





Journalists and listeners of the "Ngoma Wa Kasai" radio programme launched by Fondation Hironnelle in 2019 in two Kasai provinces, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

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FOREWORD

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

As the new Chairman of Fondation Hironnelle's Board, I would like to thank my predecessor Romaine Jean for her unwavering commitment. Under her chairmanship, the Fondation has been able to consolidate and develop.

The humanitarian world, the media world and the world of NGOs are once again in a very turbulent phase that requires from all of us a great capacity for adaptation and flexibility. There is no shortage of challenges.

Convictions, ideals and values are still relevant in this context. This is particularly true for Fondation Hironnelle, whose work is based on irreproachable journalistic ethics and essential humanitarian principles.

The Fondation's Board and management have developed a new strategy that takes these two parameters into account. The implementation of this new strategy is also based on the existing knowledge and experience of the men and women who work every day in the field and in Switzerland for credible, independent information.

I look forward to meeting these challenges with all stakeholders, and count on their support.

Tony Burgener

Chairman of the Fondation Hironnelle Board

STAYING THE COURSE

In 2019, Fondation Hironnelle defined a new strategy for the years to come, following discussions with its employees, management, Board and partners. This strategy focuses on strengthening collaboration with our local partners, particularly for the co-production of content; on our ability to respond rapidly to humanitarian or health emergencies; and on developing our capacity to deal with global issues (environment, human rights, education, etc.).

Romaine Jean and Guillaume Pictet, respectively Board chairwoman and member, left our Board at the end of the year, and I thank them for their commitment. We now have the pleasure and honour of welcoming Tony Burgener as the new Chairman of the Board, and Isabelle Werenfels as a member.

Reflections on strategy have confirmed the relevance of the choices made by the founders 25 years ago. Independent information is necessary in crisis zones. It can make a difference, as our new programme in the Kasai region of DR Congo demonstrates. The media have a social role to play by creating links, and a mission towards young people such as Studio Sifaka in Madagascar has set itself. Finally, information and discussion programmes are a contribution to public life. Our media and partners have been doing this work all year long. They do not deviate from their mission, they stay the course.

Caroline Vuillemin

General Director, Fondation Hironnelle



FONDATION HIRONDELLE'S PROGRAMME

2017/2020 STRATEGY

In 2019, Fondation Hironnelle continued implementing its programme in the logic of the previous two years so as to achieve the three main results that we set ourselves as part of this four-year strategy. The first is to provide quality information that is useful and accessible to as many people as possible in the countries and contexts where we work. The second is to strengthen our media and media partners as responsible media organizations playing a major social role in their environment. And the third is to contribute to a better global and local consideration of the media sector, through research and studies on the effects and impact of media in crisis zones.

These results contribute to our institutional objective: "To help implement the right to information by giving the populations in the places we work access to quality media whose content is useful, non-partisan and independent, thus enabling each individual to make informed choices in his or her life, and to participate in the civic and democratic life of his or her country".

*A listener of the "Ngoma Wa Kasai" programme launched by Fondation Hironnelle in 2019, in Kananga, capital of Kasai Central in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
© Gwenn Dubourthoumieu / Fondation Hironnelle*

Key numbers in 2019

11 media operations,
in **10** countries, on **3** continents

11'000 ▲
hours of audio programmes
+5%

217 ▲
hours of video programmes
+3%

8'900 ▼
articles on the web
-6%

615'860 ▲
unique visitors on our websites
+65%

285'480 ▲
followers on Facebook and Twitter
+30%

330 ▲
media supported
+24%

558 ▲
people trained
+10%

Population covered:
87,3 ▲
Millions
+31%



RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT

The year 2019 was particularly rich in new developments. Institutionally, the Fondation's Board welcomed a new Chairman and a new member. Three new media were launched during the year. Fondation Hironnelle has also strengthened its internal mechanisms to fight against all forms of abuse of power and abusive behaviour. Finally, we developed a new strategy for the period 2021-2024 which was submitted to our main partner, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

The Fondation's main area of intervention, producing and broadcasting content, was expanded with the launch of Studio Yafa in Burkina Faso in March, the Ngoma Wa Kasai programme in DR Congo in June and Studio Sifaka in Madagascar in November. In the Sahel, we launched new programmes dedicated to young people in Mali and Niger. Our online media JusticeInfo.net launched a new, more user-friendly website and produced a first collection of 12 of its most important interviews.

Our second area of intervention, support to the Fondation's media partners, was marked by expansion of our partnership with Frontier Myanmar and the extension to new media partners of the Doh Athan podcast in Myanmar. Our partner radio networks in the DRC, Mali, Niger and Burkina continued to receive our technical and editorial support and to expand. We set up a new network of 6 partner radio stations in Madagascar to take Studio Sifaka's programmes.

To contribute to the sustainability of the Fondation and its media, in 2019 we focused on the integration of codes of conduct into our operations and organizational culture to prevent abuse of power, corruption and harassment, and to enable responsible and transparent management. A new strategy has also been defined, a necessary tool for 2021-2024 planning internally and externally, in order to convince new partners to work with and support us.

As part of our fourth axis of intervention dedicated to research, we co-produced with Harvard Humanitarian Initiative, British think-tank Demos and the Congolese institute ICREDES a study on the effect of social networks in the Kivus, DRC, compared with traditional media such as radio. The study on the role of local media for women's empowerment in the Sahel conducted by the Department of Journalism at the University of Sheffield has been extended to Mali and Burkina Faso after Niger, which will enable a regional vision of the issue in 2020.

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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. It is a generalist radio station with a national vocation. It offers 13 daily news bulletins, features, debates, entertainment, music and practical information.

RNL broadcasts live 24/7 throughout the country with 7 FM transmitters. 12 partner community radio stations also rebroadcast Radio Ndeke Luka's programmes between 17:30 and 19:00. Shortwave broadcasting of one hour a day is also provided through a local partnership. All programmes can be listened to via streaming or podcast on the website radiondekeluka.org.

RNL is the radio of the Central Africans. A series of focus groups and an audience survey conducted in 2017 showed that more than 63% of the population over the age of 15 listen to RNL in the areas where it broadcasts and more than 90% of listeners consider its information as reliable, objective and neutral. They say that RNL enables them to better understand the country and how it works, to have access to objective and neutral information and to be interested in all the regions and people of the Central African Republic.

“ Radio Ndeke Luka told us that the stagnant water from the flood contains germs and can make children sick. Before I realized this, I was using the water to bathe my children and prepare their meals, but I stopped when I realized that it could harm their health. ”

Marie Kagbi, a 47-year-old widow with 5 children, was forced to leave her neighbourhood after flooding in Bangui in October 2019. She found herself in a camp for displaced people.

Radio Ndeke Luka studio in Bangui, Central African Republic.
© Léo Torrétton / Fondation Hironnelle





*Radio Ndeke Luka journalist reporting from a football ground in Bangui.
© Léo Torrétou / Fondation Hironnelle*

A RADIO THAT SAVES LIVES AND EDUCATES PEOPLE

In 2019, the Central African Republic saw the signing in February of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation (APPR) between the Central African Government and 14 armed groups. Despite the hopes raised by this agreement and the consequent reduction in direct clashes between armed groups, violence continued throughout the year, leading to loss of life, suffering and internal displacement. In addition to the daily violence in some areas, incidents of extreme violence led to the deaths of dozens of people and the displacement of thousands of civilians (Bakouma in January, Paoua and Bocaranga in May, Mingala in August and Birao in September). The situation remains very fragile and this crisis has big security, socio-economic and humanitarian consequences. Access to information and the opening up of forums for dialogue and expression remain key for the consolidation of peace in the Central African Republic.

Through Radio Ndeke Luka (RNL), people affected by these crisis situations receive useful information, while continuing also to be entertained. For example, the end of October 2019 was marked by severe flooding that affected some 87,000 people. RNL quickly launched a public information campaign in collaboration with the Central African Ministry of Humanitarian Aid and the United Nations. This included spots in French and Sango, educational programmes on water, hygiene and sanitation, magazines on how to prevent health risks, and round-table discussions on how to follow up assistance actions in the field. The information provided has been essential in helping to save lives in a context where the government has little capacity to assist those affected.

The year was also marked by the launch of a radio education campaign with the Ministry of National Education and UNICEF. The aim is to give a second chance to out-of-school children who are victims of the political

and security situation in the Central African Republic. Begun at the end of December 2019, the programme includes 288 reading lessons in French and Sango, the national language, and numeracy lessons. Production and broadcast of the lessons aim to support the Ministry of Education's action for children in the community affected by conflict.

FINANCIAL VOLUME

1,528,991 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- European Union – Fonds Békou
- Switzerland (SDC Programme Contribution)
- Belgium
- UNICEF
- Income from services

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MALI

STUDIO TAMANI

Studio Tamani was launched in August 2013 by Fondation Hirondelle in partnership with URTEL (Mali Union of Independent Radio and Television Stations). Studio Tamani produces and broadcasts 3 hours and 15 minutes of radio programmes a day (1 hour 15 minutes in the morning, and 2 hours in the evening), including news bulletins in 5 languages (French, Bambara, Peulh, Tamasheq, Sonrhail), a debate programme called “Le Grand Dialogue”, and current affairs or thematic features. Videos are also produced by Studio Tamani journalists and broadcast on social networks, as well as by partner TV stations (video capture of “Le Grand Dialogue”, vox pops, reports and documentaries). In 2019, Studio Tamani produced and broadcast more than 1,200 hours of radio programmes, 200 hours of videos, and published more than 4,000 articles on its website as well as several thousand Facebook posts and tweets. More than 120 Malian media professionals have been trained by Fondation Hirondelle experts and Malian editorial staff. All content is produced by a team of 20 Malian journalists based in Bamako, with a network of 35 correspondents throughout the country. The programmes are broadcast live by 75 partner radio stations across Mali, and 3 local television channels rebroadcast the video recording of “Le Grand Dialogue”.

“ Thank you to the founders of this Studio, which brings so much to Mali. Being both production studio and training centre, Studio Tamani is an opportunity for the hundreds of local radio stations in Mali, and an asset for Mali in this period of crisis. Long may it live! ”

Yaya Sangaré, Minister of Communication and government spokesperson.

Recording the special programme for young people “Tous au Grin”, produced by Studio Tamani in Mali.
© Tristan Miquel / Fondation Hirondelle



A Studio Tamani journalist interviews a Malian Albino in Bamako.
 © Moussa Sanogo / Fondation Hirondelle

WOMEN, YOUNG PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES: BRINGING TOGETHER ALL THE VOICES OF MALI

2019 was gender equality year at Studio Tamani. Following an evaluation study and staff training, Studio Tamani adopted an action plan to promote gender equality policies in all project activities, including its productions. The objective is to position Studio Tamani as a model and as a vehicle for social influence. To ensure the implementation of the action plan, a member of the staff was designated as “focal point”. Studio Tamani currently has 35% female editorial staff. The network of correspondents in the regions, which had been exclusively male, was expanded at the beginning of 2019 to include 8 trained women journalists. A “women” database has been created by the editorial staff to make it easier for journalists to find female correspondents and thus encourage more women to speak out. Finally, Studio Tamani continued production of a multimedia programme to promote women’s rights and gender equality in Malian society. In 2019, 7 video documentaries were produced and broadcast in this framework. These efforts were praised by the Tuwindi Foundation, which awarded Studio Tamani its certificate of “Gender, Independence and Professionalism Level 3” (the highest) in January 2020.

Studio Tamani also launched a new radio programme for young people in 2019, as part of the Media Sahel programme of Canal France International (CFI). This programme broadcast on Saturday and Sunday consists of a news bulletin, a mini-magazine and a forum called “Tous au grin”. The programme encourages young people to speak out on topics that concern them directly. The success of the programme is illustrated by the number of non-partner radio stations that have requested permission to rebroadcast it.

In a difficult security and humanitarian context, Studio Tamani continued its contribution to dialogue and rec-

onciliation efforts in the country. It was thanks to Studio Tamani that Dogon and Fulani community leaders agreed to meet to discuss how to end clashes between their two communities. The dialogue began in our studio. The editorial staff also helped promote dialogue on revision of the peace agreement between the signatory parties. Finally, Studio Tamani significantly increased its broadcasting in 2019. 75 partner radio stations now broadcast its radio programmes every day. The programmes are also accessible free of charge by mobile phone in Mali, thanks to a partnership with the Viamo company. Launched in the spring, this new service is a huge success, with the number of calls increasing from 581,979 in April to 5,283,908 in December, from 462,333 unique numbers.





FINANCIAL VOLUME

2'081'133 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- Sweden
- European Union
- Denmark (FAMOC)
- Switzerland (SDC Programme Contribution)
- Service contracts (awareness campaigns)
- France (AFD via CFI)

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NIGER

STUDIO KALANGOU

Since January 2016, Studio Kalangou has been providing two hours a day of radio programming consisting of news bulletins in 5 languages (French, Hausa, Zarma, Tamasheq and Fulfulde), features on the daily life of people in Niger and a debate and dialogue programme called "Forum".

Studio Kalangou's programmes, produced by local journalists at its headquarters in Niamey, are broadcast by a network of partner radio stations in all regions of Niger. By the end of 2019, 41 private and community radio stations were broadcasting Studio Kalangou's programmes live, reaching about 65 per cent of the country's population. Studio Kalangou's team consists of about 30 journalists and translators working in its central editorial office and a network of more than 40 correspondents across the country who have been trained over the years. The project is the result of a partnership between Fondation Hironnelle, the National Coordination of Community Radios (CN-RACOM) and the Association of Private Radio and Television Promoters of Niger (APRTPN).

“ We salute you Studio Kalangou. We appreciate your programmes and we encourage you. As soon as 5pm arrives, we are next to our radios to listen to the news and we don't want to be disturbed by noise! ”

Adamou, a listener.

During Studio Kalangou's "Forum" programme in Niamey, Niger in May 2019.
© Ollivier Girard / Fondation Hironnelle



Woman being interviewed by a Studio Kalangou journalist in Niamey market, Niger. © Ollivier Girard / Fondation Hirondelle

A PROGRAMME CLOSE TO THE POPULATION'S NEEDS

Niger is a young country. More than half the population is under 15 years old. In order to respond to the specific needs and aspirations of Niger's youth, Studio Kalangou launched a weekly programme for them in 2019, as part of the Media Sahel program of Canal France International (CFI). This programme is broadcast on Saturdays and Sundays and consists of a news bulletin covering youth news, a mini-magazine and a debate programme, "Tous à la fada". This debate is held in public places to ensure a high degree of interactivity with listeners.

Throughout 2019 Studio Kalangou continued daily broadcasting of its programming with the news bulletins in 5 languages (Hausa, Zarma, Fulfulde, Tamasheq, French) and the 45-minute "Forum" in one of the 5 languages. 49% of the news covered was from the regions. Studio Kalangou thus offers both local news linked to the daily lives of Niger's men and women, and more general news to provide them with an understanding of global issues.

Studio Kalangou has taken root notably by organizing outside broadcasts of 37 "Forums" in all regions of the country. This reinforces proximity and interactivity with listeners. Important themes for the country were covered throughout the year. Governance and security continued to occupy a central place in Studio Kalangou's various programmes, which reflects both current events and people's interest. Studio Kalangou also worked to increase the visibility of women, their rights and initiatives on air. Two new weekly programmes produced by and for women were launched in 2019.

Finally, Studio Kalangou has continued to strengthen its internal capacities and those of its partner radio stations

journalistically, technically and financially. All of them say they have gained reputation and a larger audience thanks to Studio Kalangou's programmes. 29 journalists and 22 technicians have been trained this year, and the majority of correspondents and technicians based in the partner radios are now able to work independently. This is beneficial for Studio Kalangou, for the radio stations themselves and for the media sector in Niger.

FINANCIAL VOLUME

1'281'612 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- Switzerland (SDC mandate)
- United Kingdom (UKCSS)
- United Nations agency (UNICEF)
- France (AFD via CFI)
- Fondation Helvétique de Bienfaisance
- DCAF
- European Union

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DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

STUDIO HIRONDELLE DRC

Active in the Democratic Republic of Congo (RDC) since 2002, in 2019 Fondation Hironnelle consolidated its support via Studio Hironnelle DRC to informing the population through production and broadcast of locally relevant content, in partnership with more than 100 radio and TV stations across the country.

This unique network, reaching an estimated 37 million inhabitants, is one of the biggest in the DRC with no doubt the best resources in terms of production and broadcasting capacity. The network's correspondents contribute significantly to the programmes of our two editorial teams in Kinshasa and Kasai.

To carry out its information and dialogue mission, Studio Hironnelle DRC produces two separate but complementary radio programmes: "Ngoma Ya Kongo", produced at the central editorial hub in Kinshasa and broadcast to the whole country; and "Ngoma Wa Kasai", produced at the regional editorial hub in Kananga and broadcast to two Kasai provinces.

“ *Ngoma Wa Kasai has enabled my organization to make its activities known to the general public. Ngoma Wa Kasai also gave voice to survivors of gang rapes so that they could express themselves and explain what they experienced during the Kamwina Nsapu conflict.* ”

Ilande Kayumba, coordinator of the NGO CEBED in Kasai, DRC.

A journalist of the "Ngoma Wa Kasai" programme launched by Fondation Hironnelle in 2019, reporting in Kananga, capital of Kasai Central in the Democratic Republic of Congo. © Gwenn Dubourthoumieu / Fondation Hironnelle





A journalist of the "Ngoma Wa Kasai" programme reporting near Kananga, capital of Kasai Central in the Democratic Republic of Congo. © Gwenn Dubourthoumieu / Fondation Hironnelle

CONSTRUCTIVE LOCAL INFORMATION TO STRENGTHEN SOCIAL COHESION

The arrival of a new president in January 2019 has raised hopes for democratic renewal in the DRC. To accompany this first peaceful transition in the history of the independent country, the editorial staff of Studio Hironnelle DRC produced and broadcast - through its programme Ngoma Ya Kongo and in partnership with a hundred or so radio and TV stations throughout the country - information content on post-election issues. They showcased committed actors within their communities, sharing solutions ranging from citizen watch to responsible waste management or the reduction of domestic violence.

According to the Ngoma Ya Kongo impact study conducted in the fall of 2019, nearly 95% of listeners interviewed had a better understanding of their role as citizens after listening to our programme, making them want to become more involved in public life. More than half the participants in the Hironnelle Debates, especially young people and women, said they wanted to participate more fully in building "civic living together". These public radio broadcasts open up the civic space through our media and allow civil society and Congolese citizens to express themselves, exchange ideas with each other and with knowledgeable experts.

As part of our commitment to foster an environment for dialogue and resilience through strong and responsible media, in February 2019 we launched the Ngoma Wa Kasai outreach programme in the Kasai area (and opened a second radio studio) to promote the peaceful initiatives of young people as leaders of change in a region seeking peace and reconciliation in the wake of mass violence.

Nothing is, of course, possible without the partnership with our media members of the Studio Hironnelle DRC Network, which we will continue to support on an even larger scale in the years to come. In 2019, they benefited from the strengthening of their editorial and managerial capacities, as well as equipment support to enable them to continue carrying out their broad based information missions.

This network has also enabled us to put our editorial know-how at the service of actors in the development community, to produce and broadcast information and awareness-raising campaigns in various fields: health, nutrition, education, hygiene, water and sanitation, prevention and management of health and environmental risks. Thanks to these actions, we have contributed to concrete changes in people's daily lives.

FINANCIAL VOLUME

2'934'462 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- European Union
- Sweden
- United States (Counterpart + Embassy)
- Netherlands
- United Kingdom
- Switzerland (SDC Programme Contribution)
- UNDP

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BURKINA FASO STUDIO YAFA

Since March 2019, Studio Yafa has been producing and broadcasting two and a half hours of radio programming in Dioula, French, Fulfuldé, Gulmencema and Mooré, specific content for the web and social networks and a major weekly dialogue programme in French, entitled “Ya’Débat”, which allows young people to express their opinions and debate issues that concern them with other generations and with decision-makers. Produced by a team of 23 local journalists and technicians based in Ouagadougou with 5 correspondents across the country, Studio Yafa’s programmes are broadcast by 37 radio stations throughout Burkina Faso, via a free telephone service and via the Internet and social networks.

FINANCIAL VOLUME

780'144 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- Sweden
- Switzerland (SDC Project contribution)

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*During Studio Yafa’s “Ya Débat” programme in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.
© Kalidou Sy / Fondation Hironnelle*

INFORMING YOUNG PEOPLE AND PROMOTING DIALOGUE BETWEEN GENERATIONS

Studio Yafa was launched in Ouagadougou on 1 March 2019. Young people in Burkina Faso do not feel listened to since the insurgency movement of 2014. The country is facing a serious rise in insecurity and extremism. In this context, it is necessary to provide young people with a space where they can express themselves and be heard by all components of society. This is the objective of Studio Yafa’s programmes.

The team of young journalists and technicians from Burkina Faso who produce this content have been recruited, trained and supervised on a daily basis by Fondation Hironnelle experts, who are experienced media professionals. A coordinator at Studio Yafa oversees the network of partner radios set up in early 2019 with UNALFA, the umbrella association of radio stations in Burkina Faso. Started with 15 radio stations, this network was extended during the year to include 37 partner radio stations as of January 2020. Fifteen staff from these radios have received training at Studio Yafa, five of whom have become correspondents.

To ensure follow-up of its results, Studio Yafa has equipped itself with a database and innovative tools. Two external studies have been conducted. A mini telephone survey was conducted by the operator Viamo, which broadcasts Studio Yafa’s programmes free of charge by mobile phone. Initial results indicate that the majority of its listeners find the programmes reliable and of high quality.

**STUDIO
YAFA** 
FONDATION HIRONDELLE
BURKINA FASO



MADAGASCAR STUDIO SIFAKA

Two young journalists of Studio Sifaka in Antananarivo, capital of Madagascar, in September 2019. © Toky Andriamalala / Fondation Hirondelle

A RADIO PROGRAMME BY AND FOR YOUTH IN MADAGASCAR

As part of its partnership with the United Nations in Madagascar, Fondation Hirondelle launched the preparation and creation phase of Studio Sifaka in June 2019, with the recruitment of studio staff and the installation of studios and offices. A three-month training course was organized for the young journalists of the editorial staff (average age 23 years). Presenters, technicians and the support team were all recruited and trained by Fondation Hirondelle.

To better understand the concerns of Malagasy youth and to define the format of the radio programme, Fondation Hirondelle organized a series of four focus groups in three cities in the country with young people. This enabled us to offer radio programmes that meet the expectations and interests of our target audience. The two-hour programme schedule includes a bulletin of national news, a regional news bulletin, sports news and a press review, four features (health, employment/initiatives, culture, and questions), a 15-minute debate and music.

In collaboration with the United Nations and other project partners, we have identified six partner radios to be part of the network that broadcasts the two-hour programme every day. This network will be expanded in 2020 to 12 radio stations. After two months of production tests, Studio Sifaka started broadcasting with our partner radios, and also on Facebook and podcast, on 11 December 2019.

Studio Sifaka is a youth radio programme created by the United Nations in Madagascar, in partnership with Fondation Hirondelle, and with the support of the Peacebuilding Fund. Since December 2019, Studio Sifaka has been producing two hours of radio programmes per day for Malagasy youth. The programming is broadcast by a network of radio partners. Content includes a national and regional news bulletin as well as programmes dedicated to advice (health, employment, etc.), dialogue, music and Malagasy culture. These programmes are produced by a group of young local journalists and technicians, all under 30 years of age.

FINANCIAL VOLUME

461'941 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- Switzerland (SDC Programme Contribution)
- UNDP

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MYANMAR DOH ATHAN

Since 2017, Fondation Hironnelle has been producing a podcast that addresses gaps in access to information on human rights issues in partnership with Frontier Myanmar, a local news magazine and website. Doh Athan, "Our Voice", is a 10-minute weekly podcast that covers human rights stories, and is strengthened by partnerships with 6 partner media from ethnic states and regions around Myanmar. The program is produced in Yangon by a dedicated team of producers, with stories also coming from partner media to ensure national coverage. The program is broadcast online via social media, as well as on Voice of America's shortwave radio program in Myanmar. Journalism training and technical support are also provided to our partner media organizations.

FINANCIAL VOLUME

151'556 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- The Netherlands
- Switzerland (SDC Programme Contribution)
- United States

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Training of journalists from Fondation Hironnelle media partners in Karen state, Myanmar, in April 2019.

© Lâm Duc Hiên / Fondation Hironnelle

IMPROVED COVERAGE OF HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

In 2019, Fondation Hironnelle continued its support for independent and professional media content through partnerships with national, regional and ethnic media outlets. Our partnership with Frontier Myanmar continued with the production of Doh Athan (Our Voice), a weekly podcast dedicated to human rights issues. Throughout the year, 47 episodes of Doh Athan were produced by the production team in Yangon, with contributions from partner media.

We added 2 new partner media to our existing network of ethnic and regional media, the Karen Information Center (Kayin State) and the Monywa Gazette Journal (Sagaing Region). The project team organized trainings for 15 journalists from 8 different media from these regions, including partner media, on covering human rights issues.

The Doh Athan Facebook page continued to attract new fans in 2019, with over 30,000 followers. A new partnership with Voice of America also allowed us to scale up listener-ship, with each episode being broadcast on VoA's radio program once a week.

For the first time, Fondation Hironnelle brought together journalists from each partner media for a week long security training in Yangon. It sought to improve journalists' understanding of the importance of awareness for their security, preparation & risk assessment, and emergency response measures. It was also an opportunity for journalists to share experiences and build connections between media from across the country.



BANGLADESH INFORMATION AND SOCIAL COHESION

Bangladeshi woman from the host community conducting an interview as part of the Fondation Hironnelle programme in Cox's Bazar, April 2019.
© Nancy-Amelia Collins / Fondation Hironnelle

INFORMING ROHINGYA REFUGEES AND HOST COMMUNITIES

In 2019, Fondation Hironnelle built on the results of our pilot project, started in 2018, in the Rohingya refugee camp of Jamtoli. We expanded the project into two new Rohingya refugee camps and we also worked with affected Bangladeshi communities. Fondation Hironnelle's work aims to contribute to the resourcefulness and resilience of refugees and the host community and strengthen social cohesion between the groups. The project was implemented in partnership with Coast Trust, a Bangladeshi NGO until December 2019.

The project has improved access to important and practical information for our more than 18,000 weekly listeners. Programs were produced by dedicated teams of refugee and host community producers and volunteers, with the support and supervision of Fondation Hironnelle editors. In the camps, they focused on issues such as health and prevention, cyclone preparation, nutrition, and living in harmony with each other. In the host community, programs were more livelihood focused, with topics including vegetable gardening, cow farming and women in agriculture. The 30 minute shows were played in listening groups throughout 3 camps (1W, 3, and 15) and areas around the camp (Palongkhali and Rajapalong areas) via loudspeakers. Listening group volunteers conducted sessions immediately after playing the episode to get feedback from listeners.

At the end of 2019, a pilot recording of a new program addressing social cohesion between host community and Rohingya took place. Critical discussions were held between the two groups which laid the groundwork for another program that could be delivered in 2020 on a weekly basis.

Jamtoli Information Line, Shanti Hota and Aror Hota are Fondation Hironnelle's 3 audio programs produced in Bangladesh for the Rohingya refugee population and the surrounding host communities. Jamtoli Information Line and Shanti Hota are produced by teams of refugees with oversight from Fondation Hironnelle editors in 2 camps in Cox's Bazar. The programs offer information on camp life and awareness messages. Aror Hota is produced by members of the host community with information about services and advice that could improve their food security, livelihoods and knowledge about health and rights. Programs are narrowcasted via a network of small loudspeakers in listening sites around three camps and in the host community (Palongkhali and Rajapalong areas).

FINANCIAL VOLUME
536'210 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING
- Swiss Solidarity
- Switzerland (SDC Programme contribution)
- Switzerland (SDC mandate)

FOLLOW US
<https://soundcloud.com/user-608832610>
<https://soundcloud.com/user-838090136>
<https://soundcloud.com/user-315062342>



JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS JUSTICEINFO.NET

JusticeInfo.net is a free, independent, bilingual news website created by Fondation Hironnelle in 2015. It covers justice related to mass violence. Tribunals, truth commissions, reparations programmes, reconciliation processes and remembrance are at the heart of transitional justice processes around the world covered by JusticeInfo.net. We also aim to be in the forefront of contemporary debate on mass violence: environmental crimes, business responsibility, violence against migrants, the fate of indigenous people and colonial crimes. Thanks to a solid correspondent network and contributions from experts, JusticeInfo.net is the leading media in its field.

FINANCIAL VOLUME

328'521 CHF

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- Canton of Geneva
- Switzerland (SDC Programme Contribution)
- Nicolas Puech Foundation
- Robert Bosch Foundation
- DCAF

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 [facebook.com/JusticeInfo](https://www.facebook.com/JusticeInfo)

 [@justiceinfonet](https://twitter.com/justiceinfonet)

AND REPARATIONS
COMMISSION

THE TRUTH SHALL
SET YOU FREE

Hearing of the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission in Banjul, Gambia, in October 2019.

© Jason Florio / Fondation Hironnelle

JUSTICE IN ALL ITS DIMENSIONS

Justice Info expanded and deepened its editorial content in 2019, allowing it to expand its community of readers. While still covering the main transitional justice processes under way, Justice Info diversified its content to shed light on new realities of international justice like crimes against the environment or against indigenous people. Throughout the year, Justice Info offered reports and analyses on a variety of topics such as the salaries of judges at the International Criminal Court (ICC), the victory of sexual violence victims in the DR Congo, the unfulfilled hopes of Liberians for justice, and the extraordinary, complex justice process in Colombia. The country whose news has received the most attention is The Gambia, due to the exemplary transitional justice process currently taking place there. Justice Info's correspondent has received four journalism awards for his coverage of the country's Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Justice Info has increased its distribution capacity and its audience (+135% visits to the site, +89% on Facebook, +207% on Twitter). In November, Justice Info published a book, "12 voices on Global Justice", a collection of twelve major interviews with leading experts and actors in the field. Following this publication, a conference on the issue of environmental crimes was organised in early December in The Hague, coinciding with the ICC Assembly of States Parties.

JUSTICE
INFO.NET

FONDATION HIRONDELLE



Refugees being trained to make podcasts by Fondation Hironnelle in Dollo Ado camp, Ethiopia, July 2019.
© Machrine Birungi / Fondation Hironnelle

MEDIA LITERACY AND FIGHTING DISINFORMATION

What can journalism do in the face of contemporary forms of disinformation? This question is a key question of our time. It is the subject of a training manual by Cherilyn Iretton and Julie Posetti, the original version of which was published in 2018 in English by UNESCO. The French version was published by Fondation Hironnelle at the end of 2019 in partnership with the UN organization. This handbook provides young French-speaking journalists and students around the world with tips and tools to counter the pitfalls of contemporary disinformation.

Media literacy is also the subject of a series of 30 “Master Classes” in journalism, videos of 12 to 16 minutes each aimed at students, trainee journalists, and anyone wishing to better understand the issues, techniques and ethics of the profession. Conceived, produced and directed in French and English by Fondation Hironnelle’s Editorial Specialist, these videos give the floor to renowned journalists, researchers and specialists in media analysis. They deal with subjects such as war reporting, interview techniques and the fight against “Fake News”. The course lasts a total of 450 minutes. It is free and available to all for personal use or teaching purposes, and will be published in 2020 on the website and social networks of Fondation Hironnelle and its media partners.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

TRAINING IN MAURITANIA AND PODCASTS IN ETHIOPIA

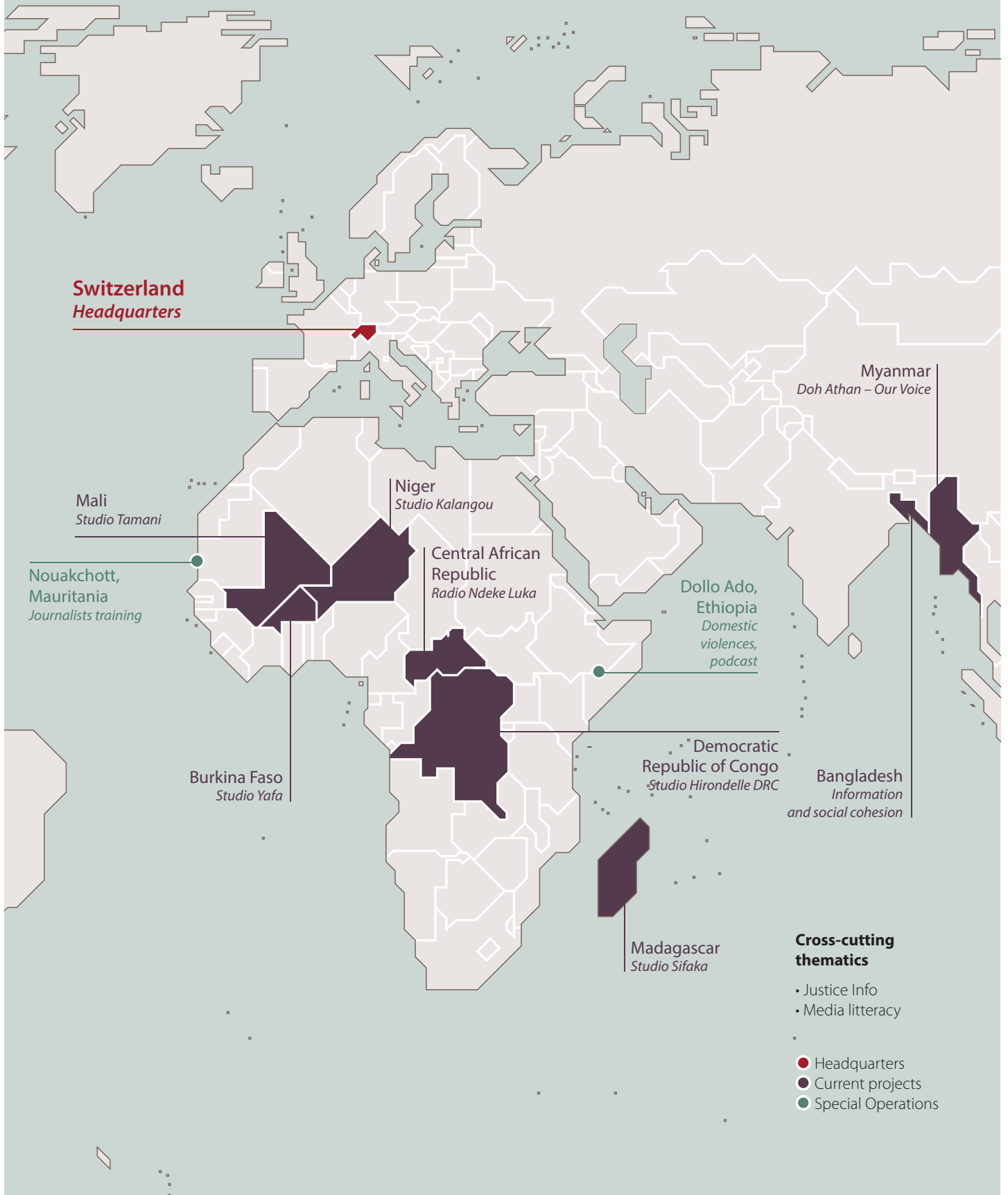
In partnership with the Cordoba Peace Institute in Geneva, Fondation Hironnelle carried out training for 30 Mauritanian journalists and bloggers in Nouakchott in April 2020. This workshop, funded by the Netherlands, was led by Michel Beuret, Editorial Specialist of Fondation Hironnelle. Topics included sources, editorial responsibility, journalism ethics and exercises to counter disinformation on social networks.

In Ethiopia, in the Dollo Ado refugee camp, Fondation Hironnelle is collaborating with WAHA (Women and Health Alliance International) and the School of Public Health of Addis Ababa University in a pilot project using an audio podcast programme to raise awareness about domestic violence. In 2019, we provided the necessary equipment to six local producers who were trained by us. They produced 16 programmes, which were broadcast in three listening centres in the camp. The podcasts were also shared via Bluetooth, phone to phone, without an Internet connection.

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- Ethiopia: Embassy of Switzerland, World Bank
- Mauritania: Cordoba Foundation (via the Netherlands)
- Media literacy: Loterie Romande, Fondation Nicolas Puech

FONDATION HIRONDELLE OPERATIONS IN 2019





Roundtable on the role of local media in promoting dialogue between communities in Mali, during the European Development Days in June 2019 in Brussels. © EDD Brussels

PARTNERS AND NETWORK

MEDIA AND GOVERNANCE – ADVISING THE SDC

Improving the policies and practice of Swiss cooperation in the area of governance: this is the objective of a mandate given by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC - Switzerland) to a consortium led by the Institute for Development Studies (IDS - University of Sussex) and of which Fondation Hironnelle is a member.

As part of this mandate, in 2019 we updated the internal guide for SDC employees on media support. The handbook we provided presents six possible areas of intervention, while taking into account risk and impact assessment. We also produced two educational videos for SDC employees on 1) gender issues in the media, and 2) the advantages and risks of information technology in supporting the media. Using a “question and answer” format, these videos include data, examples, personal accounts and solutions.

We also worked with Professor Christoph Spurk from the University of Zurich to conduct a study on use of theories of change by actors in the media sector and governance support programmes. This publication is a follow-up to several seminars held with the Global Forum for Media Development and leading organizations in the sector on how to develop these theories for the media, and especially how to measure the expected changes.

CONTRIBUTING TO GLOBAL DISCUSSION ON THE MEDIA

In 2019, Fondation Hironnelle representatives from its headquarters and its media took active part in 22 international conferences on the role of media, journalism and access to information. These were held, for example, in Geneva, New York, Lausanne, Bonn, Brussels, Addis Ababa and London. They include a global conference on constructive journalism in Geneva in January, in which Fondation Hironnelle was a partner and during which we organized a discussion on journalism in a crisis context; the EU’s “European Development Days” in Brussels in June, where we organized a panel on the role of local media in bringing communities in Mali and the Sahel into dialogue; and an event on access to information organized with the NGO Article 19 and the Dutch Mission on the sidelines of the UN Human Rights Council session in September.



RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

MISSIONS TO CÔTE D'IVOIRE, CAMEROON AND TUNISIA

Three exploratory missions were carried out in 2019 in Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon and Tunisia to assess information needs and the conditions for possible intervention by Fondation Hironnelle. In Côte d'Ivoire, the assessment conducted in June 2019 led to the development of a project concept to network and strengthen independent online media. The objective is to combat disinformation and hate speech through responsible, high-quality journalism. This is a major challenge in the run-up to presidential elections in 2020 which are once again risky in terms of possible tensions. The mission to Cameroon at the end of 2019 aimed to assess the needs for information and dialogue programmes in the context of the ongoing violent conflict in English-speaking separatist regions in the west of the country. In Tunisia, the mission was carried out in collaboration with the Danish group NIRAS, in response to a call for tenders from Swiss cooperation aimed at promoting active participation of Tunisian citizens. Media partners were identified. We will work with them in 2020 in six governorates, giving them tools to monitor public policies for greater accountability, dialogue and trust between institutions and citizens.

The Director of radio Scout Niger, partner of Studio Kalangou and participant in the study on the role of radios for women in Niger.
© Sacha Meuter / Fondation Hironnelle.

IMPACT SURVEYS AND INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH

In partnership with Dr. Emma Heywood at the University of Sheffield, we conducted an analysis of the impact of Studio Kalangou's programmes on the emancipation of women in Niger. This study showed a clear evolution in levels of knowledge and desire to act among Kalangou listeners, particularly in terms of political participation. This first collaboration paved the way for a similar study in Mali. It also enabled Dr. Heywood to obtain more substantial academic funding to help us better understand the expectations of our listeners and better address issues related to the promotion of women's rights in the three Sahel countries where we work, Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso.

We also conducted a study funded by DFID of the sources and dissemination of information in the North Kivu region of the DRC. The purpose of this was to better understand the dynamics of information flows, both offline and online. It was made possible through a partnership with Demos, a London-based think tank specialising in social network analysis, the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative and the Institut Congolais de Recherche en Développement et Etudes Stratégiques (ICREDES). This study highlighted the problem that poor information posed to the local population when faced with the Ebola crisis.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

GENERAL FINANCIAL SITUATION

The year 2019 ended with a total financial volume of 11.8 million CHF, up 24% compared with 2018. Fondation Hironnelle posted a positive result, as in 2018, of around 264,000 CHF. The increase in volume can be largely attributed to the launch of a new project in Madagascar, the creation of a new production studio in Kasai, DRC, and higher volume for Burkina Faso and Bangladesh projects launched in 2018.

88.8% of the Fondation's expenditure was for our projects on the ground and special operations (for example, a project on gender-based violence in the Dollo Ado camps in Ethiopia, carrying out research, videos on the role of media).

Staff costs accounted for 68% of expenditure, operational costs for 27%, and equipment or its depreciation 5%. Costs linked to management (Finance, HR, IT, etc.) represented 9.2% of expenditure, while communication and fundraising represented 2%. It should be noted that Fondation Hironnelle obtained Zewo certification in 2019; all the 2019 accounts and indicators below therefore conform with the presentation required by Zewo.

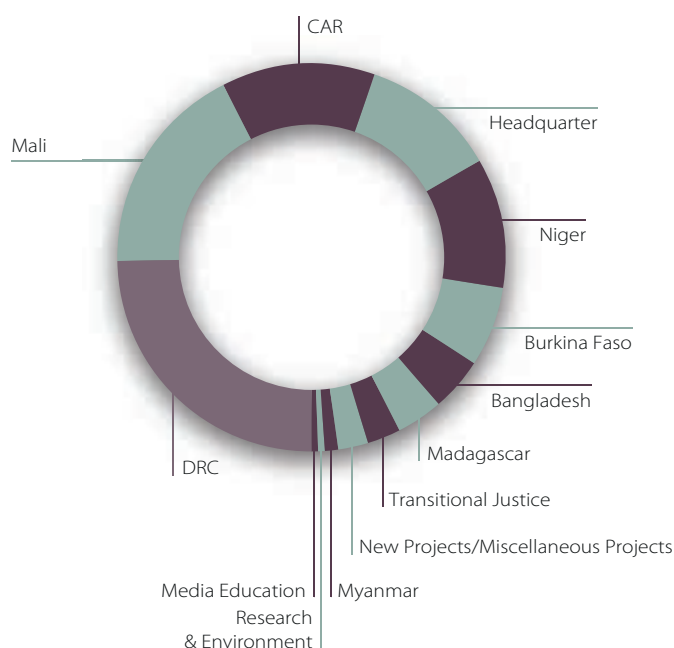
An independent auditing body has certified that the annual accounts summarized below reflect a true image of Fondation Hironnelle's financial situation. The whole report on the 2019 annual accounts is available on our website www.hironnelle.org.

HUMAN RESOURCES

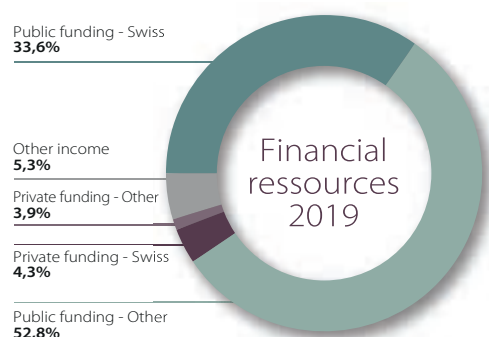
At the end of 2019, Fondation Hironnelle employed 245 professionals around the world. The number of national staff working for the Fondation increased to 205 (155 in 2018), and the number of expatriates on long-term contracts was 14 (13 in 2018). In addition there were 254 interns and correspondents (144 in 2018), supported on an ad hoc basis by 14 expert missions to the field (26 missions in 2018). In view of the growth in projects, the size of the headquarters remained relatively stable. As at 31 December 2019, it had 8 staff members (full-time equivalents 7.2) active in direct project monitoring, and 18 staff members (FTE 15.4) engaged in management, cross-cutting and support functions. Fondation Hironnelle is also training an apprentice and has been able to benefit throughout 2019 from the assistance of 4 people on civilian service/trainees (FTE 4) and one person in a situation of professional reintegration (FTE 0.7).

PROJECT EXPENDITURE

Projects 2019	CHF
DRC	2 934 462
Mali	2 081 133
CAR	1 528 991
Headquarters	1 325 197
Niger	1 281 612
Burkina Faso	780 145
Bangladesh	536 210
Madagascar	461 941
Transitional Justice	328 521
New Projects/Miscellaneous Projects	274 361
Myanmar	151 556
Research and Environment	71 443
Media Education	35 137



FINANCIAL RESOURCES



Sources of revenue	in CHF	in %
Public funding		
Switzerland		
Swiss Fund - SDC programme contribution (IP)	2 710 254	22,3%
SDC mandates	1 323 181	10,9%
Geneva canton	50 000	0,4%
Other		
European Union	2 486 835	20,5%
Sweden	1 940 284	16,0%
Netherlands	627 446	5,2%
United Nations Agency (UNICEF, UNDP)	405 064	3,3%
Denmark (FAMOC)	395 086	3,3%
United Kingdom (DFID, UKCSS)	303 215	2,5%
United States (Counterpart)	146 671	1,2%
Belgium	93 925	0,8%
	10 481 961	86,3%
Private funding		
Swiss		
Swiss Solidarity	338 997	2,8%
RTS partnership	75 000	0,6%
Nicolas Puech Foundation	54 120	0,4%
Fondation Helvétique de Bienfaisance	40 000	0,3%
Loterie Romande	29 189	0,2%
Other		
Other donors	399 967	3,3%
Robert Bosch Foundation	48 843	0,4%
DCAF	29 668	0,2%
	1 015 784	8,4%
Other products		
Products from services provided	649 351	5,3%
	649 351	5,3%
TOTAL INCOME	12 147 096	

SUMMARY OF FONDATION HIRONDELLE ACCOUNTS

The presentation of Fondation Hironnelle's accounts is based on the overall concept of the recommendations of the Swiss GAAP Fundamental FER and Swiss GAAP FER 21. This presentation provides an overview that reflects the reality of the organization's financial situation and revenues. The accounts comply with Swiss law and the Foundation's statutes.

The summary of accounts is based on the annual accounts as at 31 December 2019, which have been drawn up in accordance with the above-mentioned principles.

BALANCE AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2019 (in Swiss francs)

	2019	2018
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Liquid assets	3 645 845	3 881 400
Credits	107 064	151 567
Funding to be received	443 022	202 695
Other receivables	208 601	189 929
Accruals and deferred income	197 802	160 752
Intangible asset		
Fixed assets		
Financial assets		
	164 500	168 744
TOTAL ASSETS	4 766 834	4 755 087
LIABILITIES		
Short-term liabilities		
Short-term debts	483 327	286 197
Funding received in advance	2 218 060	2 509 334
Accrual and deferred income	200 181	213 177
Provision for audit fees	-	-
Various loans	410	417
Long-term liabilities		
Provision for legal contingencies	147 370	320 337
Provision for termination of staff contracts	39 755	29 309
Allocated funds		
Initiative Fund	216 468	216 468
Solidarity Fund	14 155	14 155
Project Social Fund	13 925	9 795
Support Fund	547 243	520 771
Equity capital		
Foundation capital	50 000	50 000
Capital FNL	12 315	-
Operating capital	559 734	413 744
Final result	263 891	171 383
TOTAL LIABILITIES	4 766 834	4 755 087

OPERATING ACCOUNTS OF FONDATION HIRONDELLE (in Swiss francs)

	2019	2018
INCOME		
Public funding	10 481 961	8 854 410
Private funding	1 015 784	443 347
Other income	649 351	459 340
TOTAL INCOME	12 147 096	9 757 097
Income allocated by the Fondation	724 351	530 808
Tied funds	-	3 532
Allocated funds	11 422 745	9 222 757
EXPENDITURE		
Direct project expenditure		
Staff	6 004 073	4 822 944
Operations	3 943 798	3 033 059
Equipment	517 641	562 919
Headquarters expenditure		
Staff	739 463	493 608
Operations	288 932	396 643
Equipment	52 175	40 372
Fundraising and communication expenditure		
Staff	174 200	184 825
Operations	70 427	59 508
OPERATING RESULT	356 387	163 219
FINANCIAL RESULT	-87 293	-30 290
EXCEPTIONAL RESULT	-5 203	38 453
ANNUAL RESULT BEFORE ALLOCATIONS	263 891	171 383
Allocations / deductions		
Allocations to equity capital	-263 891	-171 383
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	-	-

Public funding
86,3%

Other income
5,3%

Private funding
8,4%

Project expenditure
88,8%

Fundraising and communication expenditure
2,1%

Headquarters expenditure
9,2%

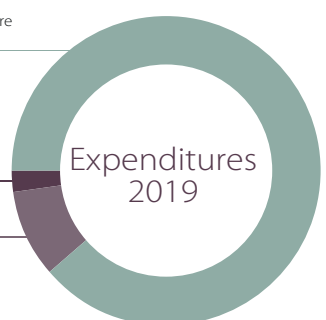


TABLE OF CAPITAL VARIATION (in Swiss francs)

Description of funding	Position of funds on 1.1.2019	Attributions to funds	Internal transfers	Use for projects	Position of funds on 31.12.19	Funding received in advance	Funding to be received
Allocated funds (Funding to be received /received in advance)							
Bangladesh	299 227	266 578		-552 400	13 405	13 405	-
Burkina Faso	3 368	844 223		-803 344	44 247	48 228	-3 981
Media Education	38 208	6 828		-35 137	9 899	9 899	-
Environment and Research	-	83 916		-43 916	40 000	40 000	-
Transitional Justice	-	341 232		-341 232	-	-	-
Madagascar	-	525 462		-482 593	42 869	42 869	-
Mali	261 517	1 988 819		-2 143 184	107 152	355 658	-248 506
Myanmar	41 554	117 391		-160 869	-1 924	-	-1 924
Niger	61 039	1 708 858		-1 282 172	487 725	576 519	-88 794
New projects/Miscellaneous projects	94 314	189 717	-326	-282 697	1 008	32 744	-31 736
Central African Republic	816 029	1 429 076		-1 617 273	627 832	668 086	-40 254
Democratic Republic of Congo	691 709	2 653 306		-3 011 937	333 078	360 905	-27 827
Headquarters	-326	735 739	326	-665 992	69 747	69 747	-
Total allocated funds	2 306 639	10 891 145	-	-11 422 746	1 775 038	2 218 060	-443 022
Tied funds							
Initiative Fund	216 468	-		-	216 468		
Solidarity Fund	14 155	-		-	14 155		
Project Social Fund	9 795	4 130		-	13 925		
Support Fund	520 771	26 472		-	547 243		
Total tied funds	761 189	30 602		-	791 791		
Foundation capital							
Initial capital	50 000	-		-	50 000		
Capital FNL	-	12 315		-	12 315		
Sales and services/non-tied subsidies	-	724 351		-724 351	-		
Operating capital	585 127	238 498		-	823 625		
Operating result	-	-		-	-		
Total Foundation Capital	635 127	975 164		-724 351	885 940		
TOTAL	3 702 956	11 896 911		-12 147 097	3 452 769		

ANNEX TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2019 (EXTRACTS*)

* THE FULL TEXT OF THIS ANNEX CAN BE DOWNLOADED ON OUR WEBSITE WWW.HIRONDELLE.ORG

(...) The Fondation Board is composed of three to fifteen members, at least half of whom are journalists or media professionals. Their term of office is four years, renewable a maximum of twice. The Board appoints from among its members a steering committee of three to five members, including the Chairman of the Board.

In 2019, the activity report serves as a performance report. It is prepared in accordance with the provisions of the accounting standards of Swiss GAAP FER Basic and Swiss GAAP FER 21.

The accounts were approved by the Fondation Board on 20 May 2020.

1/ ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES AND PRESENTATION OF THE ACCOUNTS

A) GENERAL

The presentation of Fondation Hironnelle's accounts is based on the overall concept of the recommendations of Swiss GAAP FER 21. This presentation provides a true picture of the organization's financial situation and income. The accounts comply with Swiss law and the Fondation's statutes.

The accounts are based on the annual accounts as at 31 December 2019, which have been drawn up according to uniform principles. Amounts in the accounts are rounded, which may result in minor discrepancies in the totals.

B) SCOPE OF INTEGRATION

The accounts contain the annual accounts of all Fondation Hironnelle offices in Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo and Madagascar.

Since 2019, Fondation Hironnelle has also integrated the activities of Fondation Ndeke Luka (FNL), which it controls. The capital of the FNL has been integrated into the capital of Fondation Hironnelle.

C) CONVERSION OF FOREIGN CURRENCY

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at the average rates of the N-1 accounting month.

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies in the balance sheet at 31 December are translated into Swiss francs at the rates prevailing on 31 December. The results of these conversions are recorded in the financial result.

D) LIQUID ASSETS

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

E) CREDITS, ACCRUAL AND DEFERRED INCOME

Receivables and prepayments and accrued income are stated at their nominal value less any necessary value adjustments.

F) TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

As of 01.01.2019 Fondation Hironnelle has changed its straight-line amortization method as follows:

IT equipment: 3 years upwards of 1,000 CHF per unit
Other equipment: 3 years upwards of 2,000 CHF per unit
Fixed assets abroad: Direct amortization

Property, plant and equipment appear in the balance sheet at their acquisition cost, after deduction of depreciation calculated according to the straight-line method.

The method used previously was as follows:

Machines, vehicles and equipment	5 years
Installation and IT equipment	5 years
Fixed assets abroad	Direct amortization

NB: Fondation Hironnelle uses equipment and vehicles for its projects abroad; this equipment and these vehicles 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 Hironnelle operates, which make it difficult to determine their useful life, generally short, and their residual value.

G) FINANCIAL FIXED ASSETS

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

H) PROVISIONS

Provisions represent the value of future cash outflows resulting from past events occurring without a return payment. A reliable estimate of the amount of the provision can be made. These provisions are separated into short term if their use is estimated to be within twelve months, otherwise they are allocated as long term provisions.

Since 2019, provisions for audit fees are recorded under short-term liabilities.

I) INCOME RECOGNITION

Funding contracts

Income from funding contracts signed with donors (Governments, Foundations, Cantons, companies and others) is recognized as income in the year in which the funded expenses are incurred.

Amounts received for a specific project that have not been used by the closing of accounts but will be used in future years and where there are contractual provisions for returning this asset to the donor, are recorded under liabilities in the balance sheet under the heading "Funding received in advance". Amounts not yet received for a specific project where funded expenditure has already been committed at the balance sheet date are recorded as "Funding to be received". The portion of funding receivable for signed financing contracts covering future periods is recorded as a conditional asset.

Budgetary commitments linked to funding contracts are considered as conditional liabilities.

Income from services provided and gifts

Income from services provided (e.g. advertising and communication contracts, sales of expertise) are included in the accounts when they have been definitively received by Fondation Hironnelle. They are considered income allocated by the Fondation, unless otherwise required by the donor.

All other income received without any particular mention is recorded as unallocated income. If not used, the balance is allocated to free (generated) capital.

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 is subject to VAT as of 01.01.2019.

K) FUNDRAISING AND COMMUNICATION

Costs of fundraising and communication amount to CHF 244 627, or 2% of total Fondation expenses.

2/ COMMENTS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL SITUATION

A) FUNDS GOVERNMENT BY REGULATIONS OF USE

New Projects Initiative Fund

Following a one-off contribution of CHF 250,000 made to Fondation Hironnelle by the Pro Victimis Foundation, for which the contract expired on 31 December 2007, the Fondation Board decided to allocate the balance of CHF 220,000 to an initiative fund, the regulations of which state that it is "intended to facilitate the launch of new projects that meet its objectives". There was no change in this fund in 2019.

Solidarity Fund

Fondation Hironnelle has set up a solidarity fund for employees in extreme need, and who have paid personally for their work as employees of the Fondation, in situations defending freedom of expression, of war, disaster or acts of violence. This fund is made up of private donations. There was no movement in this fund in 2019.

The Fondation's Project Social Fund

Based on the experience of the Okapi Social Fund created in December 2006, the Fondation's Board decided to extend coverage to other projects in the same situation (lack of sufficient coverage by local social insurance). These funds are financed by donor contributions usually earmarked for this social security coverage and with strict differentiation between projects. Their use is subject to a fund regulation.

In 2019, the Niger Social Fund increased by CHF 4,129.

Support Fund

The support fund, intended exclusively to consolidate the financial base of Fondation Hironnelle and to help ensure that it has the liquidity it needs, was replenished in 2019 by CHF 26,472 to reach the amount of CHF 547,243. The funds come from free donations and the Association of Friends of Fondation Hironnelle.

B) REMUNERATION TO MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODIES

The steering committee and the Board work on a voluntary basis.

The remuneration of the Executive Committee for 2019 amounted to 404,883.60 (2018: CHF 390,739).

B) SOCIAL SECURITY

As at 31 December 2019, Fondation Hironnelle had 26 employees with contracts under Swiss law, subject to mandatory Swiss social insurance and earning more than CHF 10,000 (for 2018: 24 people, earning more than the LPP minimum), out of a total of 245 professionals worldwide. These people are insured for old age pension, disability and death with the VITA Collective Foundation, according to a so-called defined benefit plan. The contributions defined in the pension plan are financed by con-

tributions from Fondation Hironnelle and its employees on a 60/40 basis. The employer's contributions are recognized in the period in which they are paid. The employer does not guarantee the pension benefits; the risks are guaranteed by the VITA Collective Foundation and reinsured by Zurich Life Insurance Company Ltd, VITA's reinsurer. With these LPP solutions, the risks of death and disability are transferred to an insurance company (Zurich Life Insurance Company Ltd). The company assumes the investment risk through the VITA Collective Foundation, and the retirement assets of the insured are invested directly on the capital markets. The investment strategy is determined by the Board.

C) EVALUATION OF GRATUITIES

The gratuities received as benefits are evaluated according to the daily price of the Fondation Hironnelle salary scale.

In 2019, as part of our partnership with RTS, Fondation Hironnelle benefited from 9 days of volunteer work valued at 9 days X CHF 415 = CHF 3,735 (2018: 5,395).

In addition, a volunteer trainer came to train and strengthen our team of presenters in Mali for a period of 5 days. 5 days X CHF 415 = CHF 2 075 (0 in 2018)

Our auditors made a pro-bono donation of CHF 14,000 in 2019 (2018 CHF 14,000).

D) COMMITMENTS OUTSIDE BALANCE SHEET

	1 st mezzanine	Offices	Leasing
Next deadline	31.01.2023	30.09.2020	30.06.2022
No. of months before deadline	37	9	30
Monthly rent	2 489.00	6 605.00	358.2
Commitments outside balance sheet 31.12.2019	92 093.00	59 445.00	10 746.00
Commitments outside balance sheet 31.12.2018	121 961.00	138 705.00	15 044.40

E) CONTRIBUTIONS

Fondation Hironnelle pays annual contributions as a member of the following organizations:

- Global Forum for Media Development (GFMD) 10 000 USD
- Communication with Disaster Affected Community (CDAC) 5 000 GBP
- Swiss Center for Peacebuilding (KOFF) 800 CHF
- Fédération Vaudoise de Coopération (FEDEVACO) 400 CHF
- En Quête d'Ailleurs (EQDA) 5 000 CHF
- Communauté d'intérêt pour la formation commerciale de base du Canton de Vaud (CIFIC-VD) 150 CHF
- Swiss NGO platform 3,000 CHF

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD IN 2019

Romaine Jean (end of mandate: 12/31/2019)

Chairwoman of the Board. Journalist and former producer at Radio Télévision Suisse (RTS).

Tony Burgener (beginning of mandate: 01/01/2020)

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

Ouided Bouchamaoui

Businesswoman

2015 Nobel Peace Prize winner with the Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet.

Mario Fetz

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

Jacques Forster

Honorary Professor of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID)
Former Vice-President of the ICRC.

Dick Marty

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

Serge Michel

Journalist, co-founder of Heidi News.

Doris Pfister

Adviser in organizational and strategic communication management. Former journalist.

Guillaume Pictet (end of mandate: 12/31/2019)

Vice-President of the Board of De Pury Pictet Turrettini & Cie SA.

Isabelle Werenfels (beginning of mandate: 11/01/2019)

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).

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

Caroline VUILLEMIN

General Director

Max MOREL

Chief of Operations

Philippe BOVEY

Secretary General, Head of Services



Journalists from the Studio Hironnelle RDC reporting and in studio in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo. This series of photos, as well as those on the cover and page 2 were taken in March 2020 in the DRC by Gwenn Dubourthoumieu, a French photographer whose work is regularly awarded, and widely published in the French and international media.

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