



2019 Annual Report



mission 21

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"Peace grows with us" – the theme of our 2019 campaign



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Cover image: providing support for craftswomen in Kalimantan
Photograph: Miriam Glass/Mission 21

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At the Durebang Women's Home in Indonesia, a client seeking protection – and her son – benefit from advice.
Photo: Miriam Glass/Mission 21



Women in Peru's Southern Andes learn how to grow vegetables that will give them a healthier diet.
Photo: Maissa Fall



Learning so they can promote a fairer society by passing their knowledge on to others: Angel Román of Costa Rica and Angeline Njotu of Cameroon at the workshop on "Images of Masculinity and Gender Equity" in Basel.
Photograph: Meret Jobin/Mission 21



The symbols for the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations. In the articles in this Report, we use them to show the key goals for each aspect of Mission 21's programme work.

Exchanging ideas on equal terms: Adama Ousmanou (left), who holds a doctorate in History from the University of Maroua in northern Cameroon, during a panel discussion with Christian Weber, Mission 21's Director of Studies.
Photograph: Mission 21



Editorial by the President

Intercultural collaboration as a "visual aid"



Johannes Blum

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. (Romans 12:2)

What is the "pattern of this world", or the spirit of the age? Generally speaking, it is probably whatever a particular generation considers to be right, what the media portrays as the truth, and what constitutes our culture. If we look back on past eras from this perspective, some contradictory considerations are also bound to surface. Nowadays, for instance, there are some voices urging us to go with the times, put the necessary reforms into practice and adapt our work to people's existing circumstances and needs. But these critics reproach earlier generations of missionaries with having adapted too much to their times; they accuse them of failing to distance themselves sufficiently from the colonial spirit of the day. In "The Screwtape Letters", the Irish writer C. S. Lewis gives a humorous description of the "spirit of the age": each generation battles against the mistakes made by the previous generation, while turning a blind eye to its own errors. The previous generation had to cope with the problem of wildfires, whereas today's generation is confronted with flooding – and yet everyone is still running around brandishing fire extinguishers! The spirit of the age often makes people blind to the errors committed by their own society.

Intercultural cooperation offers a visual aid that helps us to see our own mistakes with its help, we can already reflect critically on our culture, here and now. Mission 21 has great potential in this area. If we can see and recognise our society and culture through the eyes of our partners in the global South, the spirit of the age can be put into perspective. Principles that we generally accept – such as progress, cost-effectiveness and efficient work processes – are suddenly brought into question.

Intercultural Bible study opens up new avenues of access through dialogue with representatives of the churches. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and in discussions with Congolese Christians, I have arrived at a new understanding of many passages in the Bible. At the same time, I have realised that the Bible is very often interpreted in a Eurocentric way in Switzerland.

But in the course of discussions among partners, dialogue of this sort is not merely an intellectual exercise: it also guides us towards personal relationships, and towards compassion. We share our partners' joys; we are also brought face to face with their sufferings, which make us distressed. Vigorous support is the logical consequence. By joining with our partners, we endeavour to develop projects together that will enable native populations to lead their lives in dignity.

Together, we want to foster peace and justice, to respond to the hardships of people who are afflicted by poverty and disease, and to give many of them the chance of a better future through education. We want to support our partner churches in actively practising charity in their neighbourhoods. By adopting their perspective, by engaging in intercultural dialogue and promoting interfaith understanding, these goals can be successfully achieved.

Johannes Blum
President, Mission 21

By building bridges across ethnic divides, Elizabeth Deng and Elizabeth Nyayuk work to bring about peace in South Sudan.
Photograph: Silvano Yokwe



Editorial by the Director

Sustainable peace grows through encounters



Jochen Kirsch

As I write these words of welcome to you, social life in many parts of the world is largely coming to a standstill because of the corona pandemic. Suddenly, we have to learn to keep our distance from one another, and many of us are deprived of the encounters with our fellow humans that we otherwise take for granted. We have to wait and see what impact this will have on the way we live together in the future, and on how we stand together in our societies. Among people from different ethnic backgrounds in South Sudan (see page 10), or among people of different faiths in Nigeria and Indonesia: time and again, we see how important these encounters are as the basis for bringing about justice and peace in society.

At Mission 21, our commitment to the causes of peace and justice takes many different forms: it is expressed in our reconciliation and trauma work, for example, or through our support for the victims of domestic violence. In all these ways, we play a key part in helping to achieve the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. As we undertake this work, we devote particular attention to building up societies that are fair, peaceful and inclusive. This is a core element of our programme work – as it was under my esteemed predecessor Claudia Bandixen, and as it will be during my own term of office. The fact is that this goal accords with our Christian understanding of *shalom*: a peace that is all-embracing and durable. Seen in this light, our programmes focusing on education, healthcare, agriculture and livelihood security – as well as the overall objective of gender equity – are closely intertwined with our commitment to promoting peace.

Our work is underpinned by long-lasting relationships of trust with our international partners. These relationships enable our programmes to achieve a positive and sustainable impact, and they also make it possible for us to work in precarious settings that are inaccessible to other actors. One example of this is our emergency relief programme for refugees in the English-speaking region of Cameroon: their number has now exceeded 700 000.

Our educational work in Switzerland is inseparably linked to our programme work throughout the global South. Thanks to our international relations, we are also able to raise awareness about our overseas projects here in Switzerland, and we can offer sound educational services to young people as well as adults. Through our Youth Ambassadors Programme, our PEP! continuing education programme and the other activities we offer, we open up opportunities for anyone interested to participate in international cooperation and the worldwide church.

Our programme work in the global South, and also our educational work in Switzerland, are the practical manifestations of our mission: these are the expressions of our Christian faith in this world, and for this world. By engaging respectfully in dialogue with people from different ideological and religious backgrounds, we advocate a life in dignity for all people, regardless of their religion, ethnicity or gender.

Thank you for your support! I join with Mission 21's co-workers and our international partners in expressing my joy that you are participating in our Mission and our commitments all over the world.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. Kirsch".

Jochen Kirsch
Director, Mission 21 (since September 2019)

Mission 21's 2019 campaign demonstrated our commitment to peace work in South Sudan.



International Relations

Promoting societies that are fair, peaceful and inclusive is a core element of Mission 21's programme work. The work we undertake is in harmony with the vision of the United Nations and the Sustainable Development Goals set out in its 2030 Agenda. Peace makes it possible for children to attend school, for medical care to function, and for people to till their fields free from the fear of attacks. But the reverse is also true: peace is only sustainable if a good health-care system and gender equity are in place as the foundations for a society based on solidarity – a society where nobody is excluded. In 20 countries, Mission 21 works persistently with over 70 partners to achieve the goal of turning peace and sustainable development into realities for everyone.

Mission 21 and the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN's 2030 Agenda

Towards a society based on solidarity



"Peace grows through encounters!" – this was the motto we adopted for the 2019 campaign that focused on Mission 21's peace work. Together with our partner churches and organisations all over the world, we take action as a mutually supportive community to bring about societies that are peaceful, fair and inclusive.

The story of two women from South Sudan made a profound impression on us. Each of them comes from a different ethnic background: Elizabeth Deng (on the left in the photo below) is a Dinka and Elizabeth Nyayuk (on the right) is a Nuer. They were forced to flee from violence and fighting during the country's civil war. They became acquainted and developed mutual respect as a result of the peace work undertaken by the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCOSS), one of Mission 21's partner churches. Today, they are friends who dedicate their efforts to overcoming ethnic divides in their community; they build trust by bringing about encounters, and they organise multi-ethnic emergency relief for suffering women, children and invalids.

The story of the two Elizabeths was a core message of Mission 21's autumn campaign. It highlights the importance of encounters as a means of promoting peace. Encounters create opportunities for people impacted by conflict and violence to strike up new relationships; trust is built up, and ethnic and religious divides are transcended as people start working together. In South Sudan, Nigeria, Indonesia and Peru, Mission 21 supports projects and programmes that encourage peace to grow through encounters.

Peace and sustainable development

The UN's Sustainable Development Goals (the 2030 Agenda) show that hunger and poverty will only be overcome – and access to education and medical care will only be successful – if people can determine how they lead their own lives, in peaceful societies free from violence, discrimination and marginalisation. Without peace, there can be no sustainable development – and without sustainable development, there can be no peace.



Mission 21 works all over the world to improve living conditions for particularly vulnerable people. We combine our work in this field with efforts to promote peaceful communities, and to overcome all forms of violence. To achieve these aims, Mission 21 can draw on support from our long-standing relationships with our partners, enabling us to access a network of trust that has strong roots in civil society – even in the most remote regions, and in areas dominated by conflicts.

Healthcare – education – agriculture and livelihood security

In areas where the structure is particularly weak, such as the Kwango region in the DR Congo, women and children benefit from medical attention in decentralised healthcare facilities. There was an increase in the number of people using these facilities in 2019: almost 12000 treatments were administered, about 20 percent more than in the previous year (pages 16–17).

In Tanzania, orphans with HIV/AIDS are given new homes. Mission 21's partners integrate them into schools and into society. Children who benefit from this kind of support gain self-confidence; they complete their schooling with good grades, and they go on to shoulder responsibility when they themselves pay the school fees for other disadvantaged children.

In rural Indonesia, women earn additional income thanks to continuing education and training courses (pages 18–19). Agro-ecological projects are delivering similar benefits for farming communities in Nigeria, Peru and Bolivia. Thanks to these projects, about 1600 women and their families are earning additional income and benefiting from more stable basic nutrition; and at the same time, they are gaining self-confidence and strength to confront domestic violence.

Emergency relief and reconstruction, gender equity

Alongside its work on the four core themes – peace promotion, education, healthcare, and agriculture and livelihood security – Mission 21 faced exceptional challenges in connection with its emergency relief and reconstruction work



Families in the highlands of the Southern Andes benefit from support so they can grow healthy food.
Photograph: Maissa Fall

in 2019. Refugees who were forced to abandon their homes and fields due to the violent crises in Cameroon, South Sudan and northern Nigeria received urgently needed emergency relief through the network of relationships built up over many years by Mission 21 and its partners. In 2019, this relief reached about 8000 victims of the conflicts in northern Nigeria. They gain hope and confidence as they acquire new skills by attending practical courses on subjects such as computer training, sewing, urban gardening and reforestation. This gives them the ability to develop a new economic mainstay.

People who have sometimes experienced severe trauma as the result of violence and expulsion receive psychosocial counselling to help them cope with their plight. This support helps them to overcome their fears so they can rebuild trust and confidence. Divides between different religions and ethnicities are also being bridged: new relationships are gradually being built up between members of estranged groups thanks to intercultural and interfaith encounters. In this way, the ground is prepared for reconstruction and the beginnings of peaceful coexistence. This is why emergency relief, peace promotion and improving the basis for livelihood are closely intermeshed elements of Mission 21's programmes.

Standing up for gender equity all over the world is a crucial concern for Mission 21 and our partners. In all our programmes, we advocate gender equality, and we aim to strengthen the rights of women and girls – for example, by offering continuing education and by building up networks. Both these activities are part of our advocacy work (see pages 20–21). It is an unfortunate fact that women and girls are still disadvantaged throughout the world; they are often exposed to violence and excluded from decision-making. Support for them strengthens society as a whole: this is the yardstick that shows whether efforts to achieve overall peace will succeed.

Katharina Gfeller
Head of the International Relations Department

Contributions to projects and programmes in the global South

For the core theme of **education**
CHF 2 236 927

For the core theme of **agriculture** and **livelihood security**
CHF 1 034 429

For the core theme of **healthcare promotion**
CHF 629 210

For the core theme of **peace promotion**
CHF 678 734

For **emergency relief** and **reconstruction**
CHF 536 806

International co-workers

At the explicit request of our partner churches and organisations, co-workers seconded by Mission 21 are serving in many of our partner countries. For periods of several years, they work as specialists on various projects, taking up positions as coordinators, technicians, teachers or lecturers. At the end of 2019, 14 international co-workers were working on behalf of Mission 21. They are:

Jens Marcus **Albrecht**, Tanzania
Gabi **Baumgartner-Brandner**, China, Hong Kong*
Tobias **Brandner**, China, Hong Kong*
Angel Román **Dollinger**, Costa Rica, San José
Simone **Dollinger**, Costa Rica, San José
Johanna **Drach**, Peru, Arequipa
Daniel **Gloor**, Malaysia, Sabah
Yakubu **Joseph**, Nigeria, Abuja
Togho **Lumumba Mukong**, Cameroon, Bafoussam
Joyce Ellen **Manarisip**, Indonesia, Jakarta
Emery **Munfu Mpwate**, Tanzania, Dar es-Salaam
Bernard **Suwa**, South Sudan, Juba
Adrienne **Sweetman**, Tanzania, Mbeya
Jules **Tsengele Ngoy**, DR Congo, Kasongo-Lunda

* Official designation: Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China

Taking action against domestic violence is a critical factor in bringing about fair and peaceful societies

The Durebang Women's Home in Bandung is a good example of these vital efforts to combat domestic violence. In 2019, 106 women who were victims of domestic violence found accommodation or support here. At a series of workshops (sometimes lasting several days), about 130 women affected by gender-based violence became more aware of the issues involved thanks to education on this subject.

Mission 21's commitment to fairer, peaceful societies also includes a project in Hong Kong, where we collaborate actively with our partner organisation to achieve social justice for female migrants. Interfaith peace work in Nigeria is another example: here, the aim of our work is for Christian and Muslim groups of the population to coexist in peace.

Indah and her son Arfi* found protection and advice in the Durebang Women's Home Center in the Indonesian city of Bandung. Photograph: Miriam Glass, Mission 21*



Indonesia

Helping individuals – impacting everyone



Our partners in Indonesia support women who are exposed to violence. This work has an impact on the lives of individual people – but it also has a much broader effect: efforts to combat sexual and domestic violence and suppress human trafficking contribute to a more peaceful society. In Indonesia, an interfaith network is working hard to achieve this goal.

In Indonesia, they're called "the survivors": women who have gone abroad to work and then return home. They are still alive – but they often come back with stories of abuse and exploitation. Indah* is one of them. She has been living back in Indonesia for the last few months after working in neighbouring Malaysia for ten years. As she talks about her time there, she keeps on covering her eyes with her hand. By her side, her nine-year-old son Arfi* is romping about and tugging at her clothes.

Indah left her village on the island of Java to escape from the oppressive poverty there. She hardly knew where the next meal was coming

from; education or a regular job were simply pipe dreams. When one of her friends told her about jobs in Malaysia, Indah put in her application. An agency told her that her documents would all be sorted out. But Indah had barely started her journey when her passport "got lost". Nevertheless, she was taken over the border – and from then on, she worked in Malaysia as an illegal migrant.

It wasn't only Indah's passport that went missing: she also lost two children who were born in Malaysia after Arfi. She and the children were the victims of human traffickers who not only organised work for Indah but also arranged

several "husbands" for her. She was introduced to them by human traffickers who charged money for their "matchmaking" services. After a while, each partnership would be dissolved and a new one would be arranged. Indah explains that the children born from these partnerships were all taken away from her except for Arfi, her first son. He clings to her arm as she tells her story, hiding his face under her headscarf.

During our meeting with Indah, we only hear fragments of her story; many questions still remain to be answered. One thing is clear: she had hoped for a better life – but instead, she was trapped in total dependency. Without a passport, with no money and no support network, she was unable to defend herself.

"Tens of thousands of Indonesian women have the same experiences as Indah every year." These are the words of Karmila Jusup, a counsellor at the Durebang Center emergency accommodation facility in the Indonesian metropolis of Bandung. The Durebang Center is a haven for women like Indah. Karmila Jusup helped her when she returned to Indonesia.

Working at the level of society

As well as emergency accommodation for women, the Durebang Center offers legal advice, medical assistance and psychological support in cases of domestic violence or sexual exploitation. The Center is part of the Pasundan Christian Church (GKP), one of Mission 21's partner churches. Together with other organisations, the GKP is stepping up its efforts to assert the rights of female migrant workers. One major aspect of this work is prevention: Indonesian women are given advice before they leave the country, and they are informed about the risks as well as their rights. Income promotion projects in various regions also offer prospects for women in their homeland (see pages 18–19), giving them an alternative to migration.

For women like Indah, support from the counsellors at the Durebang Center can make the difference between life and death. The people who provide this help need many skills. This is why the Durebang Center in Bandung also provides practical training for staff from other regions. The result is that all the participating partner organisations have trained staff available to provide pastoral care, counselling and support for the victims of domestic violence and human trafficking.

But those responsible for running the Center are not merely concerned with individual cases. "We also want to achieve something at the level of society as a whole," Karmila Jusup explains. The Center's employees visit schools to raise awareness about gender equity and sexual exploitation. The Durebang Center is integrated within a regional interfaith network of institutions that also operate at the political level. They

lobby for more gender equity and the protection of human rights, and they seek to bring about peaceful coexistence among Indonesia's religious groups.

The objectives of this work coincide with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The UN has defined gender equity and peaceful, inclusive societies as two of its seventeen development goals. One result of these efforts: the Durebang Center was involved in drawing up the "shadow report" for the United Nations on the situation of women in Indonesia.

Interfaith collaboration

The interfaith component is always an important aspect of the work undertaken by the GKP and its partners. Indonesia has the largest Muslim population of any country in the world. But Indonesian society also includes several other recognised religions as minorities. "Interfaith collaboration is a core issue for us," Karmila Jusup points out. This work is part of peace promotion, just like efforts to end violence against women.

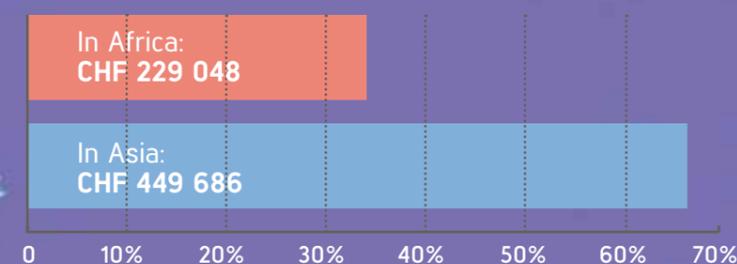
Interfaith collaboration is integrated into the everyday routine at the Durebang Center: the majority of its clients are Muslims. And the GKP also works closely with the Sapa Institute, a Muslim non-government organisation that is in direct contact with women in remote villages.

Indah is now living back in her village, where she continues to receive support from the Durebang Center team. She would like to get a job in Indonesia, and she wants to offer her son a better future. Her first wish has not yet been fulfilled, but one step has already been taken towards making the second one come true: Arfi is attending a school for the first time in his life.

*Miriam Glass
Communication Team*

Project contributions for peace promotion

Total: CHF 678 734



* Names changed

Latin America

Agents of change bring about more justice



Mission 21 supports theological training programmes in Latin America – programmes that aim to empower and motivate the participants to work towards achieving a fairer society. Two women from Chile and Costa Rica recall how these courses gave them more strength to take action.

“When I was young, I thought that faith meant being nice and saying prayers. Not until later did I realise that it’s about something else – creating a shared awareness, and following the path towards a fair and peaceful world,” says Amanda Villalba of Chile. Aged 76, she has already attended many courses at the Centro Ecu­ménico Diego de Medellín (CEDM) in Santiago, the Chilean capital. This centre is one of Mission 21’s eight Latin American project partners for “Theological training and socially transformative church” (see the information box). Amanda, who has now retired from teaching music, has long been an advocate of justice and support for poor and disadvantaged people. She found that the CEDM offered opportunities for sound theological exchange and support for her concerns.

“This institution’s greatest strength is its constant endeavour to link experiences of faith and community to the participants’ social and cultural experiences,” according to Simone Dollinger, Mission 21’s theological training coordinator for Latin America, who lives in Costa Rica. By adopting this approach, the CEDM is in harmony with Mission 21’s strategy: “The objective is to foster liberating, socially committed and ecumenical theology and practice,” Simone Dollinger explains.

Equality for minorities

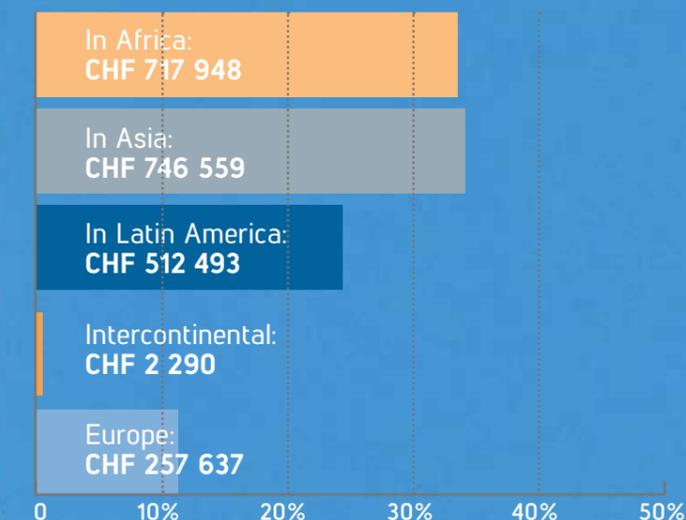
It is becoming increasingly important to offer this training, because what is happening in Latin America can be described as an increase in politico-religious manifestations of fundamentalism: they are cementing existing structures and blocking processes of social change. This is also happening in Costa Rica, where Mission 21 works to support social inclusion and equality



At the Latin American Biblical University (UBL), Joseline Ester Luque learned to appreciate indigenous spirituality and strengthen indigenous groups’ awareness of their own identity. Photo: zVg

Project contributions for education

Total: CHF 2 236 927



Education empowers people to take action that will bring about social changes

Mission 21 supports projects that directly aim to enable people to lead their lives in dignity. We make it possible for disadvantaged children in Tanzania and South Sudan to benefit from schooling, and we provide literacy training for women in Peru. Another important element of our education work is theological training, which also aims to motivate and empower the participants to work towards achieving a fairer society. In the field of “Theological training and socially transformative church”, Mission 21 collaborates with six Latin American partners in Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica and Peru. The opportunities offered for continuing education are intended to deepen the participants’ knowledge about religion, society and culture, thus empowering them to initiate social transformations as “agents of change”. In 2019, 1 404 individuals successfully completed courses or training programmes, and 314 graduates obtained academic qualifications.

On 25 October 2019, more than two million people demonstrated throughout Chile. Protesters in Concepción carry a banner saying: “Chile has woken up”. Photograph: Solveig Schrickel



for minorities in partnership with two higher education institutions: the Universidad Bíblica Latinoamericana (UBL) and the Departamento Ecu­ménico de Investigaciones (DEI).

Joseline Ester Luque Gonzales, aged 23, is studying for a Bachelor’s degree at the UBL in San José, the Costa Rican capital. Much of her work involves collaboration with indigenous communities. Through the UBL, she has learned to appreciate indigenous spirituality and has come to see its links with Christian spirituality in a positive light. This is helping her to support and strengthen the self-confidence and self-worth of the indigenous groups through her exchanges with them. She explains that she has also broadened her horizons as regards gender equity, prompting her to take a committed approach in her working and living environment.

For a fairer society

Amanda Villalba has long been an advocate of a fairer society in Chile. When she originally came into contact with the CEDM, it offered a protective shield for her against political oppression during the Chilean dictatorship: “It was a place where like-minded people met up – a place where you could learn to interpret the Bible in a different way. There were seminars that helped me as a woman to achieve inward liberation, and generally to cope better with my fears.”

Now, 30 years after the end of the totalitarian regime, Amanda Villalba is part of a new social movement. In October 2019, 1.2 million people took to the streets of the nation’s capital

to protest against social injustice and demand improvements to the social, healthcare and educational systems. Among the protesters was this active senior citizen – who certainly does not look her age. Courses at the CEDM such as “Initiatives to strengthen civil society” helped her to do more to fulfill her political responsibilities. “I was able to get involved in the local council – especially the peace group, which was on the front line during the protests on the Plaza Italia. My objective is to support this country so that it can start from scratch again without fear!” When her asthma allows, she still joins the other members of the peace group at the daily protests: her presence helps to placate the police. What began as a simple protest against price increases for public transport has now developed into a series of bloody clashes between young people and the police. “They say that they are only doing their job. But I want us to pause and listen to one another.”

Amanda Villalba is convinced that individuals cannot achieve much on their own: “Many people are afraid, and they are fearful of changes. This is why we have such an enormous responsibility: we must join together, listen to the people and show them how to move forward in the right direction. People can’t do this on their own; only if we act as a community can we work together to build a fairer, peaceful society.”

Daniela Rauck
Fundraising Team

Better health for people in rural areas – and a new challenge

Thanks to the project sponsored by Mission 21 and CEK, its partner church, there is a slow but steady improvement to the health situation in the remote province of Kwango. This can be seen from the number of treatments administered in healthcare centres. 11 847 cases of illness were treated in 2019, equivalent to a year-on-year increase of 18 percent. At Matamba Solo, the new pipe carrying water into the village also ensures that the local hospital can benefit from a hygienic water supply.

Mission 21 supports healthcare projects in several African countries. This commitment is now confronted with a new challenge: the rapid spread of the coronavirus. We are working intensively with our partners to ensure that people at risk have the best possible protection against transmission – and this makes us even more reliant on support.

Even if they live in remote villages, people should be able to rely on functioning basic healthcare.
Photograph: Raymond Rohner/Mission 21



Congo

"Medicines save lives"

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, healthcare is inadequate. Especially in rural areas, people are dying of diseases that would actually be easy to treat. Mission 21 and CEK, its partner church, are responding by ensuring that basic healthcare is available in the Kwango region. Almost 20 percent more cases of illness were treated in 2019 than in 2018.

This is an undertaking that involves some enormous challenges. One fact that makes this clear: the majority of deaths in the region are caused by four health problems that are actually easy to treat – the consequences of malnutrition, malaria, diarrhoeal diseases and respiratory tract infections.

The church steps into the breach for the government

Poor infrastructure is the reason why simple illnesses become life-threatening. The government neglects this region, and shows no interest in the transport network or the healthcare system. People have to trek for long distances on atrocious roads to reach the nearest healthcare facility. "Whenever my child has a high fever, I'm scared that we won't make it to the doctor in time," one young mother says.

With support from Mission 21, the church now operates a total of 20 healthcare facilities spread across the entire region. The network comprises three hospitals, six healthcare centres and eleven outpatient treatment units.

This decentralised approach also makes it possible to reach out to people in remote villages. The objective is for the facilities in the network to offer people a sustainable quality of care: reliable infrastructure, trained staff and constant availability of the most important medicines.

A logistical challenge

Making sure that medicines are available is one of the key tasks for the healthcare project run by Mission 21 and the CEK. Many medicines have to be delivered to the remote Kwango region from Kinshasa, the Congolese capital. If the transport fails, people are suddenly left without important medications. Transportation inside the region is also difficult: "Distributing medicines from the healthcare management centre in Matamba Solo to all 20 of the church's outstations presents a logistical challenge," says Hugo Mambote, who heads the CEK's healthcare project.

Just recently, some help with meeting this challenge arrived in the form a new computer tool that makes it easier to keep track of stocks and logistics for the 20 health centres. A flexible courier service was also engaged to make regular deliveries on foot or by motorcycle to villages located deep in the almost impassable terrain of the Kwango region.

Preventive work and successful treatment outcomes

Alongside their efforts to improve supplies of medicines, the CEK and Mission 21 are working to make the village communities more aware of the importance of hygiene and prevention. "Health activists" are given specific training so they can share their knowledge about preventive healthcare and hygiene with the population. As part of a pilot project, sessions to raise awareness about hygiene were conducted in about 50 households during 2019.

In terms of treatments too, 2019 was a year of progress. 11 847 cases of illness were treated in the healthcare centres, equivalent to a year-on-year increase of 18 percent. Vaccinating children against illnesses such as measles and tetanus led to success in preventing the occurrence of these conditions in the project region.

Water and a pharmacy for the hospital

Thanks to cooperation with technical specialists, drinking water was piped into the village of Matamba Solo in 2019 – a decisive improvement to the existing situation. The new installation – including a water catchment, supply pipe and reservoir – saves women and children from making the arduous journey to the spring on foot. The next planned step is to connect the village's healthcare facilities to the water supply.

As the final stage, supplies of medicines will be stabilised by producing some of them in the region itself. The healthcare team in the Kwango is in the process of setting up a "Salle de Pharmacie" where chemical medications will also be manufactured. Plant-based medicines are already being produced locally. "We are very pleased with these advances," says Hugo Mambote, "because medicines save lives."

Meret Jobin
Communication Team



Vaccinations for children aim to prevent the occurrence of various diseases in the project area.
Photograph: Christian Weber/Mission 21

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



The province of Kwango is located in the southwest of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. It is far removed from the main traffic routes, so it is quite sparsely populated. Mission 21 collaborates here with its partner church, the Communauté Évangélique du Kwango (CEK), to improve the quality of healthcare. The CEK is particularly active in the rural parts of the region. The church aims to improve basic healthcare for about 85 000 people living in an area of 7 000 square kilometers – somewhat larger than the canton of Berne.

Project contributions for healthcare promotion

Total: CHF 629 210

In Africa:
CHF 629 210



Indonesia

A village boutique

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



Earning money from traditional handicrafts is no easy matter in Indonesia's remote villages. But craftswomen who can adapt their products to modern requirements are achieving success. Tuti and Maryenie are two examples. Both women are Dayaks and, as is customary in their ethnic group, they only use their first names in everyday life. They sell bags and mats made of rattan. These women's success helps entire communities in the long term – and their work plays a key part in improving gender equity.

Tuti is beaming. A customer from the city just came in and bought two mats from her. That meant she earned the equivalent of almost CHF 100. She smiles contentedly as her nimble fingers sew a snap fastener onto a handbag. Next to Tuti, her mother is sitting on the floor with an intricate piece of rattan weaving in her hands. The women need about five days to weave one mat.

Tuti's house is a living space, a workshop and a café – all in one. A big fan whirrs away in the heat. While she works, her father rocks three-month-old Sofia in a hammock.

The art of weaving has a long tradition in the villages of the Indonesian province of Kalimantan on the island of Borneo. Village residents harvest the rattan from palm trees in the surrounding area, and process it until it becomes

malleable and supple enough to be woven. Days of meticulous manual work – mostly performed by women – are needed to make bags and mats from the rattan.

Tuti learned how to weave from her mother. But at first, this handicraft only brought in very little money. The Indonesian province of Kalimantan is poor. Most families can feed themselves from the crops they grow on their land, but



Agriculture and livelihood security projects help people to escape from poverty

In the five projects run by Mission 21 and its partners in Borneo, the number of producers increased again in 2019. By the end of the year, a total of 746 participants were involved in handicraft activities – and most of them were women. In the reporting year, there were 426 new participants who started out after attending workshops and courses; they are organised in 56 production groups. 317 participants were trained in the preceding phase of the project, and they were already able to earn additional income from selling their products in 2019.

The project in Borneo is an example of how Mission 21 and its partners are improving the living situations of people in rural areas by providing targeted training.

Workshops and support help people to become more self-sufficient: Tuti produces hand-crafted products in Kalimantan.

Photographs: Miriam Glass/Mission 21



Maryenie:
"I learned the craft of weaving from my mother, and I've built up my business here myself. I was able to do this thanks in part to courses where we producers learned how to adapt our products to customers' preferences."

many of them lack the money to pay for their children to attend school. If illnesses or accidents occur, their situation becomes desperate.

An additional income is critically important. This has prompted women in the villages to join together and form groups of producers. In special workshops supported by Mission 21, its partner church GKE and other local organisations, the women learn how to adapt their products to market requirements. A basket is not enough for customers from the city: they want bags with zip fasteners and lining on the inside. To produce these items, the weavers have to acquire new skills such as combining rattan with other materials like fabric or leather.

Tuti attended the workshops, and today she heads a group of producers. She buys their products and then carries out more work on them. She has been running her business for about two years, selling handbags, mats and jewellery.

Maryenie has experienced a similar success story. One Sunday, she invites the residents of her village to join her in celebrating the marriage of her children and the birth of her first grandchild. Her shop – a real boutique in the little village of Gohong – stays closed for the day. Food is provided for everyone at her home today. She is a respected woman, self-sufficient and independent. This also makes her a role model for others in a region where poverty is rife and girls often have fewer opportunities than boys.

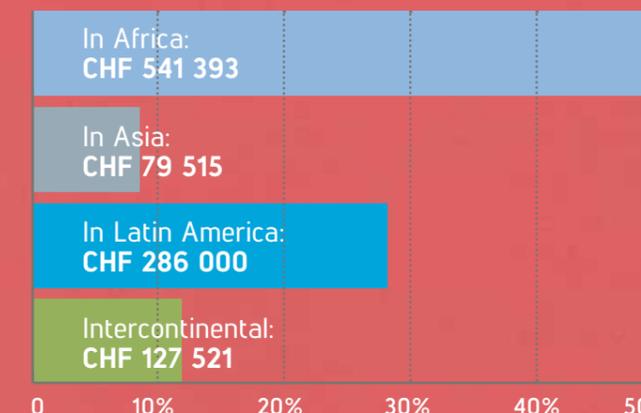
Ueli Knecht of Mission 21 has provided support for this project over the years. He points out: "We engage in activities to promote income. But the successes achieved by the producers also help whole communities to develop. If the women become more self-sufficient, self-confident and independent, that also brings us one step closer to gender equity."

Several hundred women are currently organised into production and marketing groups. For every franc that is allocated to the project, they earn income of more than two francs. At the end of 2019, the producers set up their own cooperative with support from the GKE church and LK3, a Muslim non-government organisation which is also a partner of Mission 21. Members can use the "Borneo Braid" label as a marketing aid. In this way, support from Mission 21 is helping entire village communities in Borneo to develop sustainably.

Miriam Glass
Communication Team

Project contributions for agriculture and livelihood security

Total: CHF 1 034 429



5 GENDER EQUALITY



Women and Gender Staff Unit

Mission 21 strengthens human rights for women

Mission 21 is committed to bringing about a world where human rights apply to all human beings. So that our partners can improve the skills they need to assert these rights, we join with an international network to organise a two-week training course on advocacy every year.

Eight experts on gender equity took part in the 2019 course. They came from Africa, Asia and Latin America to contribute their varied experiences and learn about new opportunities for advocacy work. The focus was on gender equity and masculinities.

Thanks to the train-the-trainer concept, they have now acquired the abilities they need to undertake educational work and pass their knowledge on to others – following in the footsteps of over 40 other experts who have attended these workshops since 2016. Karmila Jusup, Angeline Njotu and Angel Román are now using their newly acquired knowledge to help bring about a fairer world.

Costa Rica

Peru

Bolivia

Chile



"Feminism aims to bring about social justice and gender equality. To achieve these objectives, men and women need to engage in dialogue with each other. With this aim in mind, I conducted a seminar at my university on images of masculinity that are shaped by religion and culture."

Angel Román is a theologian and an expert on masculinities. On behalf of Mission 21, he works as a lecturer at the Latin American Biblical University (UBL) in **Costa Rica**. At the 2019 Advocacy Training event, he explained how men can also be integrated into work to promote gender equity. He also shared his extensive knowledge on this subject at a Mission 21 event titled "Dialogue International: New Images of Masculinity" last autumn.



"In spite of the violent conflicts raging in Cameroon, I carry on with my work to strengthen women. The training also showed me methods that can be used to involve men in this work."

Angeline Njotu heads the WEELP training programme (Women's Economic Empowerment and Literacy Programme). Thanks to WEELP, women in **Cameroon** who had virtually no chance to attend school can learn to read and write, and also train for a vocation. About 3600 women have benefited from the programme since 2009. The courses boosted their self-confidence – and now they are earning their own incomes.



"Training helped me to deepen my knowledge. I'm mainly involved in advocacy work with a focus on violence against women, and I've also participated in the work of national committees in Indonesia."

Karmila Jusup heads the Durebang Women's Home and Training Center in Bandung, **Indonesia**. This is a place where victims of violence can find counselling, support and protection. Karmila Jusup provides support for women who experience violence in their own families or as migrant workers, as well as those who have fallen into the clutches of human traffickers. She is also the specialist on equal rights with responsibility for all Mission 21's partners in Asia. She advises them and ensures that women's needs are enshrined in all the programmes.





Education Exchange Research

Our educational activities, exchange programmes and research work share the same aim as our international programme work: to play a part in attaining the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. In 2019, we reached over 4100 participants through our educational activities. The feedback suggests that our services achieved the intended effect by helping to bring about interfaith understanding. Thanks to our exchange programmes, 30 young people benefited from enriching intercultural learning experiences. And again in 2019, the Basel Mission's research archive provided an important source for academic work. Our educational work was only able to achieve so much thanks to generous support from foundations and institutions.

Internationally committed to peaceful interfaith coexistence: two members of the Jakatarub network from Indonesia, Wawan Gunawan (far left) and Yunita Tan, joined the panel at Mission 21 to exchange experiences with Fabienne Iff and Burim Luzha of the Swiss Forum for Young Christians and Muslims. (Second from left: Esther Staehelin, the interpreter). Photograph: Mara Wirthlin/Mission 21

Promoting the peaceful potential of religions



In Switzerland, religions tend to be seen as catalysts that fuel conflicts. Our educational work conveys experiences and helps people to understand how religions can contribute to peaceful coexistence in a pluralistic society – and our activities also motivate the participants to act in solidarity.

We live and work in a globally interconnected world. In its educational work, Mission 21 responds to this reality by addressing issues such as globalisation and society, intercultural spirituality, religion and development. These topics give substance to our vision of a fair, peaceful and inclusive society. At the same time, Mission 21 maintains a focus on solidarity and exchange with people in the global South. The programmes we offer also convey the perspectives of our partners in Asia, Africa and Latin America. One very important question is this: what potential does religion harbour for a society's development? We are aware that large sections of the public view religions as catalysts of conflict rather than effective instruments of interfaith peace work. But many of our partner churches in the global South have a different perception: they view peaceful coexistence among different religions as a fundamental prerequisite for sustainable development. In these parts of the world, religious communities enjoy

the trust of the people – unlike government institutions. Being anchored in a religion gives believers a resilience that enables them not to abandon hope of a better future, no matter how adverse current circumstances might be. However, this requires the resolute rejection of any attempts to instrumentalise religion as a means of legitimising violence.

Encouraging people to act in solidarity

In our educational work, we juxtapose our partners' contexts with issues and questions that are relevant and of current interest to us. We focus on the struggle for peaceful coexistence in a pluralistic society. We initiate discussions on whether religion should be allowed to display itself in public and – if so – how. And we address the issue of global interconnectedness which – especially in times of crisis – leads to excessive demands. Topics such as these create the need to open up different perspectives and address the issues in depth. We provide opportunities



During the North-South dialogue, Ángel Román and Urs Baur – a.k.a. Black Tiger – discussed the changing role of men in today's society. The packed auditorium proved that gender equity is an issue of great public interest. Photograph: Mara Wirthlin/Mission 21



Elham Manea, the Yemeni-Swiss political scientist, at the interfaith symposium titled "Islam is part of Switzerland" held at Basel in 2019. Photograph: Mara Wirthlin/Mission 21

In 2019, a total of
4149 *women, men and young people attended courses and events organised by Mission 21.*

And **1797** adults participated in **95** courses that gave them inspiration and motivated them to go into action.

And **1552** specialists and other interested participants ranging from theology students to teachers attended **17** events where they gained fascinating information and new knowledge.

to meet these needs through the educational activities we offer, including courses, symposiums and other events tailored specifically to each target audience.

One important objective is that our offerings should empower the participants to apply new experiences and realisations in their professional careers as well as their private lives; we also aim to encourage them to act in solidarity. Local action combined with a global mindset continues to be an important motto for our awareness-raising work.

Through our educational programme, we reached over 4000 individuals in various age groups during 2019. We addressed these issues and examined them in depth with attendees at 30 events that attracted 552 participants, and through 148 courses for which 2597 students enrolled.

After every event and course, we carry out evaluations that show us where we can improve. These analyses also indicate that the intended effects were achieved. One young person writes: "I realised how good our lives are, and that we should not forget other people – such as refugees." Another participant noted that she had now come to understand the major difference between Islam and Boko Haram: this, she said,

would enable her to adopt a different approach to people of the Muslim faith in Switzerland. Participants often state that they have experienced a "broadening of their horizons". This encouraging feedback shows that the activities we offer are helping to open people's eyes and shift their focus away from themselves and towards people who are strangers to them at first – and, in this way, to create possibilities for new experiences and insights.

*Magdalena Zimmermann
 Head of Education Exchange Research*



Schweizerisches Qualitätszertifikat für Weiterbildungsinstitutionen
 Certificat suisse de qualité pour les institutions de formation continue
 Certificato svizzero di qualità per istituzioni di formazione continua

At Mission 21's Youth Summit, SDC Director-General Manuel Sager responded to critical questions from young adults on the subject of development cooperation. Photograph: Meret Jobin/Mission 21



The younger generation is playing its part

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



Mission 21 addresses the younger generation by offering its range of "young@mission21" activities. Once again in 2019, exchange and education programmes as well as training events aimed to raise awareness about development cooperation and intercultural understanding. Enthusiastic participation by large numbers of young people show that these activities arouse interest and meet with approval.

Youth Ambassadors Programme

The second round of the **Youth Ambassadors Programme** got off to a successful start in 2019. Nineteen new youth ambassadors were selected after an intensive phase of promoting the programme and considering applications. The young people, aged from 18 to 28, will now be on the road together for three years (2019–2021). In the Youth Ambassadors Programme, which is supported by the Mercator Foundation Switzerland, the ambassadors address various issues related to development cooperation and the worldwide church. At the introductory weekend in November 2019, they exchanged their own expectations and experiences; they examined the topic of intercultural skills, and focused on the question of how religion is put into practice in different

contexts. Animated discussions and plenty of questions proved the point: young people need forums where they can consider and discuss how they relate to the world. Mission 21 offers the Youth Ambassadors Programme to accommodate this precise need.

Youth Summit

Mission 21 staged the **2019 Youth Summit** last summer. "Development cooperation – nothing but hot air?" This question was the theme for a well-supported event arranged by Mission 21's youth network. The trigger: publication by the Federal Council of Switzerland's new message about the strategic orientation of international cooperation. The consultation procedure on this

message was opened in spring 2019. young@mission21 wanted to give young people an opportunity to voice their opinions: this prompted collaboration with all the Swiss youth parties to organise workshops about fundamental issues of development cooperation, and to launch the debate about policy.

The ideas and arguments expressed in these forums were also noted at the highest level: Ambassador Manuel Sager, Director-General of the Agency for Development and Cooperation of the Swiss Confederation (SDC), took part in the discussion and responded to critical questions from the participants.

PEP!

PEP! – our Professionals Exposure Programme – was faced with some unexpected challenges in 2019. PEP! offers young career starters aged between 22 and 30 carefully selected opportunities to work or continue their education at stable operational locations.

PEP! participants at the preparatory meeting in 2019: Wulandari Baumann, Seline Keller, Samira Clemenz, Alina Mira Burkart and Delia Unterwähler (left to right). Photograph: Meret Jobin/Mission 21



But in 2019, protest movements swept through two regions where the programme operates: Chile and Hong Kong. June saw the start of mass demonstrations in Hong Kong against a law on extradition to China. People were astonished

by the scale of the movement and the protests, which sometimes turned violent. Life in Hong Kong proceeded in an orderly fashion away from the protest zones, albeit with some restrictions.

Our operations in Chile were also affected by protests in autumn 2019. The rallies there were directed against social inequality in the country: there were large-scale demonstrations as well as incidents of rioting. Actions taken by the security forces against the demonstrators were sometimes brutal, prompting criticism from bodies such as the UN.

The PEP! participants were profoundly affected by what they experienced in Chile and Hong Kong. Many questions were triggered by the sudden emergence of instability and insecurity in societies that were apparently stable. Coming to terms with such a changed situation was also a formative experience. At the same time, the participants from Switzerland were aware that they could "escape" back home at any time, whereas new-found friends and local co-workers had to stay put and face up to the conflicts.

Mission 21 provided intensive support for the assignments of the PEP! participants, adapting its backup to meet these new challenges. Some of the young professionals continued to work for our partners, and they learned how to adapt their working behaviour to the new circumstances. The situation was monitored and analysed with the help of in-house and third-party specialists, partners on the ground and the participants themselves. Decisions on whether it was possible to continue the assignments were always taken in the interests of the young professionals' safety.

North-South Day

Mission 21 also enables young people to access the content of its work in ways that are appropriate to their age group. One effective example in 2019 was the fourth **North-South Day in Berne**, for confirmation classes from the Berne-Jura-Solothurn church district. "Water – a Human Right" was the theme that prompted a team of young adults to develop a programme with a walking tour through the historic centre of Berne as its main element. The stages of the tour illustrated how complex this issue is. The young participants used the Actionbound app on their smartphones to guide them along the route.

This entertaining and instructive walk through the city, with water as the theme, is now freely available to other groups as well: simply upload the Actionbound app onto your smartphone and launch the "Water – a Human Right" bound.

Barbara Grass, Veronika Henschel, Kevin Ischi
young@mission21 Team

In 2019, over **830** young people focused on the issues that Mission 21 addresses.

30 young adults became closely involved with Mission 21's activities:

10 young professionals took part in PEP!, our Professional Exposure Programme.

20 young adults took on commitments in Mission 21's Youth Ambassadors Programme.

About **800** young people attended **53** courses offered by Mission 21.

Research

Opening up different perspectives on Mission history

Mission 21 makes it possible for researchers to use its archive for interdisciplinary work. For meaningful research to continue, access to more of our extensive holdings must be opened up. Thanks to the support of various foundations, documents of importance to economic historians can now be made available.

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



English speakers are fond of using the word “mission” to describe the goals, values and responsibilities of a business enterprise. The same word exists in German, but it has an entirely different connotation. Nowadays, German speakers are all too keen to lump “mission” together with forced conversion and colonialism. This is why Mission 21 regards it as important to confront the history of mission and enable a careful reappraisal of the subject so that different perspectives on this history can be opened up. To achieve this aim, we make the historic research archive available to an extensive international public for interdisciplinary research.

Documents accessible for research

Economic history emerged as a key focus of research last year. Various researchers investigated the tangled web of relationships between Switzerland and global flows of goods. We would like to make specific mention of the book by Lea Haller titled “Transithandel. Geld-

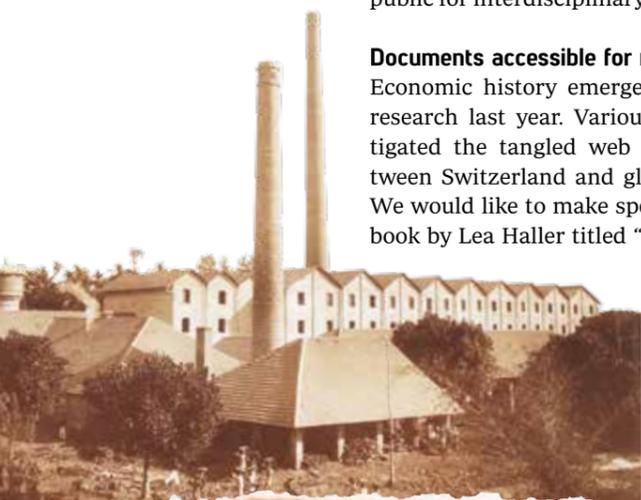
und Warenströme im globalen Kapitalismus” [“Transit trade. Flows of money and goods in global capitalism”] and the Master’s thesis by Melanie Wäger about the Swiss-Ghanaian cocoa trade, titled “Crypto-colonialism in the intersection of business, humanitarianism and politics”. Major parts of both these works are based on documents in our archive.

These examples clearly show that enabling academics to use documents from our archive plays a very important part in research. However, processing the materials for this purpose involves considerable cost. We are therefore very fortunate that substantial contributions from the Christoph Merian Foundation, the Ernst Göhner Foundation and the Basel Trading Company enable us to provide access to these documents in our archives so that the international research community can consult and study them in full.

Unique insights from a different perspective

Mission 21’s library offers contemporary specialist literature on subjects such as contextual theology, African studies and development policy. Its stock also includes works of historical significance. One special feature of the library is our holding of documents that are virtually impossible to find elsewhere. These include brochures, leaflets, offprints, individual magazine issues and pamphlets. Their contents are a real treasure-trove for research on an extremely varied range of subjects. A few examples: the brochure titled “Entwicklungshilfe und neue Weltwirtschaftsordnung” [“Development aid and the new global economic order”] dated 1978; instructions on Sunday sermons issued by the Presbyterian Church in Cameroon (PCC) in 1983; and a conference report from Pune about Christian influence on modern life in India, published in 1966. A non-western perspective is evident in many of these documents. This holding is unique in Switzerland’s library landscape. The documents – numbering about 6000 in total – can all be located individually in the online catalogue of the Universities of Basel and Berne. The specialist library and the research archive are important complementary resources that can be accessed for a wide variety of research projects.

*Patrick Moser, Andrea Rhyn, Claudia Wirthlin
Research Team*



Brickworks of the Mission Trading Company (Feroke, India, 1906/07). Photograph: Archive of the Basel Mission/QU-30.016.0093

It is encouraging to see the growth of interest in Mission 21’s specialist library and research archive: in 2019, days of usage in the reading room were up by one third, and loans from the library increased by 60%.

80 researchers worked in the archive and library, for lengthy periods in some cases.

We recorded **623** days of usage in the reading room, and loans of **2165** books.

Too hot to miss: assisted by Pastor Tobias Dietrich, confirmation candidates from the Kleinbasel church congregation (Basel) cooked soup and served it up in return for a donation to Mission 21’s peace work. Photograph: Miriam Glass/Mission 21

Donations
Annual Financial Statements
Organisation



Pfäffikon, in the canton of Zurich, shares with the world's underprivileged people

Mission also means sharing and fostering reconciliation

The church congregation of Pfäffikon in the Zurich Oberland region has greatly stepped up its commitment to Mission 21 in recent years. How has it done this – and why? The answers to these questions shed fascinating light on what it means to be a church – here and now, in affluent 21st-century Switzerland.



Volunteers and honorary workers provide important and effective support for Mission 21.

About **300** collectors in the offertory association brought in the pleasing sum of **CHF 85 993.**

During 2019, about **150** volunteers carried out activities in support of Mission 21 for a total of **2000** hours.

Concert for peace in the church of the community Pfäffikon. Photograph: Maria Bertschi Steiner

In this conversation between Pastor Paul Kleiner and Maria Bertschi Steiner, a member of the church administration, the operative word is mentioned quite casually – but the intonation shows that it comes from the heart: “Sharing goes with being a Christian – it’s part of what the church stands for,” they both say. Actions are just as much a part of the Gospel as words: it is only when actions follow words that credibility comes into being. And in this context, sharing with underprivileged people – especially in the global South – takes on enormous importance. “The church is a global movement,” the pastor points out, adding: “Globalisation has a positive ring to it here.” It means more than a socially committed counterweight to the balance of power in the globalised economy. It actually involves credible action based on the Gospel.

Strengthening a civil society that people can rely on

Like many church congregations, Pfäffikon allocates the donations it receives to local, regional and global recipients; over the last two years, this congregation has deliberately increased the percentage that goes to overseas projects. Maria Bertschi Steiner is responsible for ecumenical affairs, mission and development cooperation in the church administration. As she explains, there is an awareness that people here in Switzerland can deal with social problems more easily than their counterparts in economically and politically weak countries. Mission 21 is also important for this church congregation in the Zurich Oberland district: this is because the Basel-based institution has a long and consistent tradition of investing to develop and strengthen grass-roots communities, thanks to its strong ties with local partners. A reliable civil society can only be built up on the foundation of sustainable values. In many parts of the world, Mission 21 is an important partner for local and regional churches and organisations.



Yakubu Joseph, Mission 21's coordinator in Nigeria (left), pictured deep in discussion. Photograph: Mission 21

It is for this precise reason that the Pfäffikon church congregation in Zurich canton has been supporting theological training in Sabah, Malaysia, for the last year. After they graduate, the students go on to act as key multipliers for a fair, peaceful and inclusive society in their churches and their social context. “They help people to become more resilient,” according to Maria Bertschi Steiner; she visited the theological college last year and returned home with many positive impressions. She was particularly moved by the many encounters with people that she experienced in Sabah. From her conversations with them, she realised how deeply these students are committed to peaceful coexistence and social justice – important principles in a country where the gap between poor and rich is widening.

A commitment to reconciliation

What motivated Maria Bertschi Steiner’s involvement with Mission 21? She can trace it back to a book by Ronald J. Sider that she read many years ago: “Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger: Moving from Affluence to Generosity”, in which he refers to Jesus’ comment on the camel going through the eye of the needle. Reading the book encouraged her to take action to help people throughout the world. Another factor was her upbringing at home, where it was “perfectly normal” to donate ten percent of savings to those in need. Pastor Paul Kleiner stresses that his parental home was also a decisive influence. In the 1960s, his parents were missionaries in south-western Nigeria. As a youngster, Paul attended school there for six years – and this was at the time of the Biafra War (1967–70). This first-hand experience

Working towards sustainable solidarity among the population

Boko Haram, the Islamist militia, has terrorised the population of north-eastern Nigeria since 2009. A total of over two million people have been forced to flee, and thousands have lost their lives. Attacks and abductions increased again in 2019. The victims include both Christian and Muslim inhabitants of the region. Mission 21 and its partners on the ground are working to bring about peace between Christians and Muslims, and they provide support for victims of violence. In 2019, for example, a training session on the theme of peace attracted almost 50 participants; 70 young Christians and Muslims attended workshops to help them overcome their prejudices; and our partner church EYN launched and supported two new interfaith dialogue groups. Mission 21 supports peace work in Nigeria to bring about sustainable solidarity among the population.

taught him about the importance of the churches in difficult circumstances. As a young pastor, he then went on to spend ten years as a lecturer at a theological college in Angola. There too, a civil war was raging while he was present in the country. Paul Kleiner therefore understands how important it is to support Mission 21 in its work of training prospective theologians. “Well trained pastors are activists for peace; faith gives people support and hope – it promotes reconciliation instead of revenge.”

Sharing – a firmly rooted tradition of the church congregation

An exhibition on the theme of peace was staged in the parish last year. This event also drew in people from outside the church congregation. A “soup lunch” is held once every year. For this event, the congregation aims to invite a guest from the global South to take part in a service. In October 2019, Pfäffikon welcomed Yakubu Joseph, Mission 21’s coordinator in Nigeria, who was staying in Switzerland at the time. He was able to report to a packed church on peace promotion work undertaken in Nigeria by Mission 21 and its partner organisations. Afterwards, there was still time for valuable discussions with interested members of the congregation over a cup of coffee.

Maria Bertschi Steiner and Pastor Paul Kleiner also note that church services repeatedly touch on the subject of mission. In all of these ways, the congregation develops the good habit of sharing and increasingly comes to see itself as part of the worldwide church.

*Friedrich Weibel,
Church Partnerships Coordinator*

Commitment over the years makes sustainable development possible

Peace is growing thanks to you and your solidarity



Without peace, there can be no sustainable development – and without sustainable development, there can be no peace. Together with our partner churches and organisations, we act as a mutually supportive global community to bring about a world that is fair, peaceful and inclusive. Because hunger and poverty can only be combated – and access to medical care and education can only be provided – where people live in peace. Our partners are playing an active part in the peace process in South Sudan, where war between different ethnic groups has raged for years and people have been forced to flee from violence and fighting. They are involved in setting up primary schools and providing continuing education for teachers; they also operate a children's home for orphans, offer vocational training for displaced people, and run a school

for midwives. Mission 21 is able to undertake these projects together with its partners – and to carry out peace and reconciliation work so that people can live together in this young country in the future – thanks to the generous support and solidarity of donors, volunteers, foundations, church congregations and cantonal churches, and also thanks to legacies and the contributions from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

2019, the year under review, was a relatively good year for us in terms of donations, with a slight increase (totalling 3.3%) in income from this source. We received an exceptionally large contribution due to the dissolution of the Martin Stucki Foundation, which transferred its assets to us. In keeping with the intentions of Martin Stucki, the founder, we will now make effective use of this contribution over several years in Cameroon where – despite the delicate situation – we are able to continue our programme work thanks to our partners. Contributions from the regional churches showed a slight upturn whereas, unfortunately, there was a decrease in income from church congregations. Our private donors, volunteers and honorary co-workers showed their generosity and commitment, but here too there was an overall reduction in income.

There was an encouraging year-on-year increase in contributions from foundations, the lottery fund, municipal authorities and cantons. We are very pleased to receive the sustained and committed support of our institutional sponsors over the years, and we thank them for the trust they place in the effectiveness of our work.

I would like to thank you all most sincerely for the solidarity and support you have shown! Together, we are bringing about sustainable changes as the basis for a world that is inclusive, fair and peaceful.

*Gaby Ullrich
Marketing and Communication Department*



*A one-year tailoring and dressmaking course run by YOP, Mission 21's partner organisation, gives displaced women in Cameroon the basic knowledge they need to earn their livelihood.
Photograph: Omer Songwe*



Peter Gai Lual, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church and Chairman of the South Sudan Council of Churches (SSCC), was received by Pope Francis in 2019. Photograph: Ferdinand von Habsburg/Mission 21

Mission 21 supports persistent peace work in South Sudan

With the peace agreement and the formation of a government, there are growing hopes of real peace in South Sudan. The **South Sudan Council of Churches (SSCC)** and the **Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCOSS)**, partners of Mission 21, have also played their part in the efforts to bring about peace negotiations. Their Action Plan for Peace, supported by Mission 21, has persistently pursued the goals of eliminating mistrust, bringing mutually hostile groups together around one table, and initiating talks. Over the long term, Mission 21 provides support for its partners to build bridges across ethnic divides, and also to train caregivers to treat trauma and engage in reconciliation work. Many people are suffering the consequences of expulsion and violence; children are going without food and schooling. Mission 21 is providing aid here so that the next generation will have the chance of a better future.

List of donations

Church congregations, cantonal churches and church institutions which supported Mission 21 with contributions of CHF 50 000 or more in 2019:

(in alphabetical order by place name)

Evangelical-Reformed Church of Basel-Stadt; Evangelical-Reformed United Church Congregation of Berne; Protestant Church in Switzerland (PCS), Berne; Reformed Churches of the Cantons of Berne-Jura-Solothurn; Evangelical-Reformed United Church Congregation of Biel/Bienne; Evangelical-Reformed Church Congregation of Binningen-Bottmingen; Evangelical-Reformed Church Congregation of Horgen; Evangelical-Reformed Church of Lucerne; Evangelical-Reformed Church Congregation of Pfäffikon; Evangelical-Reformed Church of Schaffhausen; Union des Eglises Protestantes d'Alsace et de Lorraine (UEPAL), Strasbourg; Evangelical-Reformed Church Congregation of Thun; Evangelical-Reformed Church Congregation of Veltheim, Winterthur; Federation of Evangelical-Reformed Church Congregations, Winterthur; Evangelical-Reformed Church of the Canton of Zug.

These institutions and foundations supported Mission 21 with donations of CHF 10 000 or more in 2019:

(in alphabetical order by place name)

St. Martin Foundation, Baar; Hand in Hand Institute, Balzers; Basel Mission, Basel; Christoph Merian Foundation, Basel; Canton of Basel-Stadt; Canton of Basel-Landschaft; Däster-Schild Foundation, Berne; Agency for Development and Cooperation of the Swiss Confederation (SDC), Berne; Henriette and Hans-Rudolf Dubach-Bucher Foundation, Lucerne; Hirschmann Foundation, St. Gallen; Basel Mission German Branch (BMDZ), Stuttgart; Evangelical Mission in Solidarity (EMS), Stuttgart; Martin Stucki Foundation for Schools in Africa, Teuffenthal bei Thun; MAIORES FOUNDATION c/o Fondationsanstalt, Vaduz; Solidarity Third World Foundation, Wädenswil; Evangelical Association for World Mission (EAWM), Wien; World Day of Prayer, Switzerland, Winterthur; Ernst Göhner Foundation, Zug; Department of Finance of the City of Zurich; Charitable Cooperative for Family Hostels, Zurich; Mercator Foundation Switzerland, Zurich.

Local associations and groups which gave support of more than CHF 5000:

(in alphabetical order by place name)

Aargau Bazaars Working Group; Arlesheim Bazaar Group; Bolligen Bazaar Work; Bazaar of the Holy Spirit Church Congregation, Berne; Flawil Mission Work Group; Frauenfeld Mission Work Group; Women's Meeting Group of Hausen, Canton of Aargau; Bazaar of the Church Congregation of Herzogenbuchsee; Bazaar of the Church Congregation of Holderbank-Möriken-Wildegg; Holziken Mission Group; Bazaar of the Church Congregation of Horgen; Bazaar of the Church Congregation of Kölliken; Oberentfelden Mission Association; Bazaar of the Church Congregation of Rapperswil-Jona; Bazaar of the Church Congregation of Rheinfelden-Kaiseraugst-Magden-Olsberg; Bazaar of the Church Congregation of Seon; Bazaar of the Church Congregation of Stein am Rhein-Burg; Bazaar of the Church Congregation of Wichtrach; Bazaar of Winterthur-Seen; Bazaar of Winterthur-Veltheim; Bazaar of Winterthur-Wülflingen; Bazaar of the Church Congregation of Worb; Bazaar of the Church Congregation of Altstetten, Zurich.

Balance Sheet

	31.12.2019	31.12.2018
	CHF	CHF
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	3 188 810.28	3 090 259.22
Time deposits	1 128 069.82	1 206 332.48
Securities	2 185 452.90	2 554 155.30
Receivables due from third parties	227 457.50	349 000.01
Receivables due from affiliated entities	323 353.04	362 352.81
Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	297 231.16	462 485.52
Total current assets	7 350 374.70	8 024 585.34
Financial assets	1 500 000.00	1 533 335.00
Tangible assets	39 156.00	7 092.30
Intangible assets	105 890.70	0.00
Total non-current (long-term) assets	1 645 046.70	1 540 427.30
Total assets	8 995 421.40	9 565 012.64
Liabilities		
Payables due to third parties	462 527.69	426 932.51
Accrued liabilities and deferred income	134 300.65	91 816.35
Total current liabilities	596 828.34	518 748.86
Provisions	238 421.70	266 208.25
Total non-current (long-term) liabilities	238 421.70	266 208.25
Funds with restrictive appropriation	3 834 927.57	3 963 868.35
Total restricted funds	3 834 927.57	3 963 868.35
Disposable funds	3 016 692.58	3 283 621.77
Dedicated funds	1 308 551.21	1 532 565.41
Total organisation capital	4 325 243.79	4 816 187.18
Total liabilities	8 995 421.40	9 565 012.64

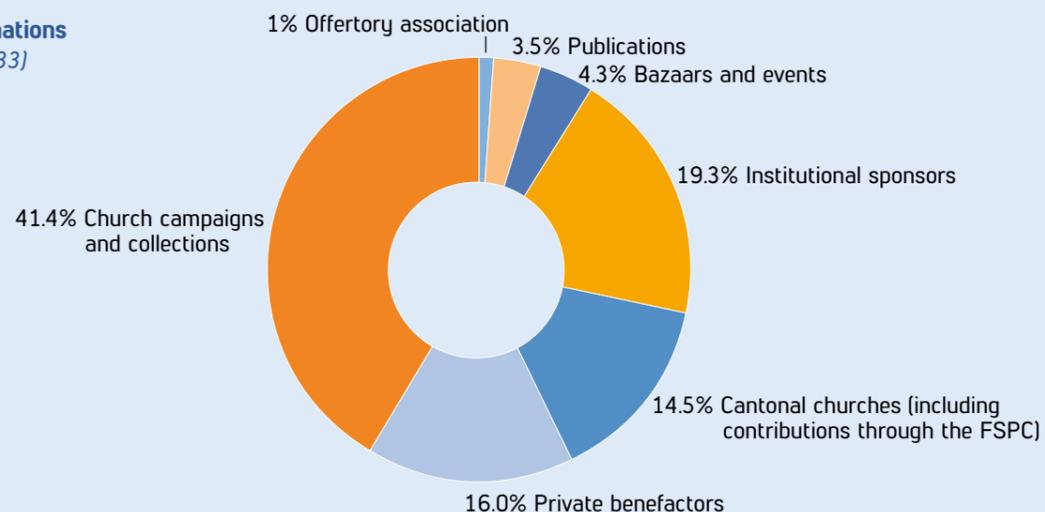
The report by the Auditor, PricewaterhouseCoopers, attests that the accounting and the Annual Financial Statements are compliant with the law, the articles of association and the SWISS-GAAP-FER-21 guidelines.

Operating statement

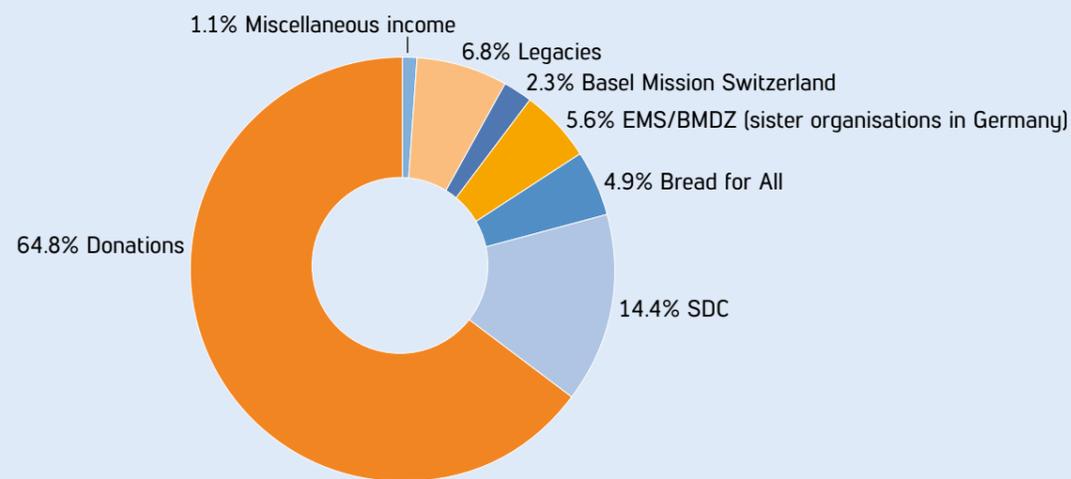
	31.12.2019	31.12.2018
	CHF	CHF
Income		
Donations	8 439 233.18	8 171 375.12
<i>of which, reserved for specific purposes</i>	<i>3 034 572.90</i>	<i>2 765 430.89</i>
Contributions from organisations	1 669 790.71	1 876 429.93
<i>of which, reserved for specific purposes</i>	<i>853 545.86</i>	<i>979 299.40</i>
Contribution from the Swiss federal government (SDC)	1 879 710.00	1 888 225.75
<i>of which, reserved for specific purposes</i>	<i>1 573 376.67</i>	<i>1 568 635.67</i>
Legacies	879 577.95	2 086 534.15
<i>of which, reserved for specific purposes</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>144 852.20</i>
Income from fundraising activities	12 868 311.84	14 022 564.95
Trading income	14 237.78	17 814.29
Income from services	80 225.82	82 236.96
Other income	52 129.84	21 325.47
Income from services rendered	146 593.44	121 376.72
Total income	13 014 905.28	14 143 941.67
Expenditure on services rendered		
Programme and project expenditure	10 222 604.47	9 999 694.95
Fundraising expenditure	1 785 454.92	2 062 283.49
Administrative expenditure	1 992 507.77	1 766 435.10
Total expenditure on services rendered	14 000 567.16	13 828 413.54
Operating result	-985 661.88	315 528.13
Financial result		
Financial income	413 570.86	81 065.30
Financial expenses	-47 793.15	-166 855.44
Total financial surplus/deficit	365 777.71	-85 790.14
Non-operating income		
Extraordinary income	–	-44 027.78
Total non-operating income	–	-44 027.78
Surplus/deficit before changes to funds	-619 884.17	185 710.21
Surplus/deficit from funds		
<i>Allocation to fund capital</i>	<i>-2 797 958.47</i>	<i>-2 288 505.97</i>
<i>Use of fund capital</i>	<i>2 926 899.25</i>	<i>2 469 967.10</i>
Change in fund capital	128 940.78	181 461.13
Result before allocation to organisation capital	-490 943.39	367 171.34
<i>Allocation to disposable funds</i>	<i>–</i>	<i>-332 303.76</i>
<i>Use of disposable funds</i>	<i>266 929.19</i>	<i>–</i>
Result, disposable funds	266 929.19	-332 303.76
<i>Allocation to restricted funds</i>	<i>-7 314.18</i>	<i>-305 068.37</i>
<i>Use of restricted funds</i>	<i>231 328.38</i>	<i>270 200.79</i>
Result, restricted funds	224 014.20	-34 867.58
Result after allocation to organisation capital	0.00	0.00

Origin and appropriation of funds

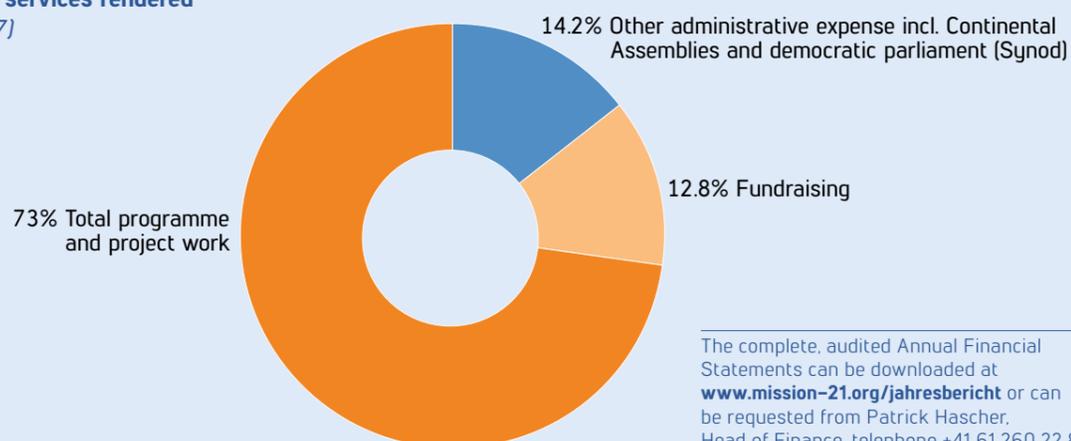
Origin of donations
(CHF 8 439 233)



Origin of funds
(CHF 13 014 905)



Expenditure on services rendered
(CHF 14 000 567)



The complete, audited Annual Financial Statements can be downloaded at www.mission-21.org/jahresbericht or can be requested from Patrick Hascher, Head of Finance, telephone +41 61 260 22 85.

Commentary on the annual financial statement

Generous foundations and institutions

Mission 21 was again able to increase the funding allocated to programme and project work in 2019. We were able to use more than CHF 10 million for these purposes. Donations were within the budgeted range and it was encouraging that they increased by well over three percent year-on-year.

Mission 21's income from donations increased in 2019. This growth is due to institutional donors in particular. It is extremely encouraging that foundations and institutions are increasingly placing their trust in Mission 21 by making generous contributions to support our projects.

Private donors also continue to make a major contribution towards financing Mission 21's project and programme expenditure. Since most of these donors have close ties with church circles, it is evident that Mission 21's income from private donations is diminishing in parallel with the decrease in numbers of church members. Income from donations by church congregations and bazaar groups is also experiencing a slight downturn. The total quota of donations from the church sector continues to be important for Mission 21, given that they account for almost 56% of all donations.

In 2019, Mission 21 increased the amount of funding allocated to its programme and project work. The figure for peace promotion rose by almost six percent to reach a total of CHF 678 734. In the agriculture and livelihood security segment, the expenditure of funds increased by one third: a total of CHF 1 034 429 was spent on these activities. These increases in expenditure coupled with declining income caused spending to exceed income by about one million francs in 2019; this shortfall was covered by withdrawals from funds and capital, and from the financial result.

We wish to offer our sincere thanks to all private donors as well as the many church congregations and institutions that support Mission 21's ongoing development cooperation; special thanks go to the Agency for Development and Cooperation of the Swiss Confederation



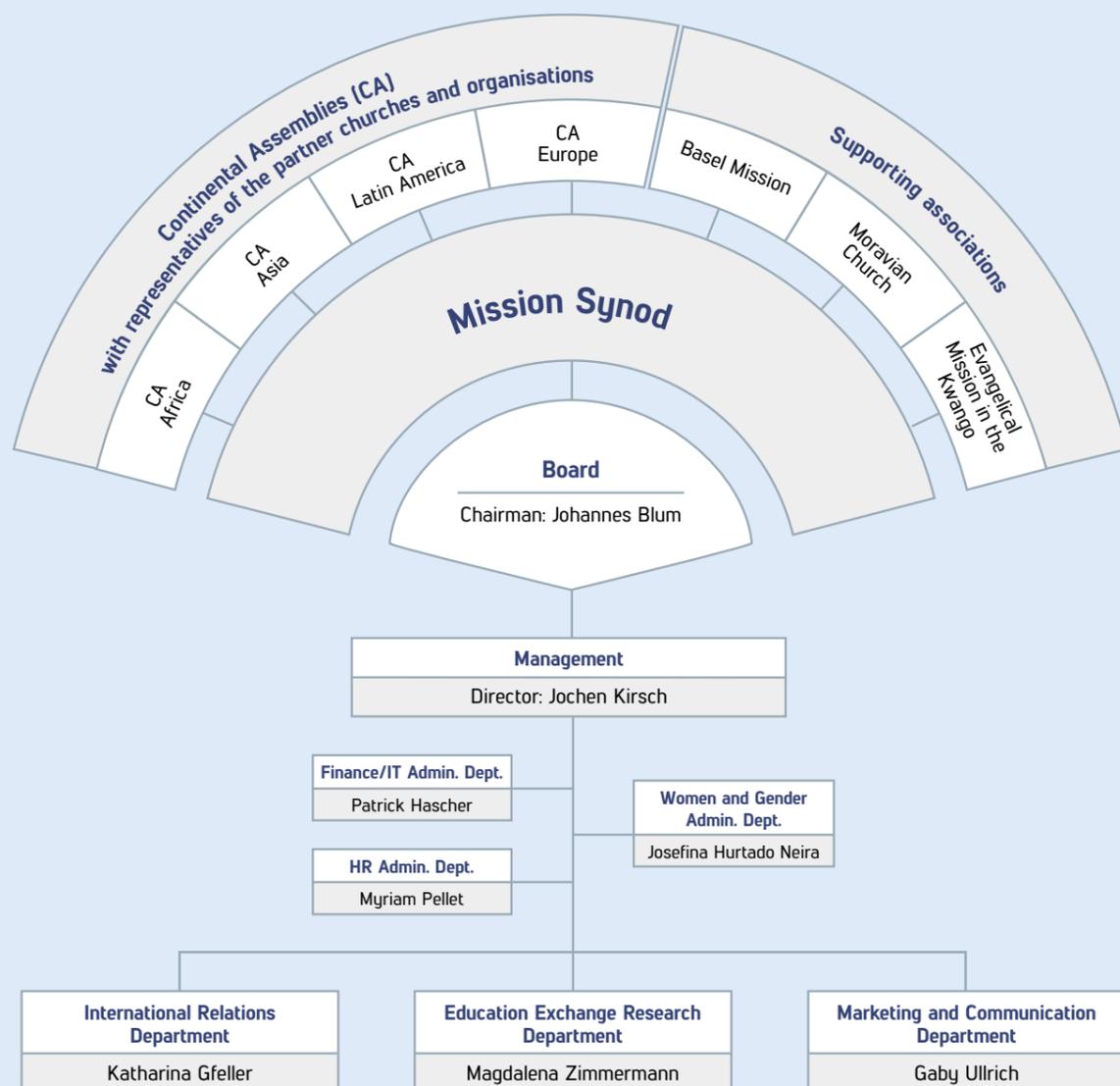
In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mission 21's partner church is supporting ecological vegetable cultivation. Photograph: Christian Weber/Mission 21

(SDC), the cantonal churches and the Protestant Church in Switzerland (PCS; known as the Federation of Swiss Protestant Churches (FSFC) until 31 December 2019). Huge thanks are also due to the generous foundations and political municipalities, and other friendly institutions and sister organisations. Through their contributions, all of them play their part in enabling Mission 21 to continue its programme and project work in an effective manner.

The Internal Control System (ICS) is based on a risk-oriented approach; it ensures the reliability of financial reporting and compliance with the necessary legal provisions or recommendations from experts. The report by the auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers, attests that the accounts and the annual financial statement conform to the law, the articles of association and the SWISS-GAAP-FER-21 guidelines. We shall be glad to send the detailed annual financial statement and the balance sheet to anyone interested in receiving them.

Patrick Hascher
Head of Finance

Organisation chart of Mission 21



Mission 21 sends out a message of hope for a fairer world. To achieve this, we operate as an international charitable organisation in 20 countries throughout Africa, Asia and Latin America, in collaboration with over 70 partner churches and organisations. Through over 100 projects, we are committed to education, healthcare, peace, fighting poverty and promoting women's rights. We are actively involved in long-term development cooperation as well as emergency relief and reconstruction work. In Switzerland, we carry out educational work that is closely linked to our worldwide programme work. We gear our work to the "2030 Agenda" – the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. Mission 21 receives support from the Protestant Church in Switzerland and the Agency for Development and Cooperation of the Swiss Confederation (SDC).

www.mission-21.org

Governing bodies and committees in 2019

Board

Term of office: four years, with the option of re-election for two further terms.

Prof. Dr. Johannes Blum

President
Senior Consultant, Medical Department, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Basel

Rev. Karl F. Appl

Vice President
President, Basel Mission
Pastor, Märstetten, Thurgau Canton

Kurt Kägi

Managing director, former President of the Church Council of the Church of the Two Appenzell Half-Cantons, Herisau

Dr. Margrit Schneider-Schardt

Dentist, Member of the Synod of the Evangelical-Reformed Church of the Canton of Basel-Stadt, Basel, from 1990 to 2015

Andrea R. Trümpy

Vice-President of the Cantonal Church Council of the Canton of Glarus
Former Mayoress of Glarus

Rev. Hans-Joachim Zobel

Retired Dean, Evangelical Regional Church of Baden, Freiburg (Germany)

Rev. Dr. Claudia Hoffmann

Academic Assistant/Post-Doc., Faculty of Theology, University of Basel

Rev. Frieder Vollprecht

Pastor, Moravian Societies of Basel and Berne, from June 2019

Management

Rev. Jochen Kirsch

Director

Rev. Magdalena Zimmermann

Head of the Education Exchange and Research Department, Deputy Director

Katharina Gfeller

Head of the International Relations Department

Gaby Ullrich

Head of the Marketing and Communication Department

Patrick Hascher

Head of the Finance & IT Staff Unit

Myriam Pellet

Head of the HR Staff Unit

Josefina Hurtado Neira

Head of the Women and Gender Staff Unit

Audit Commission

Term of office: four years

Sibylle Andermatt

Chair
Commercial specialist in the IT sector

Eckehart Lauk

Retired senior government official

Ueli Burkhalter

Pastor, Member of the Synodal Council of the Reformed Churches of Berne-Jura-Solothurn

Publications by Mission 21

A selection

"Auftrag" and "Nachrichten" (periodical and magazine for benefactors), 52-page issue published each quarter, Basel: Mission 21 et al., 2019.

Projects of the Development Cooperation Work of the Swiss Protestant Relief Organisations, 2020 (Project Directory), 52-page issue published each year, Berne: BfA with the Relief Organization of the Protestant Churches in Switzerland (HEKS) and Mission 21, 2019.

Bozsa, Isabella: Geschenkt, gekauft, erbeutet – Missionarisches Sammeln in Kamerun und Indien ["Gifted, bought, plundered – missionary collecting in Cameroon and India"], online on the website of the Museum of Cultures, Basel at <https://www.mkb.ch/de/museum/fellowship.html>.

Haller, Lea: Transithandel. Geld- und Warenströme im globalen Kapitalismus ["Transit trade. Flows of money and goods in global capitalism"], Berlin: Suhrkamp, 2019.

Hoffmann, Claudia: From missionaries to ecumenical co-workers: a case study from Mission 21 in Kalimantan, Indonesia, in: Heuser, Andreas; Jens Koehrsen (Hg.): Faith-Based Organizations in Development Discourses and Practices, London and NY, 2020, S. 30–56.

Miranda, Christa: Auftrag und Widerstand einer Missionshebamme. Else Herwig, die Hakka und das Basler Missionsspital Südchina 1909–1921 ["Vocation and resistance of a Mission midwife. Else Herwig, the Hakka and the Basel Mission Hospital of South China, 1909–1921"], Master's thesis, Zurich, 2019.

Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) (ed.): Indiennes – material for a thousand stories, Basel: Christoph Merian Verlag (publisher), 2019.

Wäger, Melanie: Crypto-colonialism in the intersection of business, humanitarianism and politics. A case study of the Swiss-Ghanaian cocoa trade, Master's thesis, Geneva, 2019



The next generation shows its commitment: youth coordinators at Mission 21's Synod. Magdalena Rieder (Europe), Abiud Dikasa Kahungu (Africa), Dayanara Aguilar (Latin America) and Halim Pratama (Asia) during the 2019 Mission Week. Photograph: Christoph Rácz/Mission 21



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