project runs from 2022 to 2023. It involves collaboration between TNN and a network of 30 offline and online media partners in 60 districts in the four provinces of Pakistan (Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab and Sindh).

FINANCIAL VOLUME

39 314 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- H2H Network
- Switzerland (SDC Programme contribution)

BURUNDI

TRAINING JOURNALISTS AND MEDIA PROFESSIONALS

In partnership with the NGO Radio La Benevolencija, Fondation Hironnelle has been implementing since January 2021 a 24-month project, funded by the European Union, to build the capacity of journalists and media professionals in Burundi. The selected media can now use their acquired skills to produce and disseminate reliable, pluralistic information in a professional and inclusive manner.

The direct beneficiaries of this project are 10 Burundian media and their employees (journalists, technicians, managers) as well as three local associations and their employees: the Burundian Association of Women Journalists (AFJO), the Burundian Association of Radio Broadcasters (ABR) and YAGA (a bloggers' collective).

FINANCIAL VOLUME

353 764 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- Switzerland (Programme contribution)
 - European Union
-

The overall objective of the PACT programme is to help strengthen local democracy within the framework of the decentralization process in Tunisia, by promoting a structured dialogue around local administration, involving all stakeholders. Seven municipalities have been helped organize community forums to decide on priority projects. Fondation Hironnelle set up and trained a network of 18 local journalists, including correspondents from the semi-state agency Tunis Afrique Presse. This support has enabled them to improve their knowledge and professional skills. The media can thus become real tools for information and monitoring of public policies, promoting greater accountability, dialogue and mutual trust.

The latter goal underlies the general approach of the project. To contribute to the autonomy of young elected officials in the exercise of their democratic mandate, Fondation Hironnelle provided them with media training giving them keys to create or solidify a network of exchanges between them and the press, promoting good public information and debate at the local level.

In this first three-year phase, activities focused on five governorates in the central-west region: Kairouan, Le Kef, Silliana, Kasserine, and Sidi Bouzid (representing nearly 20% of the Tunisian population). A second phase will be implemented over the period 2023-2027, which will expand the action to the governorate of Gafsa and focus on those leading community development projects for civil society. Media will be involved to promote dialogue and the emergence of solutions by and for the population.

The failed coup of 2015 forced Burundian journalists into self-censorship or exile. In recent years, however, there have been some encouraging signs for the media sector. Following the Burundian government's stated willingness to introduce press freedom reforms, donors who have been historically present are returning to the country.

In this context, Fondation Hironnelle and its partners have continued their work to support and promote social cohesion, dialogue and violence prevention. In 2022, six training sessions were provided. More than 130 media professionals benefited from theoretical and practical training in journalism and in the production of public debate programmes.

Ten media partners and three civil society organizations have had the opportunity to follow specific workshops on media governance and income-generating activities. Through this network, participants could share experiences and capitalize on knowledge.

The partner media were also given production and broadcasting equipment based on a technical diagnosis of needs carried out in the first year of the project.

TUNISIA

JOURNALIST TRAINING AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE

Since 2020, Fondation Hironnelle has been implementing the media component of the PACT programme - "Active Participation of Tunisian Citizens" - in consortium with the Danish organization NIRAS. Our teams are working to expand civic space and promote dialogue between citizens and governments, for a real co-construction of public action in west-central Tunisia. Through a mentoring program, we support the production and regular dissemination of information on local governance through a network of 18 journalists working for 13 local media. In addition, the heads of seven municipal councils have benefited from personalized media training to better communicate public information.

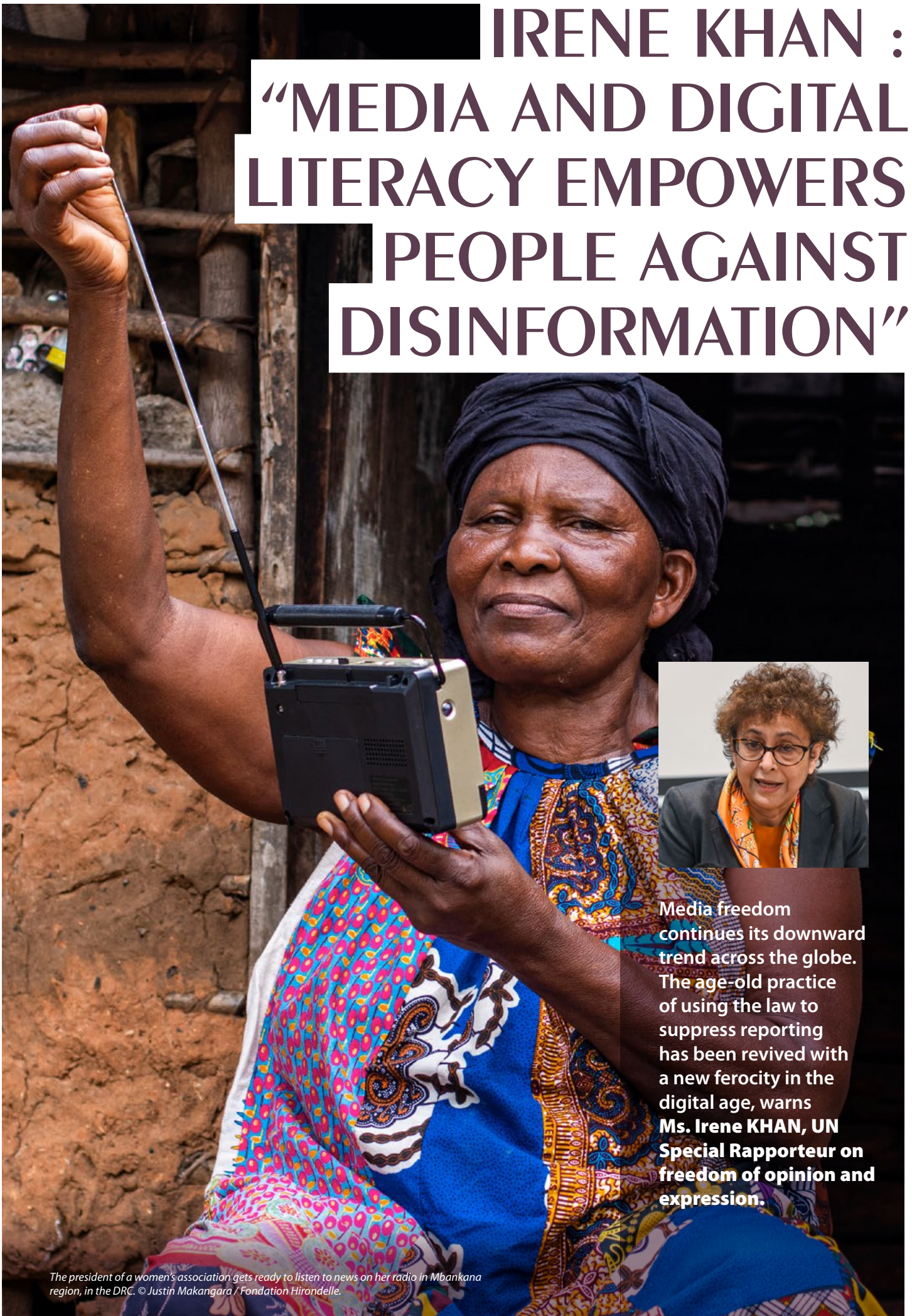
FINANCIAL VOLUME

181 188 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- NIRAS (Switzerland SDC mandate)
-

IRENE KHAN : “MEDIA AND DIGITAL LITERACY EMPOWERS PEOPLE AGAINST DISINFORMATION”



Media freedom continues its downward trend across the globe. The age-old practice of using the law to suppress reporting has been revived with a new ferocity in the digital age, warns **Ms. Irene KHAN, UN Special Rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression.**

The president of a women's association gets ready to listen to news on her radio in Mbankana region, in the DRC. © Justin Makangara / Fondation Hirondelle.



A young man listens to Studio Yafa on his telephone through the VIAMO service. © Olympia de Maismont / Fondation Hironnelle.

Why is the right to information a cornerstone in fulfilling human rights?

Irene Khan: The right to seek, receive and impart information is at the heart of freedom of expression. It empowers people and gives them agency over their own lives. It enables independent, free, diverse and pluralistic media to inform the public and hold governments to account. It is essential for the fulfilment of many other rights. During the Covid-19 pandemic, we saw how important access to information was for our rights to health and life. When people are informed and can express their views freely, they can contribute to democracy and development.

I have called the right to information a survival right in times of armed conflict because civilians need to communicate with family and friends, they need information about the security situation, about where to find essential services. They need access to the internet. Their lives as well as fundamental human rights depend on access to information.

Do you observe a degradation of the freedom of expression recently and how does this affect your priorities?

These are tough times for freedom of expression against a background of rising authoritarianism, shrinking civic space, and threats to human rights as well as media freedom. Digital technology has revolutionized information and communications, enhancing opportunities for freedom of expression but it has also brought new challenges and risks, not least the threats of surveillance, breaches of data protection, disinformation and misinformation.

"I have been particularly concerned about online attacks, hate speech and disinformation."

I have been particularly concerned about online attacks, hate speech and disinformation - both because of their harmful effects but also because actions taken by governments and companies against these phenomena frequently undermine freedom of expression while doing little to make the platforms safe.

Are fake news laws the best way to tackle disinformation?

Using "fake news" laws to restrict the media or criminalizing on-line speech on grounds of falsity violates the right to freedom of expression and does nothing to stop disinformation. Diverse and reliable information is an obvious antidote to disinformation. Governments can fight disinformation by creating an enabling environment for independent, free, pluralistic, diverse media. They provide fact-checking and help to build public trust. States have an obligation to issue truthful, verifiable information.

Digital companies should respect the UN guidelines on business and human rights and undertake human rights due diligence to ensure that their business models and practices do not promote disinformation and misinformation and their content moderation is in line with international human rights standards.

Media, information and digital literacy empowers people and makes them resilient against disinformation and misinformation. It should become part of the national school curriculum in all countries around the world. ■

PROTECTING JOURNALISTS TO PROTECT THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION

"Journalists should not face criminal charges for their work, but they do in many States, often for writing critical stories about public officials or institutions. Condemnations are all the stronger for online publications that have international resonance. The use of criminal defamation offences to re-strict online expression has increased world-wide. It is important, more so now than ever, that the civil society, lawyers and individuals ensure that freedom of expression is protected also online, and only limited in terms of the clear prescripts of international human rights law."

Irene Khan



Nadiya TV journalists interview a beneficiary of food aid in Pervomaïskiy, Ukraine. © Florent Vergnes / Fondation Hirondelle.

COVERING WAR CRIMES TRIALS

“ Thanks to your support, we have relocated Vpered newspaper editorial office outside of Bakhmut, but continued its distribution inside the besieged city. Its inhabitants had access to up-to-date and essential information. ”

Svitlana Ovcharenko, editor-in-chief of “Vpered”.

Systematic information manipulation and disinformation have been applied by the Russian government as an operational tool in its assault on Ukraine. While the situation has been particularly alarming for journalists in the occupied areas, all of the Ukrainian media have been hit hard by the war and its repercussions. 15% of Ukrainian media have been forced to close and the press has lost 90% of its advertising revenues.

Since April 2022, Fondation Hirondelle has been implementing the project “Emergency response to support independent information in Ukraine.” It offers a wide range of support, including training and a financial contribution that allows Ukrainian media, based in the east and south of the country, to survive.

It also ensures the coverage of justice issues in the context of this conflict. It relies on a network of journalists based in Ukraine and supervised by the editorial staff of Justice Info, Fondation Hirondelle’s media that covers international justice news. Reporting on violations of international law produced within the framework of this project is disseminated by local media and on the JusticeInfo.net website, which makes available to the public all of its articles devoted to the international judicial front and war crimes in Ukraine. “Telling the story of the trials is telling the story of the occupation,” said Thierry Cruvellier, the editor of Justice Info, at a panel in The Hague in late 2022.

In 2023, the evolution of the war and the liberation of cities occupied by the Russian army are likely to exacerbate problems of social cohesion already present before the invasion. It is not impossible that internal tensions will worsen, depending on the perceptions that inhabitants have of each other’s attitudes during this period of occupation. Our project, guided by regular needs assessments of the partner media, will enable them to be as prepared as possible to respond to these challenges and foster the resilience of an entire people.

UKRAINE SUPPORTING THE RESILIENCE OF UKRAINIAN MEDIA

Launched less than two months after the start of Russia’s war in Ukraine, Fondation Hirondelle’s project aims to ensure access to vital information for the Ukrainian population displaced or living in the war zone. The project built with a local partner, the International Institute for Regional Media and Information (IRMI) has two components: The first is to provide flexible emergency support funding to a group of independent Ukrainian media. The second is to support journalists who cover war crime trials.

FINANCIAL VOLUME

488 423 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- Swiss Solidarity
- Switzerland (Programme contribution)
- Geneva Charitable Foundation “Valeria Rossi di Montelera”
- Alfred and Eugenie Baur Foundation
- Büchi Foundation
- Jan Michalski Foundation for writing and literature
- Fondazione aiuto alla cooperazione e allo sviluppo
- Sandoz Family Foundation
- Private donations



A Ukrainian journalist at work during the reading of a court judgment in a district of Kyiv. © Florent Vergnes / Fondation Hironnelle.

JUSTICEINFO

JusticeInfo.net is an independent online media of Fondation Hironnelle, that covers transitional justice and reconciliation processes. This includes genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, and new forms of violence related to the environment, climate and migration. Justice Info, led by an editorial team of experienced journalists, has a network of committed correspondents and numerous expert contributors. They have all helped establish this website, in its seven years of existence, as a go-to source in its field of expertise. Providing this information is all the more necessary since no other media in the world today has the capacity to cover specifically and exclusively this theme, which is directly related to human rights, fundamental freedoms and peace.

FINANCIAL VOLUME

420 161 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- Switzerland (SDC Programme contribution)
- Nicolas Puech Foundation
- Private foundation
- Private donations

justiceinfo.net



UKRAINE AND TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE “BLIND SPOTS”

Ukraine has inevitably been the dominant issue of the past year, accounting for 30% of production. Very quickly after the Russian invasion, Justice Info (JI) set up an unprecedented local network of journalists covering national trials, coordinated by two experienced Ukrainian journalists. The site also increased its analysis of international developments in the prosecution of Ukraine war crimes, including publishing exclusive maps that have become tools of reference. A symbol of the credibility and visibility of the site is that the JI editor-in-chief was invited to Bogota, Colombia (JI also produces in Spanish on this country) for a presentation on the essential role and mission of media covering this type of process. The presentation was made to the Truth Commission and the editors/directors of the main national media.

Other international justice initiatives were also covered by JI's dozen permanent correspondents, including for Rwanda, Guinea, and the Central African Republic. JI has increased the number of exclusive reports, such as in Uganda on the displacement of people related to TotalEnergies' oil development project. This story was produced by JI's local correspondent, even though the area is off-limits to the press. It is a good example of courageous and rigorous journalism and professional management of security issues.

The website continued its new column on transitional justice “blind spots”, which allows us to report on very serious situations of international crimes where no justice mechanism exists. Ethiopia, Armenia, China and Libya, as well as the theme of hunger as a war crime, were the main topics covered in this column in 2022.

In 2023, Ukraine will certainly continue to dominate editorial coverage, with activity in the national courts showing renewed vigour after a lull in autumn 2022 following the replacement of the Attorney General. Colombia, Central African Republic, Guinea, possibly Kenya, corporate liability, and universal jurisdiction trials will probably also be highlights. A special dossier on the issue of migrants is envisaged.

“ We need to share our experience of covering this. I have many more questions than answers. It's not helped by the fact that we're living the war in real time, with sirens going off as we are in court. We are both the actors and potential victims of what we are talking about. We have acquaintances, friends who are affected, who are fighting. It's a test of our professional ethics to remain impartial. ”

Irina Saliu, director and editor-in-chief of *Sudovyireporter* (Ukraine)

INFORMING ON THE ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY

As more people around the world begin to experience the impacts of climate change on their environment and their everyday lives, there has been a marked increase in media coverage of climate-related issues.

A journalist of the Guinea Association of Scientific Journalists (AJSG) interviews a man on the street at the Coumba port, Dubréka. © Olympia de Maismont / Fondation Hironnelle.



A journalist questions a person living near the Mogtedo dam. © Studio Yafa / Fondation Hironnelle.

The tone of the coverage has shifted: these days there is little debate about whether or not climate change is a man-made phenomenon or a cause for concern; now the alarm bells are ringing loud, as the evidence becomes very worrying with increasingly extreme weather events, causing hundreds of thousands of deaths and the displacements of millions of people. The media are right to sound the alarm. It's time to act. However, citizens seem to aspire to a journalism that is less alarmist and more solution-oriented.

Our programmes in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger explored and showcased solutions for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

The Sahel is experiencing a rise in temperature that is twice as fast as the global average, causing severe droughts, crop failures, food shortages and exacerbating conflict and poverty. Our programmes in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger explored and showcased solutions for climate change mitigation and adaptation,

providing a platform for different perspectives and voices, including those of the worst-affected local communities. We also sought to hold decision-makers accountable, via panel discussions and reports questioning leaders' policies, claims, and actions on climate change.

Meanwhile, our humanitarian programmes helped audiences cope with those facing the severest consequences of climate-related disasters, for example our partnership with Tribal News Network in Pakistan provided populations with potentially lifesaving information on how to cope in the aftermath of devastating floods. ■

“LET’S TALK ENVIRONMENT” - MALI

Through its weekly programme “Parlons de l’environnement” (Let’s Talk Environment) Studio Tamani explores issues related to climate change and the environment, with a strong focus on local problems and local solutions which are relevant to the day-to-day realities of Malians. Topics covered in 2022 included income-generation opportunities in a green economy, challenges for large-scale forest restoration, how the drying up of the Niger River is impacting agriculture and fish stocks, and the role of civil society actors in addressing climate change. The programme is broadcast in five local languages.

SCIENCE JOURNALISTS ADDRESSING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

During the first conference of French-speaking science journalists (www.cmjsf.org) held in Dakar, Senegal, from October 10 to 16 2022, 55 journalists from 21 countries discussed the media role and ways to cover the climate emergency. This event was organized by the African, French, Swiss and Quebec Networks of Francophone Journalists. Fondation Hironnelle, a conference partner, took charge of inviting and bringing four journalists from its media in the Sahel (Studio Tamani in Mali, Studio Kalangou in Niger, Studio Yafa in Burkina Faso) and Radio Ndeke Luka in the CAR. Their knowledge and skills were strengthened on topics such as producing scientific podcasts, scientific fact-checking tools, as well as through field visits and reports. The Fondation Hironnelle director also came to share our experience at a workshop on the lessons of the Covid-19 pandemic.

CLIMATE AND JUSTICE

JusticeInfo.net, our news and analysis site specialising in coverage of international justice, published several articles on cases involving environmental destruction and climate change. This included legal action against fossil fuel companies over their harmful emissions and a Swiss government investigation into a businessman accused of having committed a war crime by pillaging Senegal's forests. Another article explored the limitations of our current conception of Climate Justice, and whether the role of major corporations had been under-considered.



RESEARCH AND MEDIA SUPPORT POLICY

THE ROLE OF MEDIA IN ADDRESSING VIOLENCE AND MISINFORMATION

In 2022, Fondation Hironnelle conducted nine studies in the countries of operation to better understand the impact of independent media in countering misinformation, violence and abuse of power.

*A woman gives her view during an audience survey organised in a focus group by Radio Ndeke Luka in the Central African Republic.
© Gwenn Dubourthoumieu / Fondation Hironnelle.*



A discussion (focus) group in Niger with women listeners of Studio Kalangou, led by Dr. Emma Heywood of Sheffield University. © Sacha Meuter / Fondation Hironnelle.

Fondation Hironnelle conducted nine studies in countries where it works in collaboration with several universities, including the Centre national de la recherche scientifique et technologique (CNRST) and the Université Thomas Sankara in Burkina Faso, as well as with the universities of Sheffield (UK), Michigan and Harvard. These studies help to better understand and assess the role of independent and trustworthy media in fragile regions that are particularly affected by misinformation, violence, and abuse of power.

In the Central African Republic, Fondation Hironnelle benefited from the installation of new Radio Ndeke Luka (RNL) FM transmitters in remote areas of the country. Near the Cameroon border, more than 550 people were surveyed before and after the installation of the new FM transmitter. 84% said they fully trusted the information coming from RNL, a rate four times higher than for other local radio stations. The surveys also revealed a significant increase in respondents' commitment to elections and opposition to undemocratic practices. Residents' confidence in their ability to discern truth from falsehood increased, and the proportion saying they would try to verify information before sharing it rose from 33% to 59% (+26%).

Fondation Hironnelle also participated in the publication of a report on peacebuilding in the digital age for Switzerland's mandate in the UN Security Council. The report highlights the challenges and opportunities of digitalization in fragile contexts. New digital tools today offer the means to analyse on a larger scale the intrinsic causes of conflicts and increase interactions between citizens and decision-makers. However, users must be made aware of the dangers of digital technologies, such as the polarization of the online public space, surveillance and the digital divide.

Finally, Fondation Hironnelle has launched a pilot project in Burkina Faso on the way media cover gender-based violence. In this country, which is experiencing one of the largest internal displacement crises in Africa, journalists have to interview particularly vulnerable people, sometimes victims of trauma and violence. Practitioners and researchers from Harvard Medical School & School of Public Health, the University of Sheffield, and Thomas Sankara University in Burkina Faso are analysing the editorial content of the Studio Yafa project and conducting focus groups with journalists and correspondents to better address gender-based violence and related trauma. This will result in recommendations and training for journalists. ■

Fondation Hironnelle has launched a pilot project in Burkina Faso on the way media cover gender-based violence.

STUDIES ONGOING IN 2022

- Radio Ndeke Luka impact study on the fight against misinformation and rebuilding the democratic and peace process in CAR, with Dr. Jeff Conroy-Krutz, Michigan State University
- Report on Peacebuilding in the Digital Age, by Lisa Schirch, University of Notre Dame (Indiana), with Principle for Peace and ICT for Peace Foundation, May 2022
- Study on media coverage of gender-based violence in Burkina Faso, in collaboration with Harvard Medical School & School of Public Health, University of Sheffield, CNRST & Thomas Sankara University and the NGO Pull for Progress in Burkina Faso
- Studio Sifaka impact study on youth engagement in the democratic process in Madagascar with Dr. Jeff Conroy-Krutz, Michigan State University
- Study in Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso, with Dr. Emma Heywood, University of Sheffield, on the promotion of women's and youth rights
- Analysis of Studio Kalangou's results in relation to gender issues in Niger, with the Institute of Applied Media Studies, Zurich
- Support to three PhD students in their research-related activities in the framework of the Media Development in the 21st Century (MEDAS 21) programme:
 - "Social construction of media sustainability", Michel Leroy
 - "UN Media Efforts in Peace Operations", Roja Zaitoonie
 - "Radio and Peacebuilding in CAR", Fabiola Ortiz

REPRESENTATION TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

Since establishing its presence in Brussels in 2017, Fondation Hironnelle has continued to strengthen its collaboration with the European Union and its member states. In addition to being the world's leading donors, member states are key policymakers in the crisis contexts where we work. This collaboration has increased over the past three years with the appointment of a representative to the EU. Our presence in Brussels allows us to bring realities and experiences from the field to inform policy and programme decisions made in Brussels.

In 2022, the focus was on disinformation, including an informal meeting for ambassadors of the EU Political and Security Committee (PSC) -- the EU's main foreign policy decision-making body -- on disinformation in the Sahel as a threat to the region's security and stability.

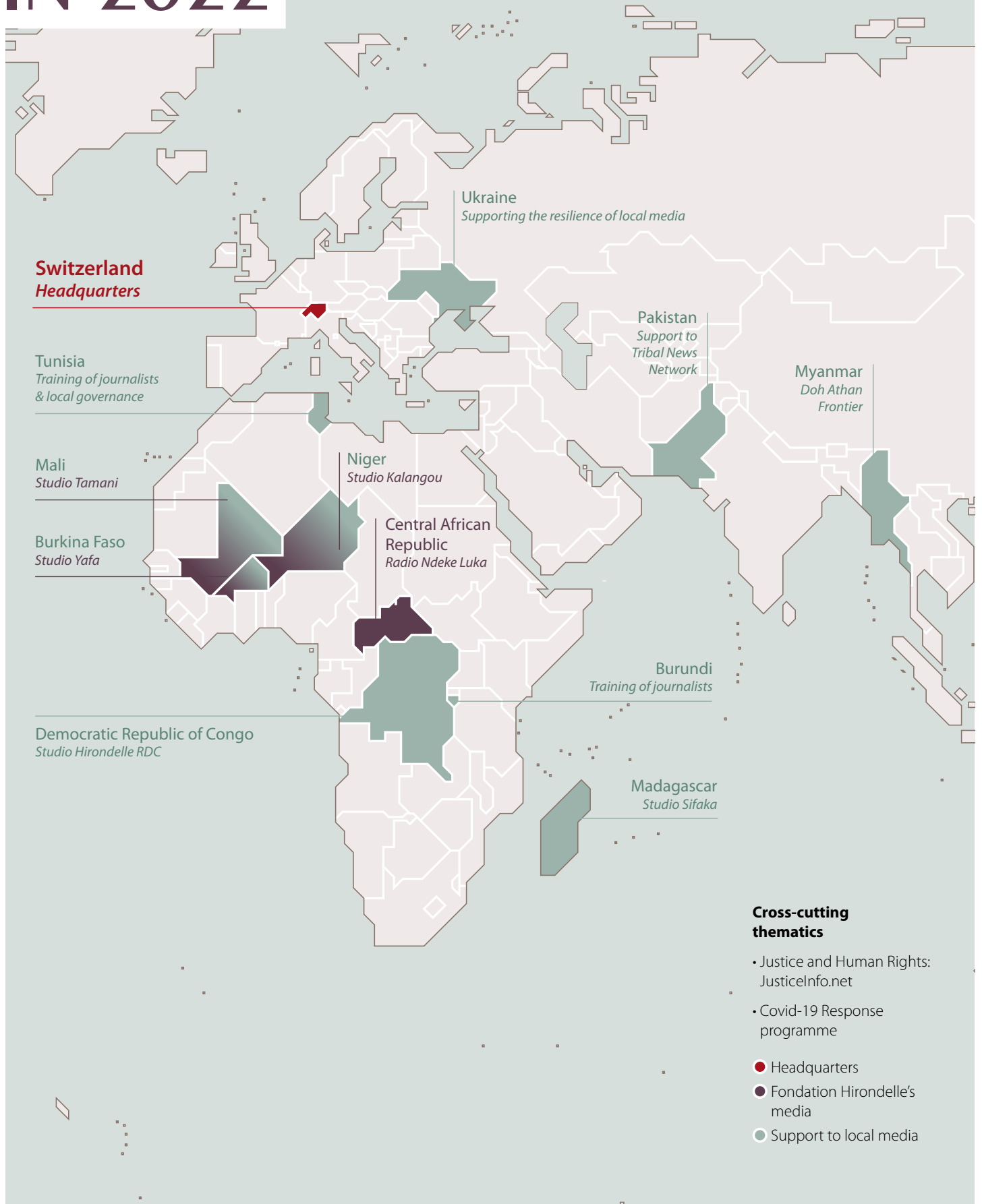


*A listener talks into the microphone of a reporter in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
© Gwenn Dubourthoumieu / Fondation Hironnelle.*

EXPLAINING THE ROLE OF THE MEDIA TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

Fondation Hironnelle's teams actively participated in 32 events in 2022, including European Development Days in Brussels, Peace Week in Geneva, International Media Conference in Tallinn, Journalism Forum in Tunis, forums and webinars on responding to misinformation in Brussels, Nairobi and online, World Press Freedom Day in Arusha, and World Justice Forum in The Hague. Participation in all these international events has helped explain to decision-makers, donors, NGOs, and researchers working at the intersection of development, humanitarian and media action the importance of supporting quality information and the role of media and journalists in crisis contexts. We have pursued this debate and dialogue in our online publications and in our bi-annual magazine "Mediation", whose two issues of 2022 focused on "Listening to the voices of the public" and "Financing independent media".

FONDATION HIRONDELLE OPERATIONS IN 2022



ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

GENERAL FINANCIAL SITUATION

Fondation Hironnelle saw its volume decrease by 14.5% compared with 2021, with an overall realized volume of CHF 12.4 million. This decline is explained both by external factors that complicated the planned deployment of activities in the field (growing insecurity in the Sahel, particularly in Burkina Faso) and by several staff departures at headquarters, resulting in delays and insufficient monitoring during the second half of the year. Corrective measures are being implemented in 2023.

Despite this setback, Fondation Hironnelle achieved a positive result of around CHF 484,000, which is comparable to that of 2021. This result allows the organization to strengthen its equity base.

Almost 90% of the Fondation's expenses are allocated to our projects in the field (87.45%). Management and administration expenses (Finance, HR, IT) represent 9.89% of expenses, while communication and fundraising represent 2.66%. All 2022 accounts and expenditure indicators are presented in accordance with Zewo standards, for which Fondation Hironnelle has been certified since 2019.

An independent auditor has certified that the financial statements summarized below give a true and fair view of Fondation Hironnelle's financial position. The complete report on the 2022 annual accounts is available on our website www.hironnelle.org.

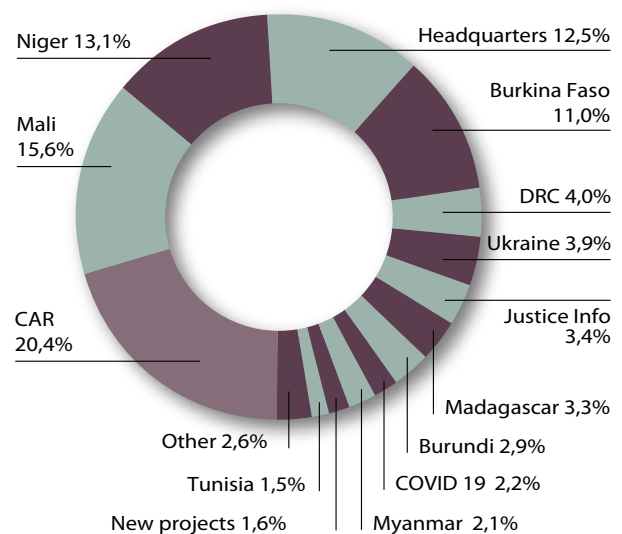
HUMAN RESOURCES

At the end of 2022, Fondation Hironnelle employed 245 professionals worldwide (2021: 246). The number of national staff working for the Fondation increased to 214 (2021: 208). There were 10 expatriates on long-term contracts at the end of 2022 (2021: 10). In addition to these employees, there were 100 interns and correspondents (2021: 199), supported by 20 expert missions in the field (2021: 23). The size of headquarters has remained relatively stable. As of December 31, 2022, the head office had 9 employees (FTE 7.8) working directly on projects and 13 employees (FTE 10.8) working in management, cross-functional and support posts. Fondation Hironnelle is also training an apprentice, and in 2022 benefited from the help of two interns (FTE 1.6).

PROJECT EXPENDITURE

2022 projects	in CHF
CAR	2 526 053
Mali	1 936 064
Niger	1 622 367
Headquarters	1 556 068
Burkina Faso	1 360 285
DRC	501 935
Ukraine	488 423
Justice Info	420 161
Madagascar	405 776
Burundi	353 764
COVID-19	268 890
Myanmar	262 370
New projects	193 118
Tunisia	181 188
Research	96 980
MEALS	78 982
Journalism Trust Initiative	51 886
Training on violence and extremism in West Africa	51 839
Pakistan	36 965
Media education	6 377
TOTAL	12 399 495

Distribution by projects



FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Sources of revenue	in CHF	en %
Public funding		
Switzerland		
SDC mandates / BUCO project contribution	1 695 823	13,2%
Fonds Suisse SDC programme contribution (IP)	3 175 300	24,7%
Switzerland FDFA Fund	57 023	0,4%
Other		
United Nations agencies (UNICEF, UNPD, ...)	421 802	3,3%
Denmark (FAMOC)	267 146	2,1%
United Kingdom (FCDO, UKCSS)	55 445	0,4%
H2H	35 897	0,3%
Sweden	1 976 000	15,4%
Czech republic	81 870	0,6%
European Union	2 634 078	20,5%
Crisis and Support Centre	257 993	2,0%
Germany (GIZ)	179 340	1,4%
United States	13 766	0,1%
	10 851 483	84,37%
Private funding		
Switzerland		
Chaîne du Bonheur	392 046	3,0%
Loterie Romande	30 000	0,2%
FEDEVACO	68 100	0,5%
RTS Partnership	75 000	0,6%
Private Foundations	312 382	2,4%
Private Donors	109 128	0,8%
Other		
Other donors	449 983	3,5%
	1 436 640	11,2%
Other products		
Products from services provided	573 136	4,5%
	573 136	4,5%
TOTAL INCOME	12 861 258	

FOUNDATIONS & CORPORATE DONORS

We wish to thank the following for their support in 2022: Büchi Foundation, Fondation d'Aide à l'Enfance et au Tiers-Monde, Fondazione aiuto alla cooperazione e allo sviluppo, Fondation E. Balzan, Fondation Alfred & Eugénie Baur, Loterie Romande, Fondation Madeleine, Fondation Jan Michalski pour l'écriture et la littérature, Fondation Karl Popper, Fondation Nicolas Puech, Fondation Philanthropique Famille Sandoz, Fondation genevoise de bienfaisance "Valeria Rossi di Montelera", anonymous foundation and donor.

SUMMARY OF FONDATION HIRONDELLE ACCOUNTS

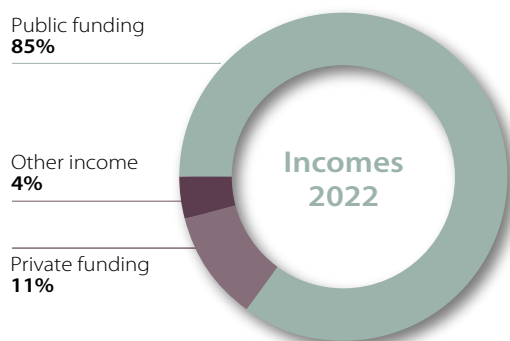
The overall presentation of Fondation Hironnelle accounts meets the requirements of the Swiss norms GAAP RPC and GAAP RPC 21. This presentation gives a true and fair view of the financial situation and in-come of the organization. The accounts comply with Swiss law and the Fondation's statutes.

The summary of accounts is based on the annual accounts as of December 31, 2022, which have been prepared in accordance with the above-mentioned principles.

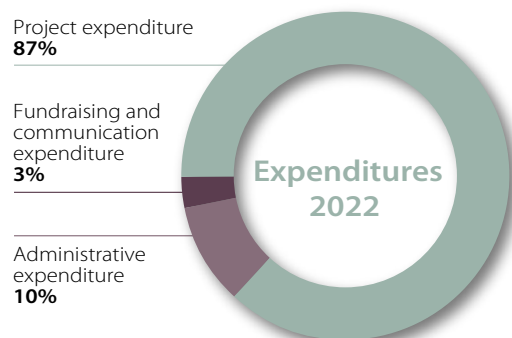
BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31 (in Swiss francs)

	2022	2021
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Liquid assets	7 842 192	3 884 079
Credits	184 899	169 417
Funding to be received	1 031 581	1 245 358
Other receivables	299 642	217 672
Accruals and deferred income	185 917	226 265
	9 544 232	5 742 791
Intangible assets		
Financial assets		
Fixed assets	374 668	379 784
TOTAL ASSETS	9 918 900	6 122 575
LIABILITIES		
Short-term liabilities		
Short-term debts	483 946	631 163
Funding received in advance	5 848 659	2 377 137
Accrual and deferred income	198 273	207 043
Various loans	392	387
	6 531 270	3 215 730
Long-term liabilities		
Provision for legal contingencies	128 164	132 308
Provision for termination of staff contracts	73 310	56 589
	201 474	188 897
Allocated funds		
Initiative Fund	216 468	216 468
Solidarity Fund	46 014	39 218
Support Fund	569 307	568 957
	831 789	824 643
Equity capital		
Foundation capital	50 000	50 000
Capital FNL	12 315	12 315
Operating capital	1 830 990	1 340 420
Final result	461 063	490 570
	2 377 316	1 893 305
TOTAL LIABILITIES	9 918 900	6 122 575

OPERATING ACCOUNT OF FONDATION HIRONDELLE (in Swiss francs)



INCOMES	2022	2021
Public funding		
Switzerland		
SDC mandates / BUCO project contribution	1 695 823	1 832 038
Fonds Suisse SDC programme contribution (IP)	3 175 300	2 996 896
Switzerland FDFA Fund	57 023	-
FEDEVACO	68 100	68 709
Other		
United Nations agencies (UNICEF, UNPD, ...)	421 802	688 752
Denmark (FAMOC)	267 146	139 621
Netherlands	-	47 250
United Kingdom (DFID, UKCSS)	55 445	243 364
H2H	35 897	-
Sweden	1 976 000	1 581 830
Czech Republic	81 870	168 587
Germany (GIZ)	179 340	6 572
European Union	2 634 078	4 549 345
Centre de crise et de soutien	257 993	-
United States	13 766	
	10 919 583	12 322 964
Private funding		
Switzerland		
Chaîne du Bonheur	392 046	408 351
Loterie Romande	30 000	51 100
RTS Partnership	75 000	75 000
Private Foundations	312 382	253 882
Private Donors	109 128	168 460
Other		
DCAF	-	-
Other donors	449 983	1 086 445
	1 368 540	2 043 238
Other products		
Products from services provided	573 136	828 310
	573 136	828 310
TOTAL INCOME	12 861 258	15 194 512
OF WHICH NON-TIED INCOME	757 264	1 071 770
OF WHICH TIED INCOME	12 103 994	14 122 742



EXPENDITURES	2022	2021
Direct project expenditure		
Staff	6 160 938	6 905 149
Operations	4 193 754	5 672 498
Equipment	488 736	464 752
	10 843 427	13 042 399
Administrative expenditure		
Staff	758 083	638 466
Operations	450 283	478 480
Equipment	18 303	31 472
	1 226 669	1 148 418
Fundraising and communication expenditure		
Staff	251 928	246 538
Operations	75 805	68 989
Equipment	1 666	139
	329 399	315 666
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	12 399 494	14 506 483
Operating result	461 763	688 029
Financial results		
Financial income	440	121
Loss on foreign exchange	9 429	-184 212
	9 869	-184 091
Exceptional result		
Exceptional Expenditures and Incomes	-10 569	-13 368
	-10 569	-13 368
Annual result before allocations	461 063	490 570
Allocations / deductions		
Allocations to equity capital	-461 063	-490 570
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	-	-

TABLE OF CAPITAL VARIATION (in Swiss francs)

Description of funding	Position of funds 01.01.2022	Internally generated income	Attributions to funds	Internal transfers	Use for projects	Position of funds 31.12.22	Funding received in advance	Funding to be received
Allocated funds (Funding to be received /received in advance)								
Funds Burkina Faso	634		2 328 229		-1 459 867	868 996	1 003 153	-134 157
Funds Burundi	159 182		46 777		-375 226	-169 267	-	-169 267
Funds Covid	-756 732		1 013 856		-279 874	-22 750	6 096	-28 846
Fonds Media Education	5 290		1 086		-6 376	-1	-	-
Funds Environment & Research	-		96 778		-96 778	-	-	-0
Training on violence and extremism in West Africa	110 000		139 000		-57 023	191 977	191 977	-
Funds Transitional Justice	-		543 866		-437 866	106 000	106 000	-
Funds JTI	-		49 979		-54 398	-4 419	-	-4 420
Funds Madagascar	190 523		161 813		-399 220	-46 885	1 015	-47 897
Funds Mali	626 882		1 814 071		-2 161 317	279 636	427 307	-147 671
Funds MEAL	-		93 382		-78 982	14 400	14 400	-
Funds Myanmar	83 040		222 940		-317 510	-11 530	8 470	-20 000
Funds Niger	-51 225		1 832 676		-1 442 167	339 284	565 053	-225 770
Funds New projects/ Miscellaneous projects	-		193 119		-193 118	1	1	-
Funds Pakistan	-		59 724		-39 314	20 410	20 410	-
Funds Central African Republic	401 552		4 324 063		-2 618 247	2 107 368	2 174 386	-67 018
Funds Democratic Republic of Congo	87 060		340 657		-419 837	7 880	7 879	-
Funds Ukraine	-		1 299 847		-533 481	766 366	841 365	-75 000
Funds Tunisia	-4 101		133 415		-240 849	-111 535	-	-111 536
Funds Headquarters	279 676		1 203 142		-1 001 672	481 146	481 146	-
Total allocated funds	1 131 779		15 898 419		- 12 213 122	4 817 075	5 848 658	-1 031 582
Tied funds								
Initiative Fund	216 468		-		-	216 468		
Solidarity Fund	39 218		6 796		-	46 014		
Support Fund	568 957		350		-	569 307		
Total tied funds	824 643		7 146		-	831 789		
Foundation capital								
Initial capital	50 000		-		-	50 000		
Capital FNL	12 315		-		-	12 315		
Sales and services/ non-tied subsidies	-		648 136		-648 136	-		
Operating capital	1 830 990		461 063		-	2 292 053		
Operating result	-		-		-	-		
Total Foundation capital	1 893 305		1 109 199		-648 136	2 354 368		
TOTAL	3 849 727		17 014 764		-12 861 258	8 003 232		

ANNEXE TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE EXERCISE ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (EXTRACTS)*

* The annexe and full report can be downloaded from our website www.hirondelle.org

1/ ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES AND PRESENTATION OF THE ACCOUNTS

a) General

The presentation of the Fondation Hirondelle accounts is based on the overall concept of Swiss GAAP RPC basic recommendations and Swiss GAAP RPC 21. This presentation gives an overview reflecting the reality of the organization's financial situation and income. The accounts comply with Swiss law and the Fondation statutes.

The accounts are based on the annual accounts as at December 31, 2022, which have been prepared in accordance with uniform principles. Amounts in the accounts are rounded, which may result in minor discrepancies in the totals.

Fondation Hirondelle uses the Zewo method to calculate and present project, administrative and fundraising expenses (see www.zewo.ch).

b) Scope of integration

The accounts contain the annual accounts of all Fondation Hirondelle offices present in Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Fondation Hirondelle has also integrated the Radio Ndeke Luka capital over which it has control.

It should be noted that we work through and support external partners, notably in Madagascar, Ukraine, Pakistan, Burundi and Myanmar.

c) Conversion of foreign currency

Transactions in foreign currencies are converted at the average rates of the month N-1 in which they are recorded.

Foreign currency assets and liabilities in the balance sheet as at December 31 are converted into Swiss francs at the rates prevailing on December 31. The results of these conversions are recorded in the financial result.

d) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash in hand, in postal accounts and in banks at headquarters and abroad are shown in the balance sheet at their nominal value.

e) Receivables and accruals

Receivables and accruals are stated at their nominal value less any necessary value adjustments.

f) Property, plant and equipment

Fondation Hirondelle uses the straight-line method of depreciation as follows:

IT equipment: 3 years from 1,000 CHF per unit

Other equipment: 3 years from 2,000 CHF per unit

Fixed assets abroad* Direct depreciation

* Fondation Hirondelle uses equipment and vehicles for its projects abroad; these are fully depreciated when they are put into service. This situation is justified by the instability of the contexts and difficult conditions in which Fondation Hirondelle operates, which make it difficult to determine their generally short useful life and residual value.

g) Financial assets

Financial fixed assets are recorded in the balance sheet at acquisition cost, taking into account the necessary value adjustments.

h) Provisions

Provisions represent the value of future cash outflows resulting from past events, occurring without compensation. A reliable estimate of the amount of the provision can be made. These provisions are separated into short-term if the use is estimated to be less than twelve months, or beyond that if the provisions are allocated to long-term.

i) Product recognition

Funding contracts

Revenue from funding contracts with donors (governments, foundations, cantons, companies and others) is recognized as revenue in the year in which the funded expenditure is incurred.

Amounts received for a specific project, which have not been used at the balance sheet date and will be used in future years, and where there are contractual stipulations specifying the possibility of returning the asset to the funder, are recorded under the balance sheet liability item "Deferred financing". Amounts not received for a specific project for which the financed expenses have been incurred at the balance sheet date are recorded under the balance sheet heading "Financing receivable". The portion of financing receivable for signed funding contracts covering future periods is disclosed as a contingent asset.

Budgetary commitments related to funding contracts are considered as contingent liabilities.

Income from services and donations

Income from services provided (management contracts, expert services, etc.) is recognized when it is definitively acquired by Fondation Hirondelle. It is considered as unrestricted income, unless otherwise specified by the donor.

All other income received without specific earmarking is recorded as unrestricted income. If not used, the balance is allocated to free capital (generated).

Funds from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

Summary of funding development (according to the capital variation chart)	State of funds on 1.1.2022	Attributions to funds	Utilisation for projects	Payments not spent as of 31.12.2022	Payments to be received as of 31.12.2022	State of funds on 31.12.2022
SDC programme contribution (IP)	331 103	3 237 000	-3 175 300	412 804	-20 001	392 803
SDC mandates and contributions from the Cooperation Bureaux	507 968	2 172 863	-1 695 823	1 100 592	-115 585	985 007
Swiss funding, Peace and Human Rights division	110 000	139 000	-57 023	191 977	0	191 977

j) Taxes

Fondation Hironnelle is exempt from direct income tax according to a decision of June 12, 1995. This decision is not subject to any conditions.

Fondation Hironnelle has been subject to VAT since 01.01.2019.

k) Fundraising and communication

Fundraising and communication expenses amounted to CHF 329 399, or 2.7% of the Fondation's total expenses.

2/ COMMENTS ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
a) Funds governed by rules of usage
New project initiative fund (a)

There was no change in this fund in 2022.

Solidarity fund (b) / Social fund for Fondation projects (c)

In order to ensure a certain fairness to all our projects, it was decided by the Fondation Board that the various funds aimed at supporting Fondation Hironnelle employees in need in case of extreme situations would all be put into a single fund.

This fund is called the Solidarity Fund and totals CHF 46 014 as of 31.12.22.

Support fund (d)

The Support Fund, which is intended exclusively to consolidate the financial base of Fondation Hironnelle and to help provide it with the liquidity it needs, was replenished in 2022 by CHF 350 to reach a total of CHF 569 307.

b) Compensation paid to members of governing bodies

The Select Board of Trustees and the Board of Trustees work on a voluntary basis.

The remuneration of the executive management team for 2022 amounts to CHF 412 076,40 (2021: CHF 409 881,60).

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD IN 2022*

Tony BURGNER

Chairman of the Board.
Former Managing Director of Swiss Solidarity.
Former Head of Media at the ICRC.

Akram BELKAID

Editor-in-chief, Le Monde Diplomatique.

Marie-Jeanne EBY

Partnerships Specialist, WWF,
Former manager in various posts at the ICRC

Mario FETZ

General Secretary of the Foundation Apprentis d'Auteuil International
Former fundraising and marketing director of WWF.

Dick MARTY

Former member of the Swiss Council of States.
Former General Prosecutor of the Canton of Ticino.

Doris PFISTER

Adviser in organizational and strategic communication management.
Former journalist.

Nathalie PIGNARD-CHEYNEL

Director of the Academy of Journalism and Media – University of Neuchâtel.
Professor of digital journalism.

Isabelle WERENFELS

Former journalist. Senior Fellow at the Middle East and Africa research division
of the German Institute for International and Security Affairs.

Martin WOKER

Former international editor of Neue Zürcher Zeitung (NZZ).
(till october)

**The updated list of members for 2023 is available on Fondation Hironnelle's website.*

Executive team

Caroline VUILLEMIN

General Director

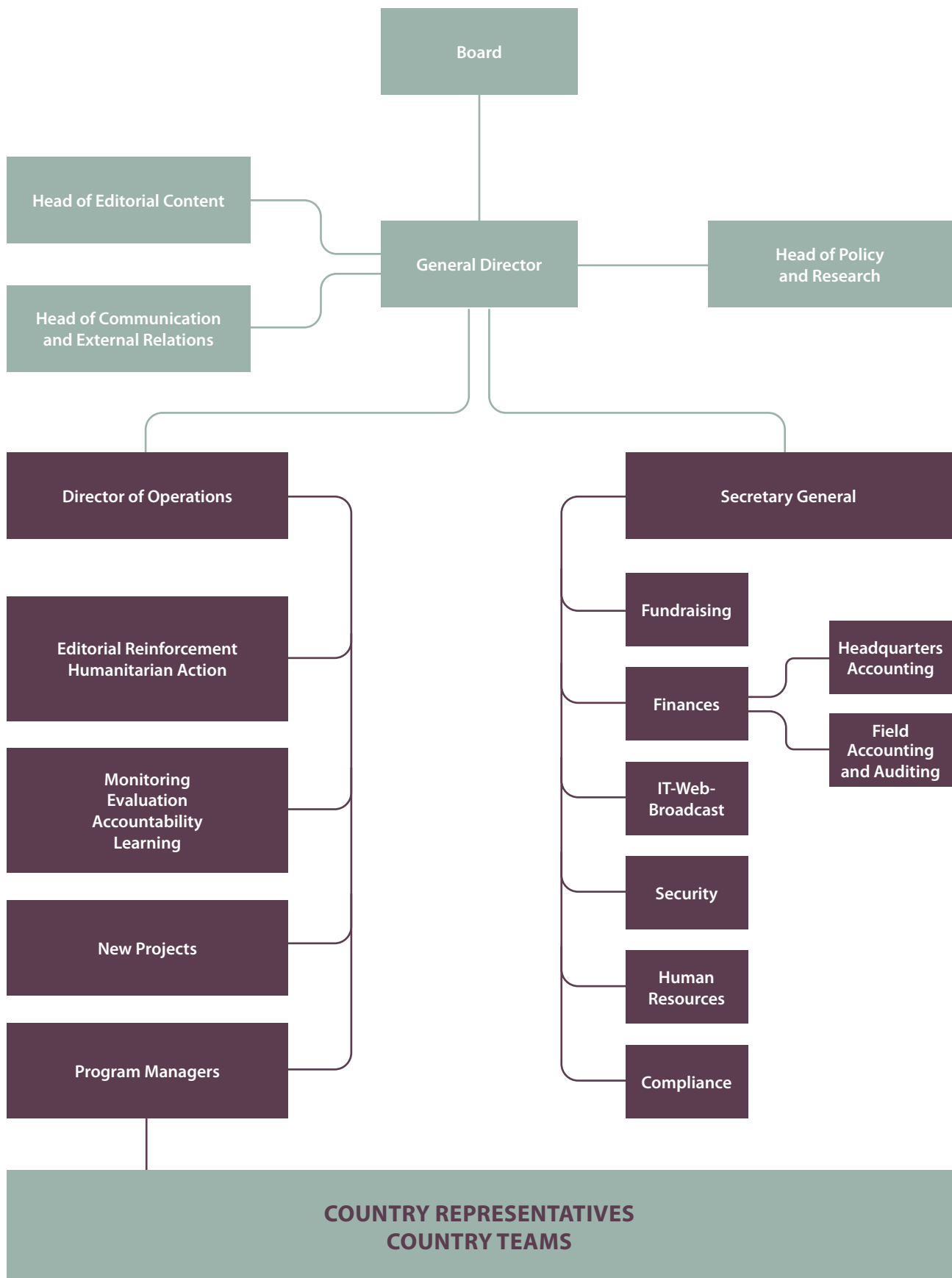
Max MOREL


Chief of Operations (till october)

Philippe BOVEY

Secretary General, Head of Services

ORGANISATION CHART





Director of publication

Caroline Vuillemin

Conception, edition

Nicolas Boissez

Céline Kohlprath

Benjamin Bibas / la fabrique documentaire

Graphic design

Marek Zielinski

Contributors

In alphabetical order:

Ouboulè Abalo

Pauline Bend

Tony Burgener

Colin Cogitore

Jacqueline Dalton

Karine Dyskiewicz

Julie Godignon

Eve Konan

Gilles Magnin

Nicholas Mansson

Sacha Meuter

Thibaud Oberli

Mouhamadou Touré

Denis Vincenti

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hirondelle.org

Fondation Hirondelle is a Swiss non-profit organization which provides information to populations faced with crisis, empowering them in their daily lives and as citizens. Through our work, millions of people in war-affected countries, post-conflict areas, humanitarian crisis and societies in democratic transition have access to media that speak to them and give them a voice.

Fondation Hirondelle

Av. du Temple 19 c
CH - 1012 Lausanne
info@hirondelle.org
hirondelle.org

Support us:

Crédit Suisse, rue du Lion d'Or, 1002 Lausanne
BIC/Swift : CRESCHZZ80A
IBAN : CH16 0483 5041 8522 8100 1



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