

Philanthropie Aktuell

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EDITORIAL

Dear readers,



According to the bare figures, the climate commitment of foundations is weak. Only 6 out of 100 foundations have included climate change mitigation in their purpose. But what does that mean in concrete terms? Can the other 94 foundations rest on the fact that climate is not their topic because the founder did not include it in the purpose ten, twenty or thirty years ago?

It is correct that a foundation is bound to the founder's will. But no founder can foresee the future. Therefore, it is the duty of every foundation board to interpret the foundation's purpose in such a way that it can be implemented in today's world. The Swiss Foundation Code lists four principles for this purpose. In addition to transparency, effectiveness and lived checks and balances, this also includes social responsibility, which goes beyond the foundation's purpose in the narrower sense.

Climate change mitigation does not have to be an explicit foundation purpose in order to do something about it. Foundations in the social sector, in education and research, or even in culture can engage in that topic, adapting it to their fields of activity.

Climate change mitigation does not have to be an explicit foundation purpose in order to do something about it. Foundations in the social sector, in education and research, or even in culture can engage in that topic, adapting it to their fields of activity.

Wishing you a pleasant read.

Georg von Schnurbein

Philanthropy and Climate Change

„Climate change“ is a popular topic - also in the Swiss foundation sector. How can foundations get involved in climate change mitigation, whether or not they have it embedded in their purpose? By Alice Hengvoss

Initiatives such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) or the 1.5 degree target highlight how urgent it is to limit man-made global warming. How are Swiss foundations committed to climate change mitigation and what role can they play in this regard in the future? According to the Swiss Foundation Report, only 6 out of 100 foundations in Switzerland had climate change mitigation as part of their purpose in 2019. Considering the urgency of the issue and the much more frequent creation of foundations in other areas, this number seems relatively low. It can be explained by the fact that many foundations are significantly older than the problem itself. However, the fact that the sector is responding is made clear, for example, by the fact that just under half (43%) of the foundations currently involved in climate change mitigation were established in the last 10 years - a thoroughly positive development.

To better understand the ways in which Swiss grantmaking foundations are engaged in climate change mitigation and how their engagement can be further developed, CEPS conducted a study in cooperation with the Funders for Climate Coalition and WWF Switzerland. Leaders of 420 foundations from all fields of activity were surveyed, of which 72 responded (17% response rate).

A commitment in its infancy...

The study shows that the climate crisis influences foundations in their funding strategy, their own operational activities and their investment strategy. At the same time, more than half of the foundations surveyed (56%) report that the climate crisis does not influence their organization thematically at all. Foundations are primarily involved in climate change mitigation by funding research and education projects (22%) or by supporting environmental protection programs (17%). 4 out of 100 foundations support corresponding advocacy campaigns. The thematic focus is on supporting agriculture and forestry projects (17%) and biodiversity conservation (15%). In contrast, funding initiatives for a more sustainable economy (9%) or to strengthen climate resilience (8%) is rare.

The findings provide an important basis for a discussion on strengthening climate change mitigation by foundations. They show that some foundations are already addressing the issue holistically. At the same time, it is clear that some foundations that do not have climate change mitigation as part of their purpose explicitly do not address the issue. Funding for education and research projects shows a commitment to longer-term solutions. The thematic focus is on projects whose output can be easily measured - trees planted and rising ani-

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mal populations can be easily counted.

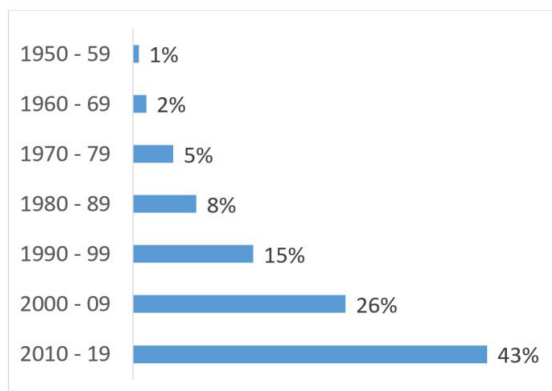
... ready for bigger steps

The fourth principle of the Swiss Foundation Code states that foundations develop their organization and activities according to the requirements of the time. So what next steps can foundations take and what role can they play to strengthen their commitment to climate change mitigation? In terms of funding strategy, there are different options. They can take on the role of „conveners“, bringing together different stakeholders to work together on solutions. They can act as „knowledge brokers“ by funding innovative research projects or publishing studies themselves. Similarly, foundations with common funding goals can join forces and jointly fund larger projects. This allows them to scale their impact. Ultimately, foundations can also fund more advocacy work that further stimulates political discourse around climate change.

However, foundations that do not have climate change mitigation as an integral part of their purpose are also addressed.

According to the Swiss Foundation Report 2020, just under half (43%) of the foundations that promote climate change mitigation were established in the last 10 years. Before 1950, there were only 19 environmental foundations in Switzerland. At CHF 12.7 million, the average foundation assets of environmental foundations are significantly higher than those of other foundations.

Source: Swiss Foundation Report 2020 / CEPS database



They can invest their assets sustainably and make their own operational activities more climate-friendly. In Switzerland, initiatives such as the Funders for Climate Coalition or the Swiss Foundations working groups support foundations in these matters. At the international level, the European Philanthropy Coalition for Climate provides support.

To summarize, the foundation sector is responding to climate change. The task now is to further define the role that foundations can play to increase

their commitment to climate change mitigation.

Dr. rer. pol. Alice Hengevooss is a postdoctoral researcher at the Center for Philanthropy Studies (CEPS) at the University of Basel. She studied economics at the University of Zurich and at Université Laval in Québec, Canada. In 2021, she completed her doctoral studies in nonprofit management at CEPS. At CEPS, she researches and publishes on topics related to accountability and self-regulation of international nonprofit organizations.

Integrated Assessment Modelling for the UNECE Air Convention

The UNECE Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling is a multi-disciplinary group of scientists and experts from ministries, industry and NGO's, aiming to support policy negotiations on the basis of available knowledge.

35 years ago member states of the UNECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (now the Air Convention) decided to establish a Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling (TFIAM) to organize modelling within the Convention that would enable exploring cost-effective pollution abatement strategies to protect public health and ecosystems. Originally modelling was focused on the acidification of forests and lakes. Sulphur (SO₂) was seen as the main culprit. In 1994 the second Sulphur Protocol was signed in Oslo. Contrary to the first Sulphur Protocol, that was a flat-rate emission reduction agreement, the second Sulphur Protocol consisted of differentiated reduction percentages per country. Reductions were the result of an optimization model and would give ecosystem protection at the lowest cost for Europe as a whole. In the 90s models became more complex, by adding other air pollutants and environmental issues (eutrophication, ozone, health). This resulted

in 1999 in the Gothenburg Protocol, the first multi-pollution/multi-effect protocol. The GAINS-model (developed by IIASA) became the core model of the Air Convention.

The increased complexity of this model required intensive discussion with policy makers and stakeholders to assure that GAINS results were acceptable as basis for negotiation. It required the model and the input data to be fully transparent. It At the same time the model should be based on the best scientific knowledge from the various expert groups within the Air Convention.

Mutual learning of scientists, policy makers and stakeholders proved to be essential for efficient use of knowledge in the policy process. Frequent dialogues between scientists, policy makers and stakeholders, and scientific workshops helped consensus building. While experts from industry would ask for better representation of the consequences of policy strategies for industry, experts from en-

vironmental NGOs would suggest better indicators to represent impacts on nature and human health. Therefore, their participation is indispensable.

Currently, modelling is becoming even more complex in taking climate and dietary change into account and interactions between climate change and air quality. Methane is both a greenhouse gas and a precursor of ozone. The geographical scale of atmospheric models has increased to the Northern Hemisphere. Dissemination of TFIAM approaches to countries outside Europe is increasing. Also, the urban scale will get more attention, as the highest population exposure is in cities. As cleaner technologies offer insufficient improvement of air quality, attention is shifting to behavioral measures. This will also require to extend the scientific basis of TFIAM with social sciences and to include good practices to raise public support for improving air quality.

Rob Maas und Stefan Åström

The authors are co-chairs of TFIAM.

«Climate change is moving fast and much more could be happening»

Organizations working for climate change mitigation face a complex task. Clima Now is one of the organizations that has taken up this challenge. We talked to the executive director Nathalie Moral about her activities and the situation in Switzerland.

CEPS: How does Clima Now advocate for climate change mitigation?

N.M.: The goal of limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees by 2030 is becoming increasingly difficult to achieve. The further we move away from this target, the more irreparable damage will be done: This is referred to as tipping points in the climate, from which a reversal is no longer possible. In order to counteract this development, we finance solutions, offer a platform and democratize the creation of ideas and also decisions with our community. Thematically, we focus on the reduction of greenhouse gases in the energy transition and agriculture. In the sequestration of greenhouse gases, we are open to technological and natural approaches. Both will be needed for net zero.



After the completion of her university degree in St. Gallen and consulting work at PwC and Bain&Company, Nathalie Moral worked at LGT Venture Philanthropy and founded her own impact investing consultancy mavia in 2012. She is co-founder and managing director of Clima Now.

We see the greatest leverage point in social change. Politics, business and civil society are the pillars of society and must be equally involved in changing behavior. We see ourselves as a platform where we make solutions visible and bring them together with a large community. We want to inspire people and invite them to think, vote and donate.

CEPS: What challenges does Clima Now face?

N.M.: Time is our biggest challenge: climate change is moving fast and much more could be happening. Hence our name: Clima Now!

Right now, there is a sense of powerlessness that we want to lift through positive narratives. We also want to counteract the dogmatization of climate issues.

CEPS: What distinguishes Switzerland from other countries in its efforts to mitigate climate change?

N.M.: According to the Climate Change Performance Index, Switzerland is in 15th place. Our current policies fall short and will not get us to the Paris Agreement. Since the failure of the CO2 law in 2021, and the clarification of our dependence on fossil energy in the context of the Ukraine war, much more uncertainty has emerged. The lack of proactive governance and policies is reflected in this country ranking. Nordic countries such as Norway, Denmark and Sweden are quite a bit ahead of us and can serve as good examples to create our own positive net zero narrative.

CEPS: How do you see the role of grantmaking foundations?

N.M.: More and more foundations are investing in climate-related issues. At the moment, however, we are still in our infancy: Worldwide, only about 2% of the total volume of donations is spent on climate. In a survey of more than 400 Swiss foundations initiated by us and conducted by CEPS, it was found that 20% of the total donation volume in Switzerland is used for climate. However, only about 6% of the foundations are dedicated to the topic, so the funding volume is dominated by a few, large foundations. We want and need to change that. That is why Clima Now has joined forces with WWF to launch the Funders for Climate Coalition (FCC). We want to mobilize foundations and other donors. The goal of FCC is to advance a common learning agenda, to share projects in a formalized and straightforward way, and to have a greater voice in policy work and advocacy.

CEPS: You are trying to initiate social change. What does it take for this to be successful?

N.M.: Climate change mitigation must be at the top of the priority list in politics and business, but also in our

minds. Politically, we are trying to drive change towards more focus on climate issues through the above-mentioned Funders for Climate Coalition. Economically, we want to inspire through our projects. Sustainability in companies should not be a niche, but become the new standard.

In addition, the community is important. We actively move in the digital space, but also offline: Once a year, we organize a pitch night at which projects from the community are presented on a specific topic. In the run-up to the event, the community votes on which ideas will make it to the pitch night. Through the participatory process, we democratize solutions and their support, bringing the topic and empowerment back to each individual. This year's Spotlight is about art: Rethinking the Impact of Art - Climate Artists wanted!

CEPS: Many thanks and all the best for your future!

CEPS INSIGHT

Changes in the CEPS Team

In July, Manvi Bhatia left CEPS after more than two years. With her software development skills, Manvi managed data at CEPS and built the NPO Data Lab, among other things. Starting in September, Nour Shokry will take over her responsibilities. She is studying Computer Science at the University of Basel. In July, Mia Kirsch also left CEPS after successfully completing her bachelor's degree.

ceps.unibas.ch/en/about-us/team/

Public Lecture on Philanthropy

In the fall semester of 2022, a public lecture series on philanthropy will be held at the University of Basel. In addition to lecturers with a strong connection to philanthropy in the city of Basel or Switzerland, international researchers are also invited. The lecture will take place from September 28th to November 30th on Wednesday evenings at 6.15 pm to 8 pm. Drop by!

<https://ceps.unibas.ch/de/studium/ringvorlesung-hs-2022/>

Stiftungsstatistik: Now in the NPO Data Lab

CEPS launched the NPO Data Lab in 2021 together with PPCmetrics to increase data availability on the third sector. Now, Stiftungsstatistik is also available on the NPO Data Lab website and can be accessed publicly.

The saying „data is the new oil“ is a testament to the great societal transformation that has taken place in recent decades as a result of ubiquitous computers. It is debatable whether data has actually replaced oil as the most important resource. However, the increasing importance of data to the operations of organizations is a clear trend. Why is data important for NPOs in particular? The mission of NPOs often aims to solve complex problems. Data allows a deeper understanding of these issues and improves the basis on which decisions are made. However, NPOs often still collect relatively little data. Data on the third sector itself is also still sparse in Switzerland.

Since its inception, CEPS has aimed to make more data on the third sector available and thus improve knowledge about philanthropy in Switzerland. By making this data available and increasing the public’s knowledge of the foundation landscape, the third sector in Switzerland can be strengthened. Based on these efforts, the NPO Data Lab was launched in 2021 together with PPCmetrics. On the website, NPO financial ratios can be compared. The interactivity facilitates the understanding of the

information presented and allows the graphical representation of statistics. The foundation statistics are now also available in the NPO Data Lab. Since 2009, the foundation statistics have recorded the development of the foundation landscape. It contains information on the purpose of the foundation, the year of foundation, the canton, the radius of activity and the foundation surveillance. The number of foundation board mandates can also be viewed. The data is updated regularly.

Lucca Nietlispach

**NUMBER OF THE QUARTER
365**

In 2021, there was one foundation founded in Switzerland every day on average. This is the highest value over the last five years. The number of new foundations has been more or less at the same level since the early 2000s; before that, it increased continuously. The highest number of new foundations this year was in the canton of Zurich, with 51.

Source: www.npodatalab.ch

Corporations and Culture

«Corporate Cultural Responsibility» lays out how and why businesses can add value to communities by investing in arts and culture.



The intersection of commerce and culture is a highly relevant topic. Michael Bzdak, the Director of Employee Engagement at Johnson&Johnson, offers a new approach to understanding corporate activity in arts and culture in his recently published book. Corporations have always had a relationship with arts and culture, and „Corporate Cultural Responsibility“ now provides a systematic account of that relationship. Compared to other books on the subject of art and business, the author focuses on far-reaching social consequences.

To illustrate the dynamics, the author introduces in depth possible roles that companies can have in arts and culture. The book also offers a concrete guide for companies on how to build an effective program. The conclusions are relevant for corporate executives, but also for those involved in the arts and culture sector.

Lucca Nietlispach

<https://www.routledge.com/Corporate-Cultural-Responsibility-How-Business-Can-Support-Art-Design/Bzdak/p/book/9780367567439>

CALENDAR

Executive Education

Online info event: MAS / DAS Nonprofit Management & Law
27 September 2022, 5 pm, online

Better Foundation Governance
27 - 29 October 2022, Basel

IL Strategisches Finanzmanagement
7 - 11 November 2022, Gunten

CAS Nonprofit & Public Management
4 Modules – Online, Gunten & Basel
Start: 9 January 2023

CAS Nonprofit Governance & Leadership
3 Modules – Sigriswil & Basel
Start: 24 April 2023

MAS in Nonprofit Management & Law
Start at any time
[Register Now -> CEPS Executive Education](#)

FURTHER DATES

Deutscher Stiftungstag
Association of German Foundations
28 - 30 September 2022, Leipzig

DACH Giving Circle-Training
GIVING CIRCLES
6 October - 3 November 2022, online

Schweizer Stiftungstag 2022
proFonds
9 November 2022, Olten

EVPA Annual Conference
EVPA
1 - 2 December 2022, Brussels

6. Zürcher Stiftungsrechtstag
Zentrum für Stiftungsrecht
31 January 2023, Zurich

LEGAL NOTICE

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