



Schweizerischer Fonds für Kinderschutzprojekte
Fonds Suisse pour des projets de protection de l'enfance
Fondo svizzero per progetti di protezione dell'infanzia

Swiss Project Fund for Child Protection
ANNUAL REPORT
(prolonged reporting period from August 2012
until December 2013)

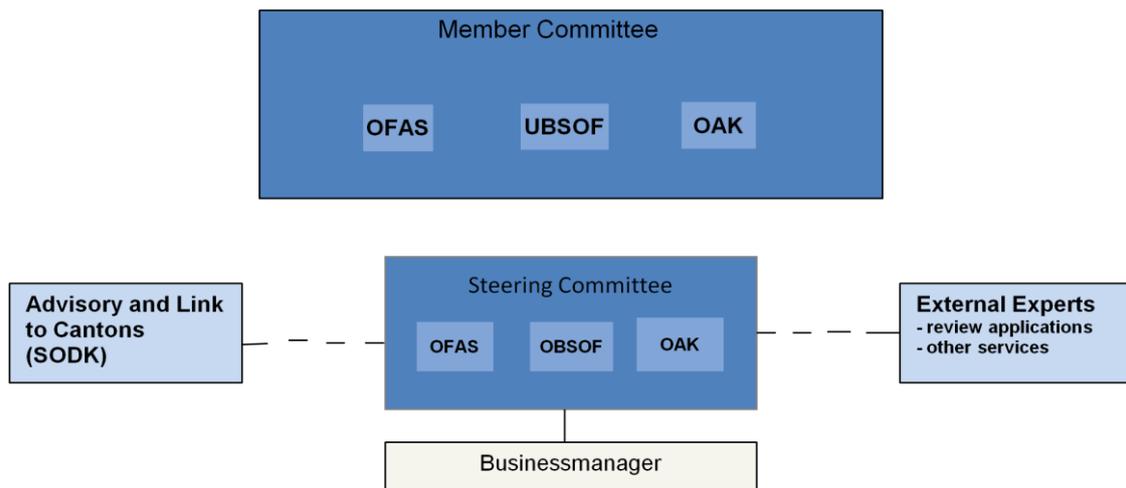


1. The Fund at a glance

The Swiss Project Fund for Child Protection is a Swiss charitable association, supporting projects in the field of child protection in Switzerland by making financial contributions to experienced partner organizations and by fostering the exchange of knowledge among practitioners and policy makers.

1.1. Organization

The Fund was founded by a public actor (Federal Social Insurance Office FSIO or OFAS) and two private actors (Oak Foundation and UBS Optimus Foundation). By bundling the specific expertise and knowhow of its members, it aimed at contributing to a positive development of child protection in Switzerland.



1.2. Vision

The Fund contributes to the improvement of general living conditions in Switzerland

- in which children are protected from exposure to neglect, abuse and any violence, and
- which ensure the children's mental, psychological, physical and sexual integrity and dignity.

1.3. Mission

As a national facilitator/platform, the Fund identifies and promotes good practices in the field of violence prevention in children by funding research and evidence-based prevention and training projects (innovative approaches, no ongoing projects) with measurable outcomes and by fostering the exchange of its results.

1.4. Guiding principles

- The Fund believes that every child deserves protection, regardless of his/her sex, religion, ethnicity, nationality or other status of the child or his/her parents.
- The Fund promotes and respects the standards set out by the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child, and it expects the partners to adhere to these standards.
- The Fund requires all of its partners to fully comply with a zero tolerance policy for child abuse, exploitation and child pornography, and procedures for child protection must be considered in the project planning.
- The Fund fosters the meaningful involvement of children in decisions that affect their lives.
- The collaboration with the partners is based on respect and trust and shall be seen as an opportunity for mutual learning.
- To measure the impact of all supported projects gives the opportunity to learn on what works best and to further develop the quality of prevention projects.

- The supported projects may have unintended and unexpected results which might be positive or negative. Monitoring and evaluation should be designed to identify both ('Do no harm').
- Results and experiences shall be disseminated and shared in order to move the field of child protection forward. The Fund believes that transparency builds up trust and credibility. Therefore it fosters transparency in all domains of its work.

2. Grant Making

2.1. Strategy

- In the first 18 months, the fund was committed to generate a maximal impact with the resources available. To achieve this, four pillars of activity have been chosen, based on most recent reports and studies:
 - Support prevention projects;
 - Support research and evaluation projects;
 - Support training projects;
 - Exchange good practices and transfer knowledge.
- An evidence-based and impact assessment driven approach in identification, planning, implementation and evaluation allows to enhance the knowledge about good practices and to deepen the insights on what works and what doesn't.

2.2. The added value

- By supporting research and evaluation projects, knowledge will be enhanced, allowing better identifying, planning, implementing and further evaluating supported prevention- and training projects.
- External evaluations of the outputs and outcomes of the supported projects will deliver insights on good practices.

The proactive, targeted dissemination of all those results and lessons learned shall create a network of knowledge-exchange and mutual learning, which leads to an improvement of the field of child protection and eventually to the improvement of the life conditions for the children.

2.3. Criteria for projects

- National, regional or local focus
- Good reputation and proven know-how of implementer
- Good governance
- Sustainability outlined in business plan/proposal
- Acceptance from relevant political instance
- Proven need (based on base-line or in line with recommendations from other studies)
- State of the art monitoring process, outlining objectives, outputs, outcomes and indicators
- Evaluation and impact measuring (including ,do no harm')
- Obligation to make results public and to participate in knowledge-sharing

3. Fund Governance

The Fund's governance consists in:

- A Board represented by someone of each organization that makes and oversees strategic decisions and
- A management office that implements the strategy operationally.

In the period 2012/2013 there was a General Assembly and 6 Board Meetings held. The Board monitored closely the development of the Funds Strategy and took the corresponding decisions. During the thick leave of the managing director it took over the follow up of the ongoing projects. The Board Members realized over 90 hours of nonpaid work for the Fund.

The managing office was established by August 2012. Before, from March to July 2012, the future managing director was mandated with the set-up.

3.1. Human resources

Regarding the staff situation of the Fund, 60% working time for the managing director proved to be insufficient to manage the workload (governance, administration, accounting, identification and coordination of projects, positioning, establishing of the organization with all its new processes). Therefore, an additional administrative employee was hired temporarily (20% July 2013, 40% August – December 2013).

The managing director fell ill and was on sick leave April – June 2013 and again from September 2013 to date.

Due to the lack of human resources the follow up of the ongoing projects and the projects to be implemented was assumed by the Board members, divided up between the three different organizations. The office manager assumed all administrative tasks and organized the close down of the office.

3.2. Activities

3.2.1. Administration

All necessary procedures to establish a functioning office were undertaken:

- Contracting of a skilled coordinator in August 2012.
- Contracting of an office manager in July 2013.
- Installing of the infrastructure (purchase of computers, telephone etc.).
- Contracting insurances.
- Tax exemption obtained.
- Opening of an office at Josefstrasse 59 in Zurich (in the locations of Sosense Socontial AG) in January 2013.
- Financial management.
- Establishing of a professional book-keeping.
- Personnel administration including additional tasks due to the coordinator's sick leave.
- Launching of a website.
- Communication with the Board Members and partners.

3.2.2. Projects

Funded projects

First Swiss Guidebook of Violence Prevention

(project funded in cooperation with the OFAS)

Project applicant:	Prof. Manuel Eisner from Cambridge University in collaboration with Margit Averdijk from Federal Technical University Zurich ETHZ
Summary:	The study aims at providing a practitioner-oriented overview of the current state of knowledge in the developmental prevention of child abuse, child neglect, child aggressive and antisocial behavior, and adolescent violence. It will result in a report that comprises 30-40 short chapters. Each chapter will use a standardized template to describe a specific violence prevention strategy, summarize current international knowledge on the evidence base, review delivery and implementation issues and target groups, give examples of current utilization in Switzerland, and make recommendation for possible users. The report will be complemented by recommendations on areas where a new meta-analysis could add significantly to practical and scientific knowledge.
Project period:	December 2012 – May 2014
Funded amount:	CHF 90'176 for the first phase, CHF 35'460 for the second phase

European Report on Preventing Child Maltreatment

Translation of the summary in German, French and Italian

Project applicant:	World Health Organization WHO – Regional Office for Europe
Summary:	There is a need for a European report on child maltreatment prevention in order to collate information on the scale, risks, consequences, and the evidence base of what works for prevention and make a call for the action needed to be taken by governments and other stakeholders to prevent maltreatment from occurring. The European report and its executive Summary is therefore a tool for policy makers and practitioners to address this neglected societal problem. It provides the evidence base on the scale, consequences, risks, preventive programmes and advocates for greater action and shows what needs to be done. This project allows access to the French, German and Italian speaking practitioners and policy makers from Switzerland and other European countries and will therefore present opportunities for cross fertilization across the region and within Switzerland and increase opportunities for prevention.
Project period:	September 2013 – September 2014
Funded amount:	CHF 44'000

'Keine Daheimnisse'

Project applicant:	National Coalition Building Institute NCBI Switzerland
Summary:	Together with other partner organisations, NCBI Switzerland supports children and youth to deal with the issue of physical punishment and to empower their skills of self-assertion by means of the project 'Keine Daheimnisse – Raise your voice against physical punishment and get help' through local projects. The participative approach shall help to break the taboo about this issue and to promote a sustainable prevention in the communities. After the first pilot phase 2011-2012 the effectiveness of 'Keine Daheimnisse' shall be proven by

	local projects in the German speaking part of Switzerland. In case the project shows to be effective, the adaptation and preparation of the implementation of the project in other German speaking communities as well as in the French speaking part will be initiated step by step and the implementation made sustainable.
Project period:	September 2013 – March 2015
Funded amount:	CHF 185'700 (including the external evaluation)

Roots of Empathy Switzerland

Project applicant:	Roots of Empathy Canada
Summary:	<p>The ROE program is evidence-based and proven to reduce aggression in children. It engages children in their schools by introducing a neighborhood parent and infant to the classroom. A certified ROE Instructor coaches the children in observing the baby's emotions and temperament, as well as the attachment relationship between the parent and the baby. At the moment there are no widely implemented programs in Switzerland which address this concern. Implementing the ROE program will assist in reducing aggression among children who receive it.</p> <p>The part of the project submitted for funding to the Fund consists in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - hiring a Roots of Empathy Manager; a Swiss National; - developing knowledge of local education and culture in the Canton of Zurich and within Switzerland and networking with the relevant actors; - recruitment of the schools willing to participate; - recruitment of the instructors and families - preparing an external evaluation on the feasibility and efficacy of the program (elaboration of the Terms of Reference, Call for proposals).
Project period:	December 2013 – June 2014
Funded amount:	CHF 60'000

Other Projects

All the remaining project applications presented to the Fund could not be funded.

4. Annual Financial Statement

The Fund started with a seed capital (from the former Association pour la Protection de l'Enfant PPP) of CHF 156'259 by August 1, 2012; it ended with CHF 619'568 by December 31, 2013.

The founding organizations contributed CHF 880'000 during the reporting period. The total amount for project funding was CHF 273'076; an additional CHF 167'300 is already pledged for 2014. The administrative cost amounted to CHF 152'653.

For the detailed figures see the separate annual financial statement. The bookkeeping was performed according to professional standards and following the Swiss GAP FER 21 regulations by Fidus Partner AG Treuhand und Beratung in Zurich. The auditing was done by Imboden und Partner Treuhand AG, also in Zurich. The audit certifies that the information presented is correct and free from material misstatements. The Financial Statements have been prepared using the Swiss GAP FER 21 Accounting Principles which have been consistently applied and comply with relevant statutory requirements and regulations. Full report is attached.

5. Conclusions

Achievements

- Statutes of the Fund, its structure, mission, vision, and guiding principles were elaborated.
- The structure of internal communication of the board was created and proved to be effective even in absence of the managing director.
- A grant-making concept and a strategy was elaborated and approved.
- Procedures of grant-making were partially developed (proposal templates, budget sheets, milestones sheets, contract templates).
- Projects identified (see 3.2.2).
- Annual budgets for 2012 and 2013 were elaborated and approved by the Board.
- Information on launch of the fund to leading child protection actors was conducted.
- The managing office installed a functioning administration.

Shortfalls

- The process of creating the grant-making procedures was truncated (templates for reporting, monitoring and evaluation to be elaborated).
- Some projects have a considerable delay in implementation.
- Project monitoring cannot be assumed by the managing office (see 3.1 Human Resources).
- Communication activities, networking and positioning not assumed (see 3.1).
- Due to the operational problems the recognition of the Fund by cantons and civil society actors and the positioning as a pioneer model in child protection could not be achieved.
- No strategy for a long-term structure was defined as the Board decided the close down of the Fund after the conclusion of the ongoing projects.
- No external evaluation was implemented.
- Visibility was marginal due to little communication activities (press release, website etc).
- No prospects for membership were identified.
- Collaboration with cantons took more time than estimated, but then started promisingly. It was truncated by the absence of the managing director.

6. Perspectives

The organization's objectives were to set the basis for the long-term, sustainable establishment of the Fund in Switzerland (positioning, growth). The Fund should be recognized by cantons and civil society actors as an added value to the field and would be positioned as a pioneer model in child protection (PPP).

In the first 18 months, the Fund was set up as a pilot project. An external evaluation should create the basis for the decision on the launch of 2nd phase. If successful, the organization would, in its 2nd phase, hire additional resources and establish an advisory board.

Following two years of activities, an assessment has been conducted by the funding organizations – the Social Insurance Office, the Oak Foundation and the UBS Optimus Foundation. While the Fund was able to support important prevention and research projects, its functioning as an independent organization has required too many resources. The Fund is therefore not going to be continued and will no longer be supporting any new projects. It is, however, assuming full responsibility for projects that have already received a funding commitment, and will follow these until their conclusion.

The funding organizations are, however, convinced that their cooperation will also be beneficial over the long term, and therefore intend to continue to coordinate their activities in the future. The support for each individual project will, however, be in the purview of one of the participating organizations.

APPENDIX

- Jahresabschluss 2012-2013
- Anhang zum Jahresabschluss
- Revisionsbericht