

### **«DISTANCE LEARNING»**

wiLearn Annual Report 2020



#### **EDITORIAL**



#### Distance a chance!

«ZOOM, zoom - Home Schooling starts in 10 minutes! » Such a message became common for Swiss pupils during the last year. The closure of public schools has fostered the extensive utilization of distance-learning technology. The global boom of online education has compelled teachers, parents and children to develop in the urgency competences required by the imposed distance learning. The closure of the schools in Spring 2020 was all the more disturbing that very few schools were prepared to operate in virtual classrooms. Consequently, the Digital gap grew even wider during the past year. At the global scale, the majority of the children and teenagers were excluded from this technological revolution. They spent their time of the lock-down on the streets or in the garden of their grandmother's, being deprived of the skills or the access to smartphones and computers to log on to the online courses.

Our approach, giving access to Digital Knowledge to families deprived of telecommunications infrastructure, took another dimension during the global crisis. The circumstances of the pandemic have significantly accelerated the adoption of mobile learning. We were particularly enthusiastic about the start of our project in Yei, where we enable child refugees without formal education to attend school lessons through our learning platform. For that purpose, we have uploaded the entire contents of the public primary school programs and textbooks on our offline server. The more countries give free access to a unified online learning library, aligned with the national curriculum, the closer we get to the UN sustainability development goal for promoting inclusive and equitable quality education. In order to take advantage of digital opportunities, we just need three things: Technology, electricity and new learning skills.

A heartfelt thank you to our faithful partners who want to fill the educational gap among the poorest in East Africa with us.

Ihr Geschäftsleiter

R. tilled

Roland Diethelm

# EFFECTIVE DISTANCE LEARNING WHAT DOES IT TAKE?

olicies

Sust Ecol

## <u>Locatic</u>

n Idan



#### PROJECTS 2020

#### South Sudan - Mobile learning station in Yei

In March, shortly before the travel restrictions, after intensive preparations with Dr Herbert Bronnenmayer und Mama Veronica, I could set up the first mobile school library in Yei. Thanks to our new partnership with Miakwadang and the generous support from the family of Dr. D. Groza, I got to know a dynamic association called Yamorah. An initiative inspired by Christianism, and a call for reconciliation, young refugees returning from their Asylum in Uganda have founded a social network seeking to integrate refugee children, the hearing impaired and the unemployed in the city of Yei. The adaptative education like wiLearn along with the school library were recognized as a stabilization factor for children and families. Our Smart learning introduction workshop raised a great interest and was fully booked with 21 participants from 10 different organizations. The digital teaching and school material was so popular among the children and teenagers that a timetable was established for different age groups. The aim of Yamorah is to expand the library and integrate it in a primary school for orphans from the region. We hope that that the digital education program will continue to develop despite an unstable context.

#### Digital School documents - national scalability

ACROSS in Juba brought us the discovery of the year. It has the entire collection of digitalized teaching material from the 1st to the 4th grade. Teachers and pupil's books were converted in pdf format. We have developed the Offline Module South Sudan for primary and secondary schools and made them accessible for homework through smartphones. The application is located on our online/offline server in the module: South Sudan Primary/Secondary Education. The teachers need a password to access their documents. We would like to demonstrate that wiLearn can distribute the education material throughout the country with a simple Offline strategy. With a WIFI Server of 600 dollars per school, no teacher nor pupil is excluded from the official school program and the multimedia school library.

#### Kenya – Lucky Summer Project - Smart Board, the new dimension of Smart Teaching



«Lucky Summer» sounds like a fresh happy movie but, in this landscape, it stands for the work place of Maxwell Musungu, the place where he grew up. One-hour drive from Nairobi business district by taxi, this place brought together twelve unemployed teachers. They became enthusiastic about the idea to share courses on YouTube despite the closure of schools. They founded together the society Nikuze. They started sharing food to the people in need and started producing school videos in a studio.

The idea is to enable the family to stream the lessons on a Smartphone via YouTube and bring home, somehow, a school day. wiLearn watched the online lessons and suggested taking the approach of a competence-based digital course in accordance with the national education standards. wiLearn has introduced two 64 inches Smartboards from Iyama to Kenya. The Smart Teaching High-tech Product includes both an Android as well as a Windows10 Computer. The Smartboard works like a giant tablet and is operated with a finger or a pen. It is suitable as a wall panel, media storage and a presentation platform. We have expanded the Smartboard with the wiLearn WIFI library, so that all the training modules become available for the lessons directly from the server without an internet connection. A short user training of the Smartboard became a discovery journey and



gave us much fun. Now it is up to the teachers to practice the capabilities of the Smart Teaching in order to combine valuable audiovisual presentations, videos and documents with modern teaching methods. We are eagerly waiting for a change in the learning method and hope for a positive learning effect on the recipients of the video lessons.

#### Samburu Project proposal – Short visit in Suguta Valley

After a day and a half drive to the Suguta Valley, we had a spectacular meeting about the Sambura Project. In the midst of a large crowd of women and children, they told us about 7.000 of their children had never seen inside a school. Goats and Camels are their pride, wealth, elixir of life. Parents and elders are however aware that the time is pressing to give the young generation new perspectives in life that will enable them to connect with the Kenyan society. In Suguta Valley, there are still many valuable hidden treasures of which they want to benefit from. Therefore, the chance of distance learning and the connection to the mobile phone network is eagerly awaited in the valley. Mobile adults and school education for pastoralists, constitutes an important bridge between livestock farming and the information age. Their descendants should eventually be able to act as equal partners and escape from poverty when they discover the treasures in their valley.

#### Zimbabwe – Smart Learning Expansion put on hold

Apart from a few hours of remote maintenance work, we could not achieve much at Mpumelelo secondary school last year. The closure of the schools suspended the access to digital teaching material, as teachers and students remain secluded in their home villages. Only those who own a Smartphone, could download the lessons and take them home. Thus, the possibilities of distance learning will improve as soon as Smartphones become more accessible in rural areas.

#### > More effective distance learnings thanks to the modular approach

During the pandemic, we focused on the development of learning modules. In order to promote effective distance learning, two key requirements are first to be met: 1) Interactive learning modules with lessons adapted to self-study, 2) Learning capabilities with Smartphones. In this respect, the wiLearnCAP Offline Platform is an ideal tool to develop, organize and use learning material without internet access, via LMS (Learning Management Systems). Roland has built the lessons on Competence Based Learning (CBC KENYA) and included a COVID information pack, in order to learn the development tool. The module «Swahili Bible» is another example. It connects a Swahili Bible in Text-version to an audio version, which benefits the visually impaired and illiterates. We will add soon more Kenyan languages to the module. With the expertise that we have acquired, we can address the concerns of the users and train the staff to adapt the local contents in their own language. This one-on-one instruction for content-related adaptation and development of the learning library takes place in workshops or via WhatsApp. This way, we promote the preservation of identity, culture and language, which can be made available to a broad population via digital networks. Further information on this matter can be found on our online/ offline Server <u>www.wilearn.ch</u>

#### > A loyal partner - PD Foundation

The PD Foundation continues to be the strongest financial support of wiLearn 4 Life. Our focus on Kenya und education is one of the three main pillars of the family foundation. In 2020, we sought to launch the 100 Smart Learning Community project based on the pilot led in Kibera. After discussions with large bank foundations, the project was eventually aborted due to the size and capacity of our society and the moderate success of the pilot project in Kibera. Another wiLearn proposal from Samburu County could not be implemented because the costs and risks of this project with Pastoralists in were considered too high. However, we are now well on the way to establishing a new partnership and we would like to thank very much for their trust. In this context, wiLearn4Life



has been re-certified by the umbrella foundation Charities Aid Foundation (CAF UK), to receive and manage project funds from the PD Foundation.

#### New Partner – Perspektive Hoffnungsbrücke.de - Tanzania

We have heard about Arnd and Simone Weil and their educational projects in Tanzania through a Christian magazine. <u>Bridge of Hope</u> is now using three wiLearnCAP in Tanzania and is enthusiastic about the new learning opportunities in compact format. The schools of the LEA Ministry in Dongobesh were

equipped with Amazon Fire 7 Tablets by Bridge of Hope und directly

introduced to the WIFI libraries. In addition, three German students volunteered to assist on site the introduction to digital learning for a period of three months. There are further plans to pursue the next stage in the region of Kagera in collaboration with World Vision and Bridge of Hope. The students in the region are generally very poor, devoid of electricity, water and books. There, the solar solution of our learning platform will prove itself in hard use.



#### Marketing ZHAW Bachelor research from Michelle Furrer

The Bachelor Thesis «Developing a Strong Fundraising Brand for wiLearn4Life» was the result of a six-month study by Michelle Furrer. The study is available on our website under <u>Publications</u>. Our collaboration with ZHAW was based on interviews. We would like to thank Rolf Rellstab and Michelle Furrer for the detailed study and the practical advices on how we can even better position wiLearn 4 Life as a brand and attract new partners and donators. The limitation of a one-man operation is obviously a lack of capacity and resources to handle the multiple tasks faced by a professional non-profit organization. We have therefore advertised via the web portal Benevol for volunteers in the field of finance, web design und communication. In search for constructive forces who share our vison, we look forward to hearing from the candidates.

#### Hardware development

The moLLi Kit is well established as an entry-level model for school libraries, whereby solar energy is not a primary need. This means that we still find many schools with electricity connection that nevertheless lack adequate learning media and libraries. Therefore, the focus is on simplifying the offer at a low price and expanding the options. A modular approach is more in line with the capabilities of the local schools and has the potential to expand in the project countries. As a consequence, we will adapt the format of the presentation case (wiLLi) to the moLLi case as shown below. Four different models of equipment with similar appearances will be produced and offered in the future.

- 1) moLLi (mobile Learning Lab interactive)
- 2) wiLLi (wireless Learning Lab interactive)
- 3) Tabea16 (AC charging case with 16 tablet PC)
- 4) Tabea 10 Solar (solar charging case with 10 tablet PC)









#### **ANNUAL REPORT 2020**

#### Accounting

The annual statements of the association were established in accordance with the Swiss accounting standards SWISS GAAP FER 21. The annual financial statements are prepared on a "true and fair" basis, i.e., the annual financial statements give a true and fair view of the net assets, financial position and results of operations.

#### Comments on the annual financial statements

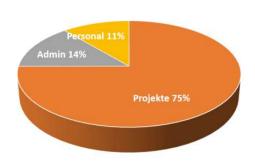
In 2020, we were able to record a total of 23'508 CHF in donations, slightly decreasing versus prior years, whereas the total revenues of 27'870 CHF are on the wane. The main reason for the decrease of the revenues is a decline of wiLearn services. Due to limited travel and slow project development, wiLearn was only able to execute one workshop in South Sudan during the fiscal year 2020, which could not be fully covered by the partner.

Despite declining services, the equipment costs remain very high, achieving the level of 19'278 CHF, which is also reflected in the inventory in the asset section of the balance sheet. A new project with unemployed teachers and Smart Boards justified records in equities new investments. Nevertheless, the association kept a high level of liquidity due to the adjustment of the managing director compensation in accordance with the Board agreement. In fact, the personnel expenses dropped down to a minimum of 3'427 CHF, including all payroll taxes. A rebalancing is anticipated next year with the reduction of the inventories.

The assets of the association decreased by approximately 10%, down to 49'219 CHF, despite a slight increase in inventories and cash. This is explained by the reduction of prepaid expenses, directly related with the termination of Allianz pension plan.

The amount of equity went up significantly to 15'075 CHF as a result of donations from PD Foundation for Kenya und from Dr. Groza and family for South Sudan. The funds recorded in equity also increased the level of cash.

With a loss of 10'254 CHF, the total equities have shrunk by one quarter down to 34'143 CHF, amount primarily held in stock.



Association's spending



#### BALANCE SHEET as of December 31, 2020

ASSETS	31.12.2020	31.12.2019 CHF
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	17'805.07	9'709.37
Stock	31'413.93	30'343.18
Receivables	-	14'294.80
Total Current Assets	49'219.00	54'347.35
TOTAL ASSETS	49'219.00	54'347.35
-	31.12.2020	31.12.2019
LIABILITIES	CHF	CHF
Current liabilities		500 50
Other current obligations Payables	-	586.58 1'421.20
Total Current Liabilities	-	2'007.78
Total Foreign Capital	•	2'007.78
Funds Capital		
Dedicated Fund KE1811	5'524.20	791.11
Dedicated Fund SS1911	1'049.65	7'150.00
Dedicated Fund KE2008	501.67	
Dedicated Fund SS2012	8'000.00	
Total Funds Capital	15'075.52	7'941.11
<b>Organisation's capital</b> Free Capital	44'398.46	44'398.46
Profit / Loss in the period	-10'254.98	
Total Organisation's Capital	34'143.48	44'398.46
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	49'219.00	54'347.35



#### **INCOME STATEMENT 2020**

	01.0131.12.2020 CHF	01.0131.12.2019 CHF
Grants received		
thereof free	6'136.58	4'282.80
thereof earmarked	17'372.20	18'638.24
Total grants received	23'508.78	22'921.04
Project-related services	1'640.54	21'722.31
Revenues from deliveries	2'721.17	7'803.30
Nicht fakturierte Leistungen		_
Total Betriebsertrag	27'870.49	52'446.65
Cost of materials	19'278.98	18'665.11
Project-related expenses	3'586.54	23'811.10
Personnel expenses	3'427.30	17'272.25
Space Rental expenses	-	-
Administrative and IT expenses	206.88	2'107.66
Marketing expensses	57.65	100.50
Other association-related expenses	3'952.30	112.00
Total Operating Expenses	30'509.65	62'068.62
Operating profit	-2'639.16	-9'621.97
Finance income	347.96	621.02
Finance expenses	-481.41	-504.70
Result before changes in fund capital	-2'772.61	-9'505.65
Change in fund capital		
Utilization	11'864.52	68'111.08
Allocation	-19'346.89	-34'376.64
Revaluation of funds in foreign currency		-773.46
Total change in fund capital	-7'482.37	32'960.98
Result for the year (before allocation to organizational capital)	-10'254.98	23'455.33

-



#### AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020

#### Association wilearn 4 Life Auditor's report for the fiscal year 2020 for the General Assembly The undersigned auditor has audited the annual financial statements of the association wilearn 4 Life for the reporting year 2020 on April 11th, 2021, in the context of the annual review. The audit included the balance sheet, the income statement and the statement of changes in capital. Furthermore, individual entries, account balances, items and vouchers were verified as listed below. Based on the audit, the following report is issued: The financial statements presented have been properly kept, the annual result from the income statement agrees with the result from the balance sheet and the result from the statement of changes in capital. The opening balances as of January 1st, 2020, of the balance sheet agree with the closing balances as of December 31st, 2019. The total of individual entries per account in the fiscal year agrees with the corresponding account balance as of December 31st, 2020. The samples of supporting documents are accurate and directly deposited in the accounting system. They agree with the corresponding entries. The balances as of December 31st, 2020 of the cash and accounts in CHF and USD agree with the booked balances. At the end of the year, there were no significant accounts receivable or payable. The result before changes in the fund capital amounts to CHF -2'772.61. In the year under review, the fund assets were increased by CHF 7'482.37, at the same time the organizational capital had to be reduced by CHF 10'254.98. At the end of the year, the association's assets amounted to CHF 49'219. Approximately 70% of this is organizational capital. On the basis of this report, I propose to the General Assembly to accept this annual report. Zürich, April 11th, 2021 The Auditor D. Solvenn Dominik Schweizer



#### **Board Members**



André Mebold, Chairman



Rachel Wille, Marketing



Christine Diethelm, Actuary



Daniel Kast, ICT & Partnering



Yvonne Rüegg, Pedagogue

The Management Board met at five general meetings during the fiscal year 2020.

The Board members perform their work on a voluntary basis. No expenses nor compensation were paid to the board in 2020. There were one resignation and one entry in the Board during the reporting period. While Michael Kellenberger left the Board, Yvonne Rüegg, a teacher at a secondary school, joined us a new member.

In addition to their NPO experience, the members of the Board bring to the organization expertise in the fields of education, cooperation and development, fundraising, information and communication technology as well as their engagement in their area of expertise.

The main responsibilities of the Board include advisory to the Managing Director, preparing and conducting the association's general meetings, strategic planning/ orientation as well as the annual budget.

#### Our Vision

We empower communities in fragile contexts to gain digital learning skills for a selfdetermined life.



We inspire all generations in marginalized communities, by establishing regular access to wireless learning labs, offering open educational resources and digital libraries relevant to their environment.



By 2030, we will enable 300'000 learners of all generations living in fragile contexts to access and adapt digital education programs for less than 2 dollars per month.

The Board is pleased to note that wiLearn4Life has successfully advanced the vision and goals of the Association over the past year, despite difficult lockdown conditions and travel restrictions.

We are looking forward to the development of new projects and encourage volunteers who want to make a difference to contact us.

Your wiLearn4Life Board



#### OUTLOOK

- Curriculum Software We built a constructive cooperation with Virtual Essence in Nairobi, which we would like to record in a memorandum in 2021. The recently founded company is the developer and operator of <u>MsingiPACK Academy</u>, an interactive Online learning platform corresponding to grade 1. to grade 8 curriculums. We are very pleased that the extensive course contents of 178 GB are now accessible with any web browsers. This led us to integrate these School Media accredited by the Ministry of Education to our Offline wiLearnCAP. As MsingiPACK Academy is the first paid license on our server, we aim to collaborate with this company on a long-term basis, to provide learners to free access to all media through wiLearn libraries.
- School closure = Hunger This acute problem for children living in slums is not the academical loss but hunger! In the absence of school meals, a majority of children from poor social origins are suffering from malnutrition. With the ongoing school lockdown, the schools' social and caring functions are suspended by the government, resulting in lasting health-related harm for the youngest. As learning with an empty stomach does not make any sense, wiLearn 4 Life also provides school meals in Dandora (Nairobi Slum). There, children are driven by hunger to the dumps to survive. Diana Jomo from St. Benedict Community Center runs a welfare facility including a school which provides children with a daily meal and a safe place to study.

Thanks to all helpers, donors and partners who do good, take our cause to heart and act in the background. We are very grateful for your contributions!

And just when our plans are thwarted, when we are no longer in control, then we return to God's power. His majesty and his work. Therefore, he deserves the honor and our thanks for every divine intervention that dares us to advance in 2021.

Helping means giving HOPE! Become a member of wiLearn 4 Life and change children's dreams in real time!

#### **Office Contact**

wiLearn 4 Life Zürcherstr. 36 8426 Lufingen

Tel: +41 76 2150963 info@wilearn.org | www.wilearn.org

PC- 84-3431-5 IBAN CH80 8147 4000 0024 8387 2

"The wiLearn school case will give the lessons a real boost" Diana, Dandora Project