

Swiss Re Foundation – a short profile

1 July 2021

Our vision – We want to build resilient societies

Our vision is to help societies develop capacity to mitigate health, environmental and economic risks, as well as to recover quickly from setbacks. In other words, we play a role in strengthening the resilience of communities. We define this quality as their capacity to survive and thrive in the face of resource stresses, societal adversity, natural disasters or a combination of all three such disturbances.

The scope of our activities

Collaborating with our partners, we aim to make a measurable and sustainable difference. We support them not only through evidence-based grant funding, but also by giving them access to the broad expertise of Swiss Re’s employees and allowing them to develop, prototype and scale effective solutions. We engage in these non-profit activities where Swiss Re operates or intends to in the future and where the protection gap is widest, i.e. in emerging and developing countries.

Our focus areas and priorities

We’ve strengthened our focus on three areas where we can best leverage Swiss Re’s expertise:



Natural hazard and climate risk management

Example We support people in preparing for, preventing and bouncing back from catastrophes and coping with climate risk.



Access to health and income opportunities

Example We ease access to healthcare and viable income opportunities in underserved communities.



Innovation for societal resilience

Example We fund research that sheds light on what drives resilient societies and support worthy causes near Swiss Re locations.

To concentrate our efforts and increase our impact, we've defined priority themes that apply to both our activities at Swiss Re locations and in selected developing regions.

Focus area	Priority themes
Natural hazard and climate risk management*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing Disaster Risk Reduction at the community level • Coastal resilience • Climate smart agriculture
Access to health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving access to healthcare for underserved groups
Innovation for societal resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships with leading academic institutions and innovation hubs

Our strategic commitments

Our strategic commitments aim to help realise the [UN's Sustainable Development Goals](#) and strive to foster resilient societies and complement Swiss Re's overall sustainability objectives. We strive to share expertise and encourage out-of-the-box thinking to solve problems. Knowing we can multiply impact by teaming up with the right experts, we collaborate with diverse partners – from research universities and think tanks through social enterprises to aid organisations and development-focused NGOs. 94.57% of the total cost of our philanthropic activities are strategic commitments (= community investments according to LBG).

"Years ago, when hurricanes hit, we all saw how the reef was destroyed. I would have liked to help. Now I can."

Alejandro Chan, Reef Brigade Member, Yucatan/Mexico

Learn who our partners are

[Natural hazards and climate risk management](#)
[Access to health and income opportunities](#)
[Innovation for societal resilience](#)

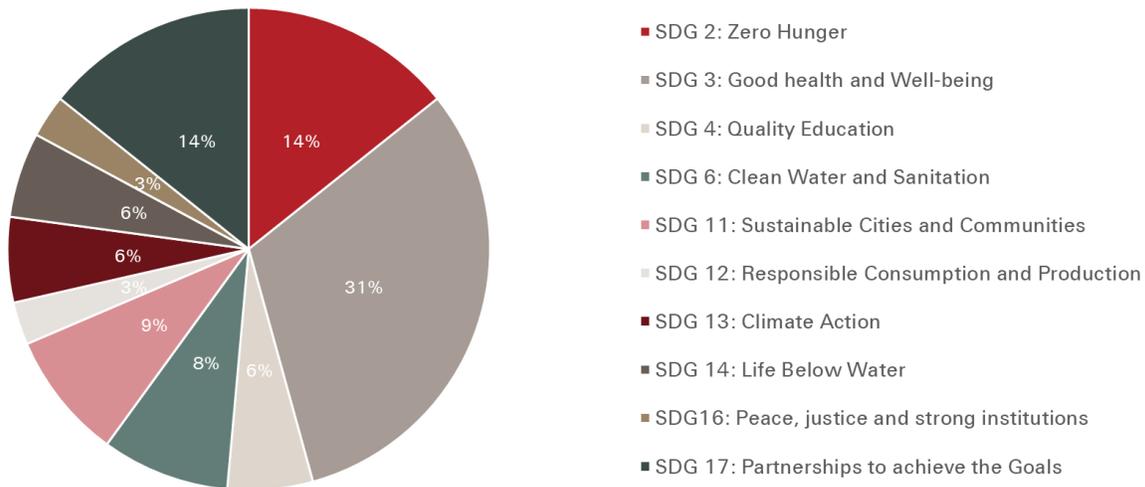
Benefits of our projects

Applying a strategic philanthropic approach, we select all our project based on a defined resilience framework as basis for the definition of the 3 focus areas. At the same time, we combine this framework with the impact measurement approach developed by the London Benchmarking Group and systematically measure its impacts. In selected projects, we conduct randomized control trials to understand the effects of new approaches in more detail as basis for replication and scaling.

Social impact: resilience contribution in focus areas	Specific social impact areas (KPIs)	Depth of impact (LGB methodology), planned			Total people impacted (2019 – 2021), as of March 2021
		Reasonable impact: Connect	Medium impact: Improve	High impact: transform	
Access to health	AH1: Number of people with improved access to health (provided by Social Enterprises that help increase efficiency in last mile healthcare delivery)	1'640'563.00	767'305.00	Projects ongoing – impact level "transform" can only be assessed ex - post	Strategic goal: 1m
	AH2: Number of household with increase resources available to healthcare	1'153'792.00	243'448.00		Total Planned: 3.81m
Climate risk management	Climate-smart agriculture (CSA)1: number of smallholder farmers provided access to advisory services	163'015.00	93'005.00		Total Target: 2.75m
	Climate-smart agriculture (CSA)2: number of smallholder farmers covered by micro – agri - insurance	7'340.00	7'340.00		Total Planned: 2.85m
	Climate-smart agriculture (CSA)2: number of people benefiting from improved agricultural monitoring based on earth observation data	1'312'500.00	262'500.00	Total Status: 13'965(connect); 3'105 (improve), most projects just started, too early to report on results	
	Coastal resilience 1: number of people under a functioning nature based solution (i.e. reef, mangroves)	1'002'852.00	3'032.00		
Total people impacted (without DRR)		5'280'062.00	1'376'630.00	Planned:	6'656'692.00
				Status:	1'319'080.00
Total people impacted (with DRR)				Planned:	6'983'881.00
				Status:	2'594'180.00

In addition to these social impacts at the core of our activities, our non-profit activities also have internal effects (business benefits¹). 35% of our projects contribute to closing an existing protection gap (BPI1; e.g. ongoing partnership with the Nature Conservancy focusing on sustainable reef management, 47% of projects contribute to create evidence and knowledge (BPI2; e.g. ongoing partnership with University of Zurich) and 37% of projects strengthen employee motivation, loyalty, skills and personal resilience (BPI4, e.g. Community Days and Global Entrepreneur Program).

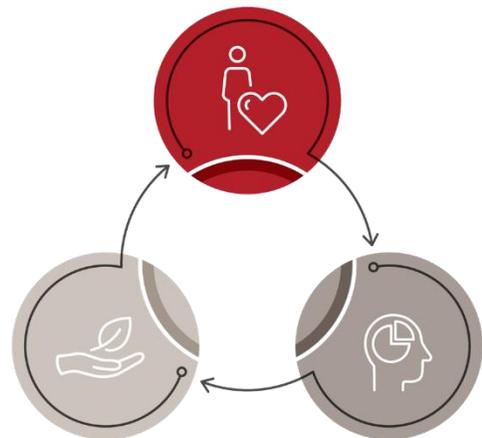
Breakdown of our ongoing projects per SDGs



Our corporate volunteering programmes

An important partner is Swiss Re itself, which not only funds the Foundation but also gives us access to the knowledge and networks of Swiss Re employees and clients. Our growing set of employee volunteering opportunities comprises the following three characteristics:

- **Lending a hand** – hands-on volunteering programmes to support charity partners in Swiss Re locations with challenges related to our focus areas
- **Sharing skills** – competence-based expert engagement to specifically coach selected partners over a longer period
- **Leading with impact** – this component goes beyond sharing specific skills with our partners since it also enables Swiss Re experts to develop their leadership skills at the same time.



¹ *We define the term "business benefit" as the non-monetary value of our activities for the benefit of our founder (Swiss Re).

Our charitable commitments

Our charitable commitments focus on the locations where Swiss Re has offices. Globally, our charitable commitments consist mainly of financial grants for emergency relief measures after severe catastrophes, often supplemented by donations from Swiss Re employees. 5.43% of the total cost of our philanthropic activities are charitable donations.

Overview Philanthropic Contributions*

Type of Contribution	Total amount in USD
Cash contributions	12'955'729
Time: employee volunteering during paid working hours (figure is directional only)	940'400
In-kind giving: product or services donations, projects/partnerships or similar	194'314
Management overheads (figure is directional only)	3'356'100
Type of Philanthropic Activities	Percentages of Total Costs
Charitable Donations	5.43 (703'333)
Community Investments	94.57 (12'252'396)
Commercial Initiatives	0%
Total (must equal 100%)	100%

*Includes Swiss Re Foundation and Swiss Re Cultural Engagements