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**Terre des hommes.**  
**Switzerland's leading**  
**Child Relief Agency.**



**Terre des hommes**

Helping children worldwide. [tdh.ch](http://tdh.ch)

Terre des hommes

Helping

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# Terre des hommes. Switzerland's leading children's aid organisation.

Terre des hommes (Tdh) helps vulnerable children in **more than 30 countries worldwide**. They can rely on us because of our:



## Experience

We have been protecting children since 1960, and we know how to make a meaningful and lasting difference to their lives.



## Innovation

We have created innovative tools in a number of child aid fields and, together with the affected communities, we will continue to develop new solutions.



## Partnerships

We work with competent, renowned and reliable partners, in Switzerland and abroad.



## Quality

Our teams are well trained and committed to their work. Our high professional standards have gained international recognition.



## Network

We have a big volunteer network in Switzerland, which gives us a solid grounding in civil society.



## Public presence

Our advocacy activities and involvement with well-known personalities help us raise awareness of the plight of vulnerable children.

Every year, our projects help more than **two million children** and their families.



# Our values.



## Courage

We strive to make brave choices and to act with conviction and determination.

*Former child soldiers should be given the opportunity to be children again. This is why, in South Sudan, we help them become part of society again.*



## Respect

We favour an honest, responsible and open approach based on cooperation and acceptance of diversity.

*Young people in conflict with the law are able to take responsibility for their actions. We work with child offenders, victims and community members to identify ways of making reparations for harm caused.*



## Commitment

We act with humanity and professionalism with and around children, and promote fairness and equality.

*After the Nepal earthquake in 2015, we provided immediate assistance to children and their families.*



## Ambition

We aim to bring about positive, significant and lasting change in the lives of children and their communities.

*Surgery can change the lives of children suffering heart disease. Those who cannot be treated locally are transferred to Switzerland or Europe for a new chance at life.*

## Independence

We are a non-governmental organisation with no political or religious affiliations. We protect vulnerable children and their loved ones regardless of their ethnic group, religion or political beliefs. Given the many ways in which children's rights are abused or ignored, we actively support social change. This means working constructively with different parties – mainly government authorities, but also civil society and economic, political and religious decision-makers.

# Our vision.

**Our goal is to make a significant and lasting difference to the lives of children in need.**

All around the world, children are the first victims of wars, natural disasters and poverty. Terre des hommes (Tdh) does everything it can to protect these young people and build brighter futures.

## We aim to:

- Protect **child migrants**, especially those travelling alone.
- Protect children against **exploitation**.
- Promote **restorative justice** for children in conflict with the law.
- Improve **child health**, especially during the first 1,000 days of life.
- Provide **specialised medical care** to children with heart disease.
- Provide **humanitarian aid** to children and families in crisis zones.
- Defend children in Switzerland who have been deprived of their **fundamental rights**.

**2.3  
million**

beneficiaries per year,  
including children,  
families and  
loved ones.

**38**

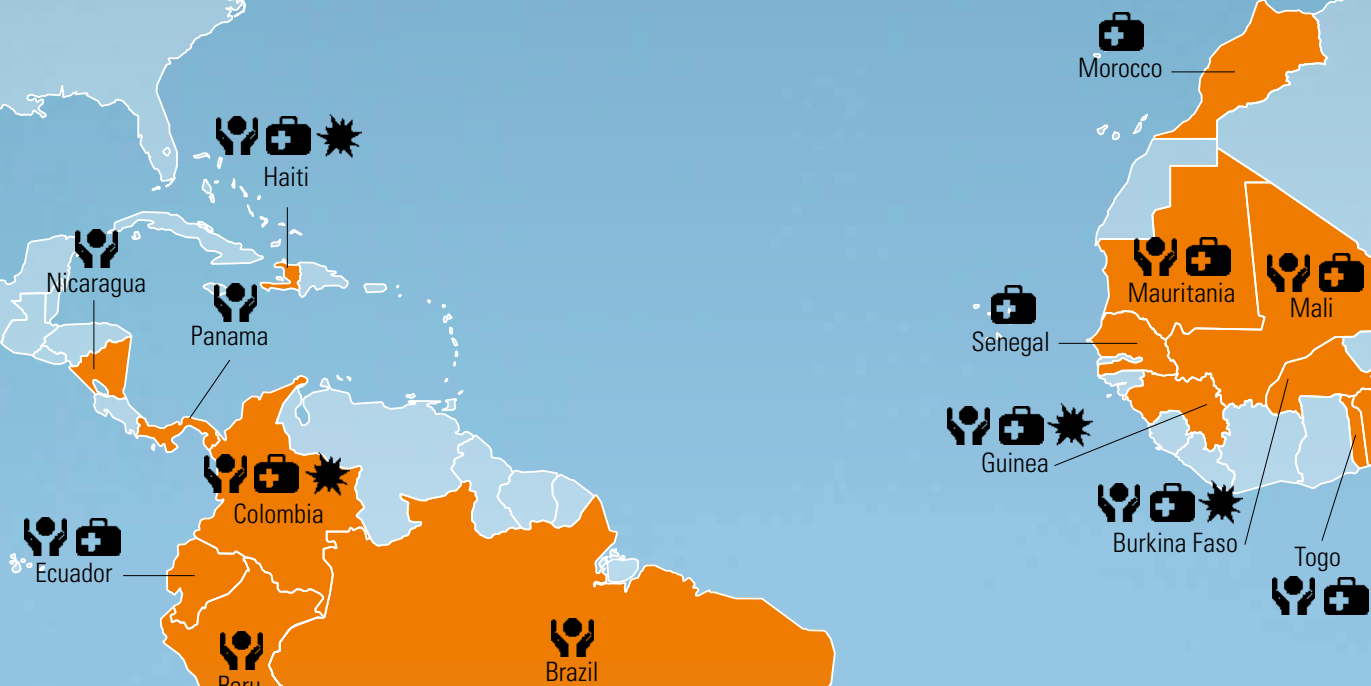
countries of  
intervention.

**87%**

of funds collected  
are put towards  
projects.



Terre des hommes runs  
over 90 projects in more  
than 30 countries.





## Our interventions



**Protection**  
53 projects

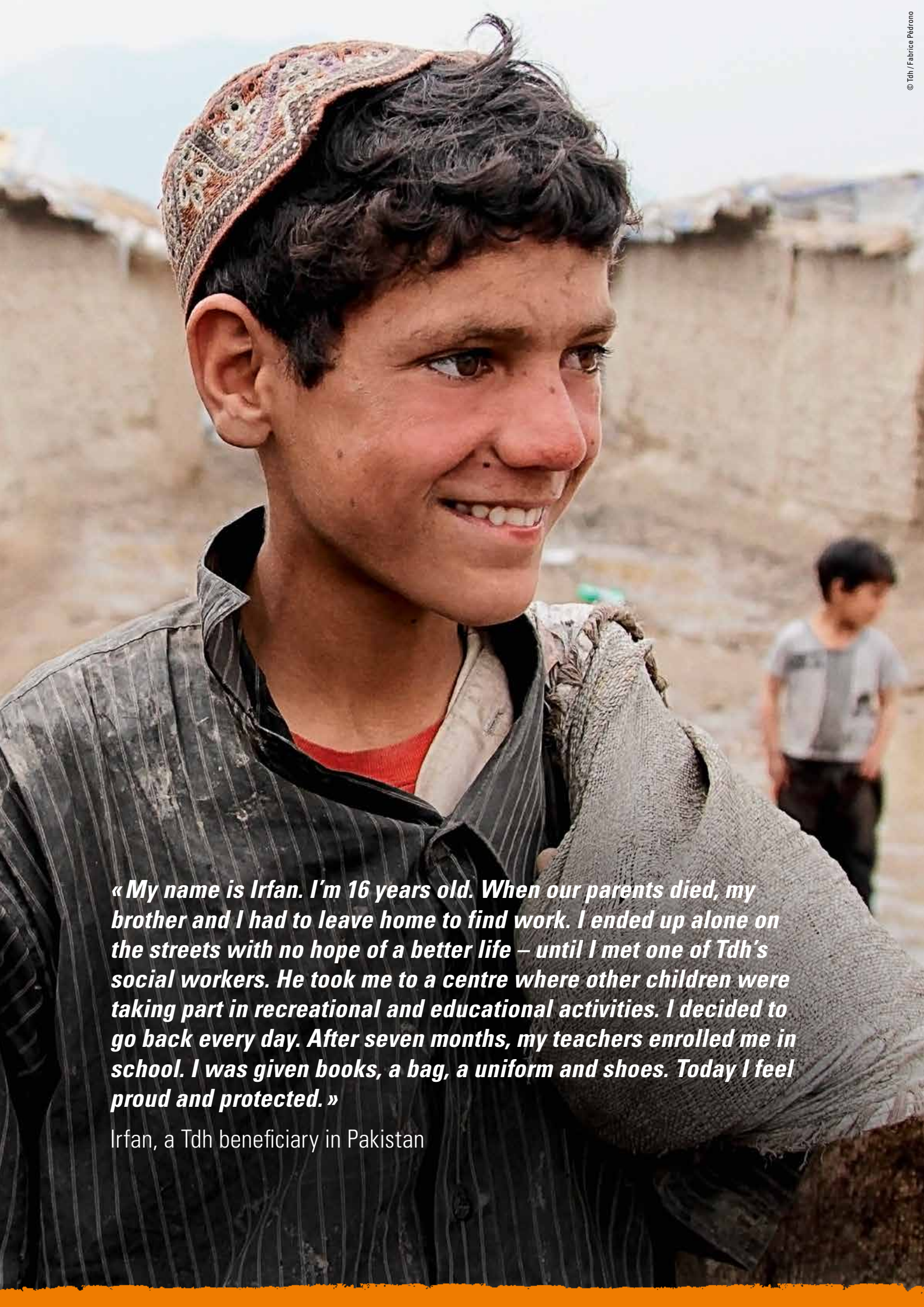


**Health**  
23 projects



**Emergencies and humanitarian crises**  
20 projects





***« My name is Irfan. I'm 16 years old. When our parents died, my brother and I had to leave home to find work. I ended up alone on the streets with no hope of a better life – until I met one of Tdh's social workers. He took me to a centre where other children were taking part in recreational and educational activities. I decided to go back every day. After seven months, my teachers enrolled me in school. I was given books, a bag, a uniform and shoes. Today I feel proud and protected. »***

Irfan, a Tdh beneficiary in Pakistan



# Protection.

Young people are at higher risk of exploitation, trafficking, violence and other forms of abuse. For this reason, Terre des hommes (Tdh) works to protect children who are migrants, workers or in conflict with the law.

We support children in different predicaments and inform them of their rights. For example, we help young domestic servants or sexually exploited girls by placing them with families and ensuring they attend school or receive training. We provide psychological and social support, as well as legal aid.

We seek to minimise the risks inherent in migratory movements for children. In Europe, child migrants must not be considered a threat: they are children and need protection.



Sources: Unicef, UNHCR, ILO

@Tdh - Haiti

## **Exploitation: protecting children at work**

In many countries around the world, children are put to work, often without accommodation or education. Working as beggars, door-to-door salespersons, domestics servants, field workers, miners or prostitutes, they attempt to earn their living in inhumane conditions, often risking their lives. We give exploited children access to schools and healthcare while raising awareness of the risks of child labour among families, local communities

and employers. Our aim is to intervene at each step of the production process involving children, working with local operators who employ children to work on farms or in mines, intermediaries who export the goods produced, and multinational companies who benefit from child labour.

## **Migration: providing protection and training to children**

Tdh protects children who have left their homes to escape poverty, violence and war. These young migrants are at risk of exploitation, violence and imprisonment. We provide information to children and their families in order to prevent or delay departure. If they still choose

to leave, we protect migrant children during their journeys. Working closely with social workers, police officers, doctors and teachers, we help them go back to school and find places where their rights are respected.



## **Juvenile justice: helping young people take responsibility for their actions**

More than one million children are detained in prison instead of going to school. Their offences are generally minor and linked to poverty, insufficient education, migration, abuse and exploitation. A child's circumstances and age should be taken into account during sentencing. This is why we promote justice systems that are adapted to children's needs and rights. Rather than focusing on punishment or prison sentences – prison is often tantamount to crime school – we help children understand and take responsibility for their actions. This does not mean impunity: young people must make reparations for the harm they cause before again becoming part of society. However, young offenders who are not deprived of their freedom have a better chance of rebuilding their lives, going back to school and reintegrating society. Communities and families are an important part of this process.

In many countries, Tdh is considered an expert in this field. We work alongside judicial authorities to implement alternatives to detention, such as community

work or mediation. Every year, our experts run training programmes to raise awareness of children's specific needs. These programmes target thousands of juvenile justice professionals, including judges, police officers, prison staff and mediators.

In March 2016, the Palestinian authorities adopted a new criminal law for minors. This groundbreaking law puts children's interests first, encouraging social integration and mediation rather than imprisonment. We are extremely pleased that our work raising awareness of these issues with the public and authorities has led to legislation protecting children's fundamental rights.

 **Find out more about our protection projects by visiting [www.tdh.ch/protection](http://www.tdh.ch/protection)**





**Manjuara, 9 months old, had acute malnutrition. She was taken to Patharpratima nutrition centre, supported by Terre des hommes' project targeting malnutrition in India's West Bengal region. After three weeks of treatment, Manjuara began gaining weight and showing clear signs of recovery. Her mother was delighted to see her smiling again.**

Manjuara, a Tdh beneficiary in India

# Health.

**Despite considerable progress, too many young children are dying of preventable and treatable diseases. In a large number of countries, neither children nor parents have access to basic healthcare.**

**The well-being of mothers and children is central to our work. Healthcare during the first 1,000 days of life - pregnancy, childbirth, the neonatal period and early childhood – is vital for the health and the good development of the child. We also provide advice on food and hygiene.**

## **Heart surgery for children: Tdh is the European leader in patient transfers**

Tdh gives seriously ill children from underprivileged backgrounds the opportunity to receive surgery in Switzerland and other European countries if their home countries lack appropriate medical facilities. Every year, around 250 children are operated on in Europe, most of them for heart defects.

**16,000**

children under five die every day.

**1 in 180 women**

die during pregnancy or childbirth.

**44%**

of deaths affecting children under five occur during their first 28 days of life.



Source: WHO

©Tdh/Olivier Girard - Burkina Faso

## **Health: encouraging technological innovation**

In developing countries, mothers often do not have access to the knowledge necessary to prevent or treat illnesses. Babies and their mothers are especially vulnerable during the first 1,000 days of life – starting with conception. They need special care during this critical period. Tdh helps improve the health of newborns, children, and pregnant or breastfeeding women.

We work closely with governments and local authorities to provide better access to basic healthcare. Our health programmes provide mobile applications to small health centres. These applications, installed on electronic tablets, help medical staff with their diagnosis, making prescriptions and explaining the use of medicines. This type of technology has led to major improvements in terms of recording and sharing information.

Since April 2016, pregnant women and children under five have been entitled to free healthcare in Burkina Faso. Implementing this system is one way of ensuring that young children receive medical treatment. These children often die as a result of easily treatable diseases such as malaria, diarrhoea, parasitic infections, respiratory diseases or malnutrition. The Burkina Faso government estimates that this measure will save the lives of 35,000 children every year. Infant and maternal mortality rates in the country are among the highest in the world. This is why we have spent several years promoting this initiative.

## **Water and sanitation: teaching good practices**

In very fragile countries, Tdh works to improve sanitation. Our educational initiatives raise awareness of illnesses caused by using unclean water. In particular, they focus on hand washing, food hygiene and clean infrastructure for children. We build wells, reservoirs for drinking water

and toilets. We work with government health and education services to improve the quality of water supply and sanitation in hospitals and schools.



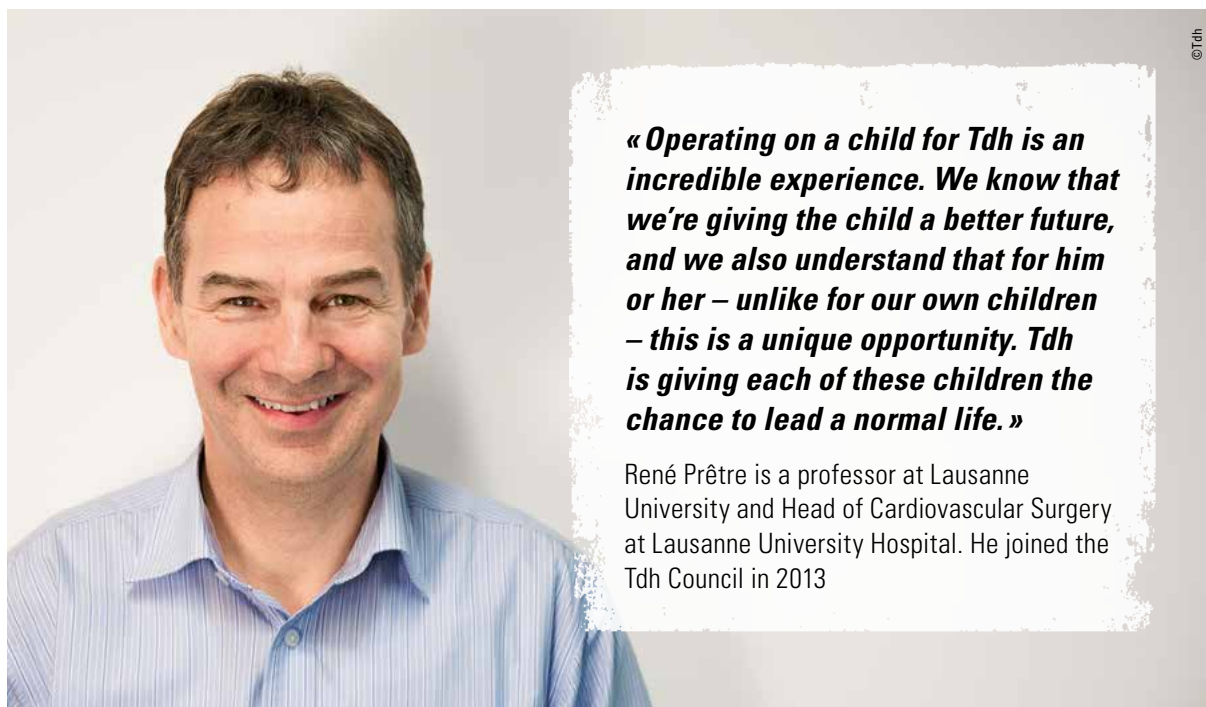
## Specialised care: playing a leading role in Europe

In many countries, children with heart defects cannot be treated due to a lack of qualified doctors and insufficient infrastructure. We help cure these seriously ill children. Since 1962, we have transferred more than 13,000 young people to Europe to receive surgery at university hospitals in Switzerland, Spain and France. Today, Tdh is a leader in Europe, organising 40% of patient transfers. This programme, which operates in around 10 countries, involves teams or local partners who can provide follow-up care until children become adults.

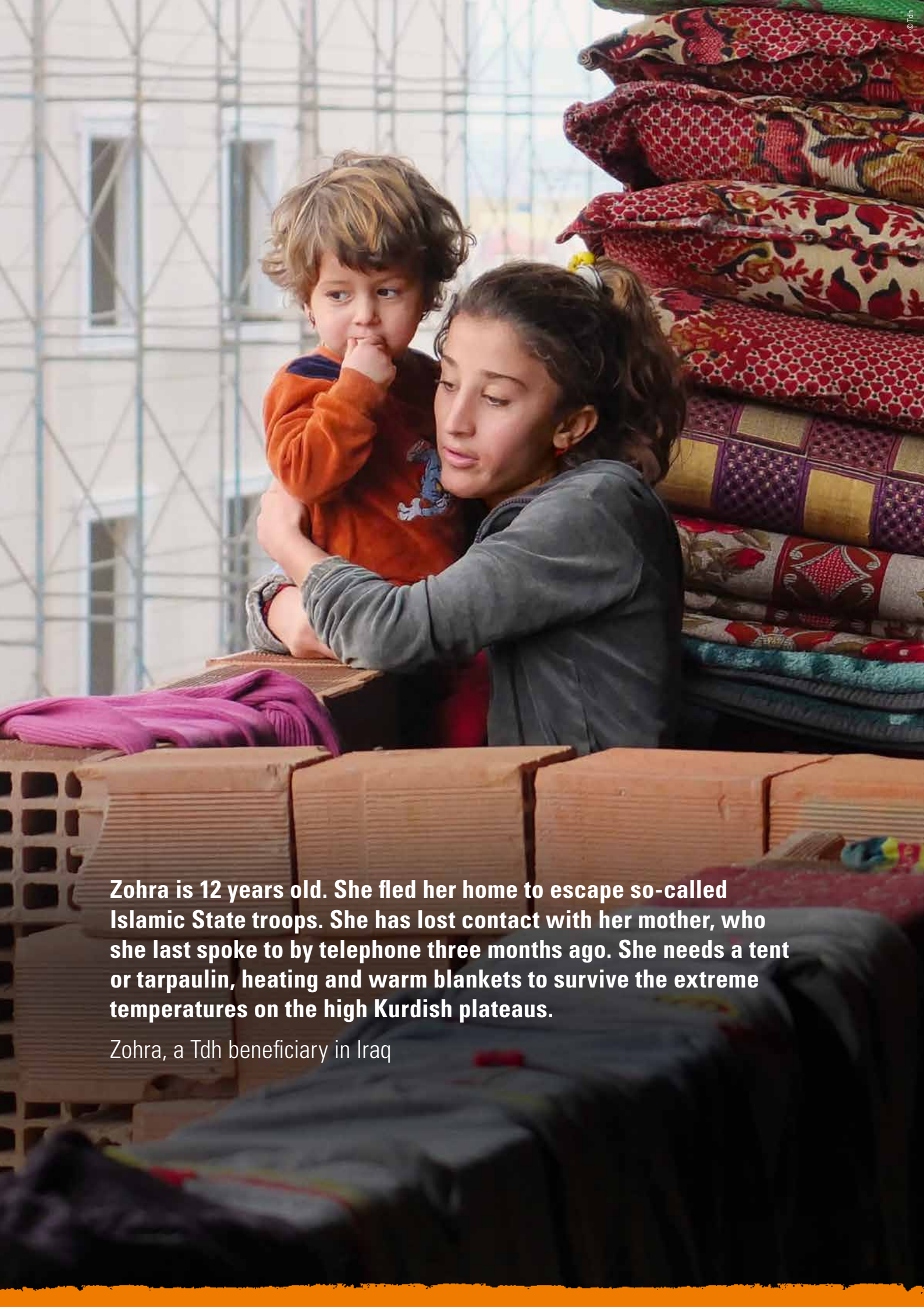
In Switzerland, surgery is performed at Geneva University Hospital (HUG), Lausanne University Hospital (CHUV) or

Bern University Hospital (Inselspital). *La Maison*, an establishment run by Tdh Valais in Massongex, cares for children before and after hospitalisation.

Our long-term goal is to treat children with heart defects in their home countries. In Senegal, we care for children by organising surgical missions with Swiss doctors and offering regular training to local medical staff. In Morocco, we are working with Bern University Hospital to help build the country's first heart surgery unit for children.



 Find out more about our health projects by visiting [www.tdh.ch/health](http://www.tdh.ch/health)



**Zohra is 12 years old. She fled her home to escape so-called Islamic State troops. She has lost contact with her mother, who she last spoke to by telephone three months ago. She needs a tent or tarpaulin, heating and warm blankets to survive the extreme temperatures on the high Kurdish plateaus.**

Zohra, a Tdh beneficiary in Iraq



# ☀ Humanitarian crises.

Children are often the first victims of natural disasters and armed conflicts, experiencing separation, displacement, violence and forced conscription. Terre des hommes (Tdh) helps these young people.

Our emergency specialists are active in the immediate aftermath of emergencies or humanitarian crises. They work to meet basic needs by supplying families with shelter, food, sanitation and healthcare.

In addition to providing emergency aid, our teams offer recreational activities and psychological and social support, especially for children separated from their loved ones. They help these young people overcome trauma by creating opportunities for the future.

**2.7 M**

people have left their homes in Iraqi Kurdistan since 2014, half of whom are children.

**235,000**

refugee children from South Sudan are suffering severe malnutrition.

**50%**

of children in Syria do not attend school.

Sources: UNHCR, Unicef



©Tdh/Olivier Batiste - Romania

## **Emergency aid: providing food, water and healthcare – fast**

In crisis situations, we focus on meeting basic needs. We support local authorities by distributing food, shelter, healthcare and hygiene products.

Managing water and sanitation facilities is also extremely important. We install water distribution systems and latrines in refugee camps, communities and collective infrastructures such as health centres and schools.



## **Reconstruction: building emergency shelters**

Many families lose everything during natural disasters or conflicts. We provide these extremely vulnerable people with the materials required to build shelters that resist bad weather. We also rehabilitate medical centres.

Terre des hommes helps children suffering due to natural disasters – including the tsunami in South-East Asia, the earthquakes in Haiti and in Nepal – and crises – including the Syrian conflict, the civil war in South Sudan and attacks by so-called Islamic State in Iraq. We continue to be involved in major humanitarian crises.

## Psychological and social support: treating invisible wounds



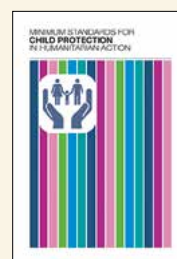
After crises, children who have been displaced, become refugees or demobilised after serving as soldiers, can suffer trauma that affects their future development. Often these children and their parents need psychological and social support. Our educators and social workers provide assistance through one-on-one and group activities, helping young people re-take their place in society. In safe areas especially designed for them, children can play, sing and draw. These activities, which aim to build self-esteem, encourage them to open up about their experiences.

In societies in crisis, where communities and families are fighting for safety and survival, it is more difficult to protect children. This is why we work with authorities and communities to run educational programmes that seek to protect children in marginalised areas. These protection systems make it possible to detect abuse, violence and negligence.


We were behind an initiative to draft minimum standards for child protection in humanitarian interventions.

These standards aim to improve the quality of operations run by organisations working to assist children. They have been approved by major players in the child protection field, in particular the agencies of the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and 18 other international organisations. They apply to today's most serious humanitarian crises.

With our technical experience and expertise, we influence international child aid standards.  
[www.cpwg.net](http://www.cpwg.net)



 Find out more about our humanitarian crisis projects by visiting [www.tdh.ch/humanitarian-crises](http://www.tdh.ch/humanitarian-crises)



***« I would have preferred to stay with my parents, but it wasn't possible. So now I live here. I want to train so I can work. I have to do more than just learn French. My goal in life is to learn a profession. Learning can't be taken away. I'll be able to work even if I have to go back. »***

Moussa\*, an unaccompanied minor in Switzerland

\*Name and photo have been changed

# Defending children's rights - in Switzerland and elsewhere.

**Terre des hommes (Tdh) defends the rights of all children residing in Switzerland. Regardless of their administrative status or documents, young people are entitled to protection. Whatever their origins, they have the right to be treated like any other child, a right that includes being able to attend school.**


Defending the rights of unaccompanied child migrants in Switzerland – whose numbers are growing – is one of Tdh's priorities. We aim to ensure that cantons provide these young people with suitable accommodation, education and healthcare, and uphold their interests in decisions that concern them, in accordance with Switzerland's commitments under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Children are children, and must be treated as such.

To defend the rights of children in Switzerland, we work closely with the Swiss International Social Service Foundation (ISS) and the International Institute for the Rights of the Child (IDE) as members of the Alliance for the Rights of Migrant Children (ADEM).



Source: Swiss State Secretariat for Migration

© Tdh / Peter Kaiser - MacaDonnis



**« Unfortunately, growing up healthy is still a privilege. I am committed to making this a possibility for children around the world. As Miss Switzerland, I learned more about Terre des hommes' projects in Morocco. I accompanied children with cardiac insufficiency, attended heart operations and visited children at 'La Maison', where Terre des hommes Valais cares for them before and after surgery in Switzerland. »**

Laetitia Guarino, a former Miss Switzerland and Tdh ambassador

# 🤝 People who make a difference.

Terre des hommes' activities are based on courage, ambition, respect and commitment. These values are upheld by those who help us complete projects and achieve our goals. We employ a wide range of professionals, including doctors, educators, lawyers, logistics specialists and translators. Our projects would not be possible without their support, in Switzerland and around the world. Every day, our teams seek to help vulnerable children and protect their rights.

To fulfil our goals, we also work with many highly respected partners. These institutions, authorities, foundations, non-profit organisations, companies, and local and international organisations support our operations by providing skills, volunteers or funding.

**1,500**

local and expatriate employees in 38 countries.

**140**

employees in Switzerland – at our headquarters in Lausanne and our office in Zurich.

**2,400**

volunteers in 30 regional groups in Switzerland.

Source: Tdh Annual Report 2015



©Tdh/François Struik - Palestine



## Loyal volunteers

In Switzerland, approximately 2,400 volunteers raise public awareness of the issues facing vulnerable children around the world. Every year, they run around 100 activities: cultural events, sporting events and charity

sales, including our famous orange sale. Volunteers also translate many texts and support hospitalised children.




## Committed ambassadors

We are grateful for the support of well-known Swiss personalities, including radio presenters, Jean-Marc Richard and Jonas Schneider, TV meteorologist, Sandra Boner, and Laetitia Guarino, Miss Switzerland 2014. Giv-

en their positions in public life, our ambassadors help us raise awareness of children's rights and Tdh's impact around the world.



## Certified quality

In Switzerland, we have been recognised as a *public service foundation* by the Swiss Confederation. We have also received the ZEWO quality label, which is awarded by the Swiss Central Office of Public Service Foundations to confirm donations are used correctly. 

Child protection is our primary focus: we were recently recognised by *Keeping Children Safe*, an organisation that sets minimum child protection standards in the humanitarian field.

All year long, internal and external audits ensure that activities – in the field and in Switzerland – are managed correctly. Our local teams also monitor and evaluate

effective project results. By taking into account these results, we make our programmes more effective and sustainable.

We respect Swiss accounting standards. We have our accounts reviewed by certified independent experts in Switzerland and the other countries we operate in. According to annual statements, administrative expenses represent 13% of total spending. For more information, see our annual report: [www.tdh.ch/annualreport](http://www.tdh.ch/annualreport)

## Terre des Hommes International Federation

The Terre des hommes Foundation, based in Lausanne, is a member of the Terre des Hommes International Federation (TDHIF), which groups organisations of the same name. TDHIF defends our views on the European and international levels, in addition to working with United Nations agencies. To protect child migrants, the federation has launched an awareness-raising campaign called *Destination Unknown*. It also seeks to prevent the

negative effects of major sporting events on children through the *Children Win* campaign.

[www.terredeshommes.org](http://www.terredeshommes.org)

**Terre des Hommes**  
International Federation

For children, their rights  
and equitable development



### Our founder

Shocked by the appalling situation of children in refugee camps during the Algerian conflict in 1960, Edmond Kaiser founded Terre des hommes in Lausanne on 22 July of that year. The organisation's name was inspired by the autobiography of the same name published by French author and pilot Antoine de Saint-Exupéry. Edmond Kaiser (1914-2000) spent the rest of his life helping abused children and people in need.

Terre des hommes Charter, 1966:

**«As long as there are children at risk of hunger, sickness, abandonment, misery and persecution, the Terre des hommes movement, created with this goal, will devote itself to providing immediate aid, as completely as is possible.»**

# Every donation counts.

Last year, Terre des hommes (Tdh) helped over two million children and their loved ones around the world. Beneficiaries enjoyed better health, improved living conditions and more opportunities for the future – thanks to you. Join forces with Tdh by donating money or volunteering and help us defend children's rights.

## Would you like to support Tdh ?

Visit [www.tdh.ch/get-involved](http://www.tdh.ch/get-involved)



### Make a donation

Your donation will help Tdh provide assistance to millions of children and their loved ones.



### Sponsor a child

With one Swiss Franc per day, you can help children living in extremely difficult situations.



### Become a supporter

By donating CHF 75 per year, you can join forces with Tdh to defend children's rights.



### Join our teams

Join our teams in Switzerland or in the field and begin your humanitarian career. We employ qualified professionals from all kinds of backgrounds.



### Become a partner

Do you represent a company, institution or non-profit organisation? Further your corporate responsibility strategy by providing skills, volunteers or funding.



### Become a volunteer

Become a volunteer and promote children's rights.



### Make a bequest

By making a gift to Tdh under your will, you are helping us to ensure that the dignity and rights of children are respected.



### Launch an on-line collection

Create your own crowdfunding campaign and invite your friends, family, colleagues and acquaintances to help support children in need. Just visit *mytdh*.



### Support our activities

Take part in our activities as an individual or as a group member. These events include the orange sale, Child Rights Day, Music Action and our *Marche de l'Espoir* (a sponsored walk).



### Follow us

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 [www.linkedin.com/company/terre-des-hommes-foundation](http://www.linkedin.com/company/terre-des-hommes-foundation)





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