

## In brief

The Rütli Foundation is a tax-exempt umbrella foundation established in 2000 and based in Lucerne. Through the foundation, we provide people who want to get involved in philanthropic activities an efficient and cost-effective way of offering financial support to charitable organisations and projects.

The Rütli Foundation has many years' experience in providing professional support to donors on all matters relating to foundations and advising them on inheritance issues. The umbrella foundation also takes care of all the administrative tasks associated with its donors' individual sub-foundations and ensures that they comply with legal guidelines.

The Rütli Foundation was once again able to support numerous charitable projects in 2024. Donations reached over 3 million Swiss francs, with 176 organisations receiving funding.

Last year, a significant portion of donations went to humanitarian aid (44%) and to healthcare and social issues (31%). This pattern reflects current global events: wars and environmental disasters are stirring our donors to act, as are demographic trends in Switzerland. The ageing population is bringing with it increased demands from illnesses like dementia and cancer. Whereas there was little talk about climate change ten years ago, the issue has become a hot-button topic, as is plain to see from our donations diagram. This trend is clearly visible in the 13% share of donations destined for environmental and animal protection, plus the further 6% for environmental research.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our donors once again for contributing such significant sums to good causes. Foregoing a portion of one's own assets to promote charitable projects is not something anyone should take for granted. We are therefore immensely grateful to you and very much appreciate your commitment.

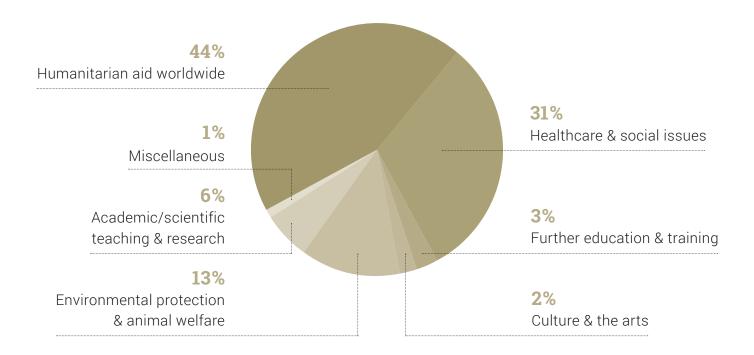
Claudia Ineichen

Managing Director

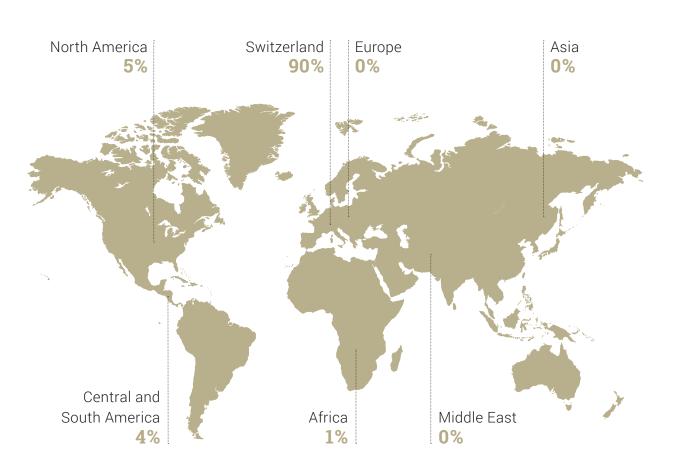
Eric Lütenegger

Foundation President

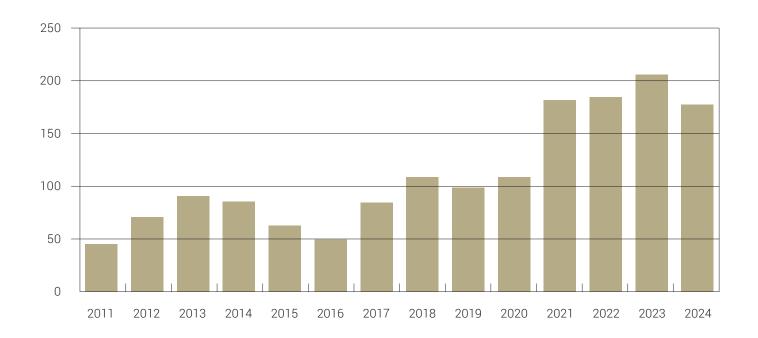
# **Donations by purpose**



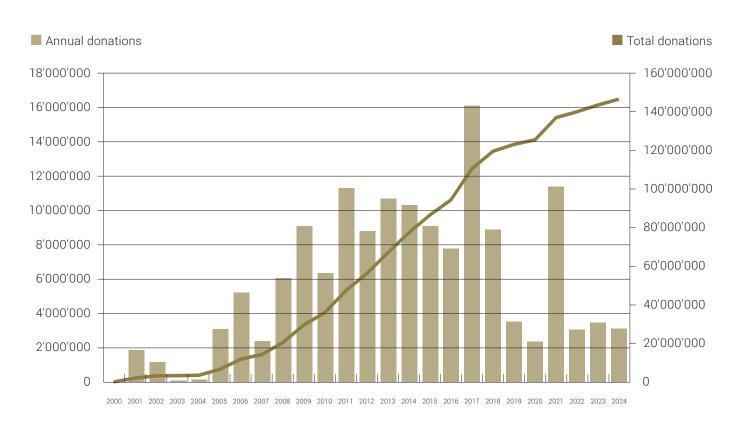
# Location of recipients



# **Number of projects**



## **Donations since establishment**



## Selection

With 176 beneficiaries, the Rütli-Foundation, together with its donors, supported charitable organizations and projects both in Switzerland and abroad last year. The volume of donations in 2024 was CHF 3.1 million. We have listed some of the beneficiaries below.





#### Projects in Sri Lanka

## Helfen-hilft.ch Association

Donation: CHF 105,000

This association's primary mission is to support people in emergencies. During the reporting period, this was chiefly achieved by supplying educational materials to village schools and nurseries and through the targeted promotion of education for children living in socially disadvantaged circumstances. Pregnant women were given advice and a "go bag" containing essential items and foodstuffs.

A toilet was built for a child with disabilities. Electricity was connected to the homes of families in need, and beds and mattresses were purchased and distributed to families who had previously had to sleep on the floor. A hospital was also provided with urgent supplies.





#### MoveYourSummer Lucerne project

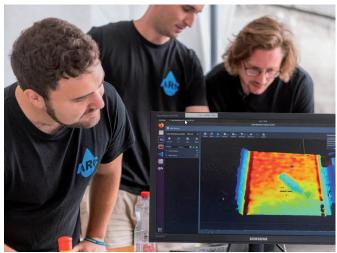
## **IdéeSport Foundation**

Donation: CHF 10,000

Not all families are easily able to arrange holiday childcare. The long summer break poses a significant challenge, particularly for single parents and low-income families. When school is out, conventional care structures are unavailable, meaning that children often eat unhealthy food, spend more time on screens and have less social interaction, since they are frequently unsupervised. Parents are typically at work during these hours.

The "ActiveWeek" project from IdéeSport organises low-cost week-long holiday clubs, where children get the chance to enjoy a wide range of physical activities in sports centres and playgrounds and are given balanced meals. This provides the children with social interaction and ensures they are not left to themselves.





#### **Autonomous River Cleanup (ARC)**

## **ETH Zurich**

Donation: CHF 75,000

This project is a student initiative from the Robotic Systems Lab at ETH Zurich, designed to tackle plastic and other waste in rivers. Using robotics, artificial intelligence and modern sensor technology, waste is automatically collected from bodies of water, analysed and disposed of properly. Alongside cleaning rivers, the project aims to contribute to protecting the environment and to reduce global plastic pollution sustainably.





Bild: baranzini.ch

### Tischlein deck dich

Donation: CHF 10,000

This organisation recovers surplus food and everyday consumer products that are still in perfect condition and distributes them at over 160 locations. People living in poverty are able to purchase these products for the symbolic sum of one franc per transaction. The products

would otherwise be thrown away. Around 1,000 agricultural, industrial and retail outlets donate surplus goods to the "Tischlein deck dich" organisation. Some two million people were helped in this way in 2024, saving a huge quantity of food waste.





## **Hospiz Zentralschweiz Foundation**

Donation: CHF 50,000

This hospice in Lucerne provides holistic, compassionate support to seriously ill people in the last stage of their life, while also supporting relatives. In addition to providing inpatient care, the hospice has a multidisciplinary consulting practice that is also available to people in the

early stages of illness. The objective is to allow people to live out their final days in dignity and in the company of their family. The hospice has been supported by numerous donors from the Rütli Foundation since 2019.





#### Stutzegg venue

## **Hotel Dieu, Lucerne Association**

Donation: CHF 3,000

The Stutzegg venue, which has its own small inn, offers socially disadvantaged people a low-threshold location for socialising. The venue offers a variety of events, such as day trips, regular conversation groups and communal cooking, with board games and newspapers available, giving visitors the chance to escape

from their daily routine and from loneliness. The initiative is all about giving one's time, respecting people and actively listening.

As well as being able to get a meal, visitors have access to the quiet room, work room and carpentry workshop at their disposal.





## **Kinderhilfe Sternschnuppe Foundation**

Donation: CHF 10,000

The Sternschnuppe foundation aims to bring joy and variety into the lives of children affected by illness or disability. The foundation makes children's dreams come true, offering unforget-table experiences such as hot air balloon rides,

swimming with dolphins or attending a favourite football team's match. Affected families also get free access to leisure and cultural partner institutions.





## **Smiling Gecko**

Donation: CHF 27,000

This project, launched by Swiss photographer Hannes Schmid ten years ago, supports deprived children and adults from rural areas of Cambodia by providing education and training and by promoting sustainable agriculture, with the aim of equipping them to thrive independently. Children receive a bilingual education, while adults are trained in various professions, including as bakers, carpenters, farmers, fish farmers, cooks and hotel staff. The campus now covers an area of 150 hectares. Nearly 500 children are taught there, with their families also living on campus.





## Casa Farfalla

Donation: CHF 40,000

Casa Farfalla in Emmenbrücke, owned by Mr and Mrs Dolfini, has since 1996 been a holiday destination for people living with severe or multiple disabilities. Guests receive round-the-clock care in a family atmosphere in the Dolfinis' home.

Excursions, games and walks give guests a change from their normal routine, enabling families to take a break. Residents of care homes can also enjoy a valuable complement to the regular care they receive at home.





#### Lucerne children's foundation

## **Ronald McDonald House**

Donation: CHF 30,000

This children's foundation runs a house right by the Lucerne Cantonal Children's Hospital, enabling families to stay close to their sick children while they undergo treatment. The accommodation provides a low-cost, stress-free "home for a time". Family members and siblings are welcomed in a relaxed environment that lets them be at their child or sibling's hospital bedside in no time. Sharing experiences with other families in the same position is also a valuable source of support at this difficult time.





## **Eselmüller Foundation**

Donation: CHF 20,000

This animal protection foundation offers protection, medical treatment and rehabilitation to donkeys that are sick or in need of assistance. Once they have been nursed back to health, suitable, responsible owners are found for the animals. The foundation is committed to ensuring donkeys throughout Switzerland are kept

in appropriate conditions and operates an extensive network of veterinary clinics and inspection offices. It also provides advice and training to donkey owners, and the foundation's experience, accumulated over 30 years, is passed on to vets-in-training.

# **Foundation Board**



**Eric Lütenegger**Foundation President
Member since 2016



**Jürg Staub**Deputy Foundation Board
Member since 2025



**Daniel Bühlmann**Foundation Board
Member since 2012



**Othmar Som**Foundation Board
Member since 2019



**Prof. Dr. Georg von Schnurbein**Foundation Board
Member since 2016



**Claudia Ineichen** Managing Director since 2011



**Nicole Brast**Deputy Managing Director since 2019

# Nothing good happens unless you make it happen.

Erich Kästner