



**Hear  
the World  
Foundation**

a Sonova Group initiative



# Activity Report

2023/2024



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# Hearing creates wonder. A connection with the world.

## Dear readers,

Hear the World Foundation is founded on the belief that every child deserves the chance to hear well and live life to their full potential. In many parts of the world, three major challenges persist: a scarcity of qualified hearing care professionals; limited access to technology; and an insufficient integration of audiological care into national healthcare systems. We work towards closing these gaps.

Over the past year, the foundation has continued to build strategic partnerships to further the impact of the projects we support. These partnerships in Latin America, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia enable us to provide early access to hearing care and enhance health and development outcomes for many children.

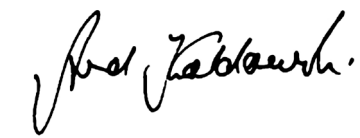
Our holistic approach has continually yielded positive effects this year (pages 6–7). We successfully provided 4,067 hearing aids to children, a 41% increase compared to last year. The foundation increased its audiological training to 3,064 people, with greater emphasis on advanced training. Through our work, we have provided our project partners with CHF 7.3 million in technical, financial, and professional support, a 35% increase compared to last year.

This year, we undertook a special aid initiative in Ukraine to provide those affected by the war with hearing technology (pages 24–25). Hear the World Foundation supplied more than 1,000 hearing aids for children and adults throughout Ukraine.

Our focus remains on achieving long term, sustainable, and impactful care for children through raising awareness about the factors contributing to hearing loss, expanding access to hearing aids and technology, furthering the training of local professionals, and supporting our project partners towards self-sufficiency. We aim to continuously increase our positive impact and support a growing number of children.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated volunteers, generous donors, and everyone whose unwavering support and contributions continue to make this impactful work possible.

Sincerely,



Arnd Kaldowski  
President of the Hear the World Foundation



# Mission

We are founded on the belief that every child deserves to have a chance to hear well and live life to their full potential.

# Vision

We envision a world where children with hearing loss enjoy equal opportunities.

# Projects

Hear the World Foundation projects span Latin America, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia. Projects are chosen based on the social impact they can generate and with a focus on the legacy they can create for the region and its people.

## The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represent the global agenda for sustainable development up to the year 2030. With its work, Hear the World Foundation makes a valuable contribution toward SDGs 3 (good health and well-being), 4 (quality education), and 17 (partnerships for the goals).



# Hearing can bring joy and helps us live life to the full.

Dear readers,

The focus of this past year has been to further grow the foundation's impact, strengthen its funding stream, and find new collaborative ways of progressing on the hearing healthcare journey in low- and middle-income countries. In this activity report, we highlight our efforts to bring the best possible care to children with hearing loss in underserved regions of the world whilst continuously working on expanding our contributions.

On the collaboration side, we have established new partnerships to tackle the global challenge of assisting children with hearing loss (pages 16–23). Teaming up with the Canadian-based foundation, World Wide Hearing, we have pooled resources, expertise, and equipment to bolster support for joint projects in Guatemala, Peru, and Zimbabwe. We also began a new collaboration with the Stanford Ear Institute's Baker Institute for Children with Hearing Loss to expand training capacities in the area of auditory verbal therapy.

Together, alongside our project partners worldwide, we support families and children as they navigate the different stages of the hearing loss journey. Through dedicated focus areas, we ensure that our partners build on three core components: raising awareness of the causes and preventative measures regarding hearing loss (pages 12-15); facilitating access to hearing healthcare and technology (pages 16–19); and empowering local audiologists through training (pages 20–23).

As part of our funding programs, the foundation has supported 13 projects in 13 countries around the globe (page 6), providing CHF 7.3 million in technology, expertise, and funds - a significant

increase compared to last year's contribution. Thanks to the generosity of our donors and our extended fundraising efforts, this year has resulted in the largest annual donation to date.

We are grateful to our numerous supporters; our diagnostic equipment suppliers, dedicated Sonova volunteers, our board members, and the many ambassadors who have supported our journey by raising awareness about hearing loss this year. We also express special gratitude to our longtime ambassador, musician and photographer Bryan Adams, for the collaborative efforts on the "Hear the World" book, featuring a portrait series of Hear the World Foundation ambassadors (pages 26–27). This book was created out of a shared commitment to honor the importance of hearing and we are thankful to be part of this powerful collective.

Sincerely,

Joëlle Pianzola  
Managing Director





During our project year 2023–2024, Hear the World supported 13 projects worldwide. Our goal is to sustainably grow impact in the regions of Latin America, Europe, the Middle East, and Asia with the projects that we support. In teaming up with other organizations active in hearing healthcare, we can jointly help more children gain access to audiological care.



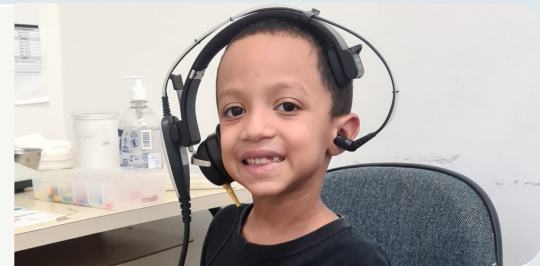
- 1. Mexico**  
Centro Oaxaqueño de Rehabilitación de Audición y Lenguaje
  - 2. El Salvador**  
Fundación Su Niño No Puede Esperar
  - 3. Peru**  
Oír Para Crecer
  - 4. Brazil**  
Academia Brasileira de Audiologia
  - 5. Poland**  
Sonova Audiological Care
  - 6. Jordan**  
Jordan University of Science & Technology
  - 7. Chad**  
Écoute-moi!
  - 8. India**  
Society to Aid the Hearing Impaired
  - 9. Cambodia**  
All Ears Cambodia
  - 10. Guatemala**  
Sonrisas que Escuchan
  - 11. Ukraine**  
Hear the World Special Aid Project
  - 12. Zimbabwe**  
WizEar
  - 13. Bhutan**  
Hear, Listen and Speak
- New & renewed projects    
 ■ Ongoing projects

# Our programs and impact

Prevention  
**204,915**  
 people reached



Screening  
**153,460**  
 newborns and children screened



Intervention  
**4,067**  
 hearing aids fitted



Aftercare  
**4,589**  
 children received follow-up care



Auditory Habilitation  
**1,227**  
 children attended speech therapy



Capacity Building  
**3,064**  
 people trained





Children are at the center of our work. We take a holistic approach to hearing health, ensuring that we consider a child's care in its entirety. By addressing the many stakeholders involved, we seek to achieve better hearing health outcomes and a higher quality of life for affected children.

# Impact Numbers

13

Projects supported globally

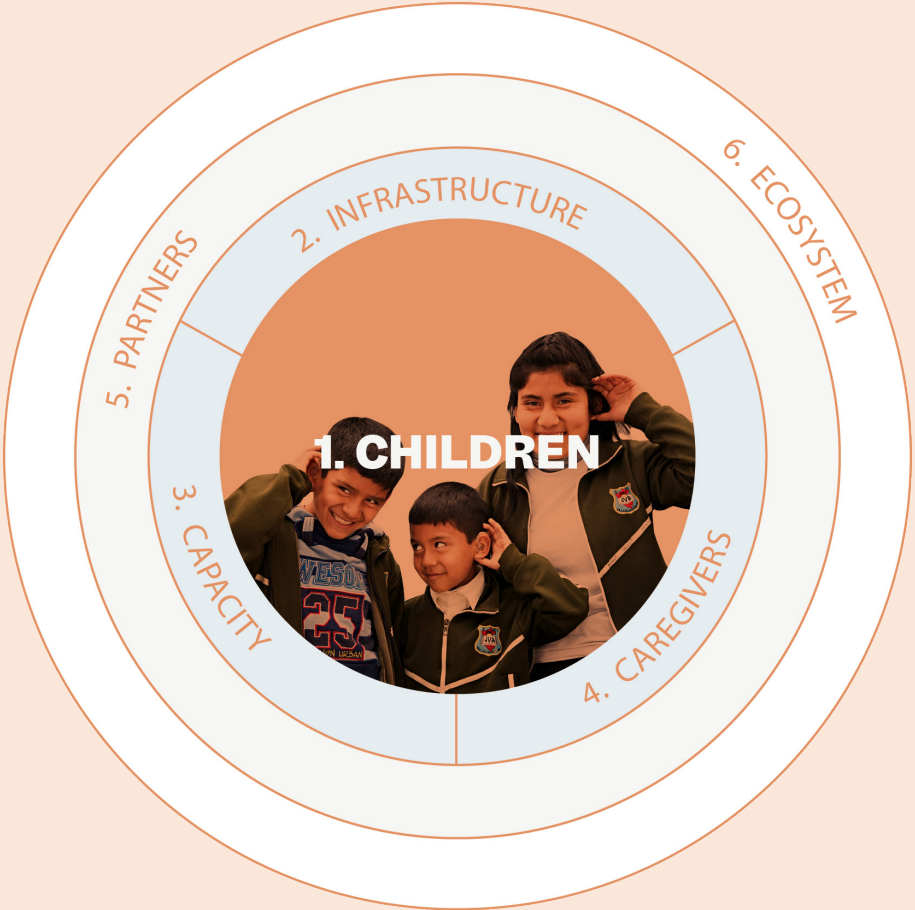
7.3M

CHF donated to projects

4,067

Hearing aids fitted on newborns and children

# Holistic approach



**1. Children**  
**Treatment of children with hearing loss in low- and middle-income countries.** Enabling access to treatment through early identification, hearing technology, and aftercare.

**2. Infrastructure**  
**Strengthening local infrastructure.** Equipping local facilities with the necessary medical equipment for accurate diagnosis and quality care.

**3. Capacity**  
**Building up local capacities and capabilities by training hearing care professionals.** Ensuring sustainable treatment options are available on-site.

**4. Caregivers**  
**Supporting caregivers.** Fostering a social support system for empowerment and wellbeing.

**5. Partners**  
**Collaborating with reliable project partners and partnering with other organizations.** Scaling activities and beneficiary reach, while enhancing the scope of care to provide comprehensive support aimed at improving integration and quality of life.

**6. Ecosystem**  
**Influencing the larger ecosystem.** Embedding access to hearing health care and hearing technology into national health care services.





# Our focus areas

We aim to provide quality and sustainable audiological care to children in need through three interconnected focus areas: raising awareness, enabling access, and training and capacity building.

## Awareness

Educating people about hearing loss improves their knowledge of their own hearing health and can help eradicate the stigma associated with hearing loss and hearing aids. Our project partner in El Salvador, Fundación Su Niño No Puede Esperar (FUSNINPE), has shown how harnessing the power of community can help to educate and address the stigma surrounding hearing loss. (Pages 12–15)

## Access

By partnering with sustainable and scalable projects, we enable more children with access to audiological care and hearing aids. Our project partners in Zimbabwe, WizEar and World Wide Hearing, have addressed the needs of children and their families through their early detection and intervention programs. (Pages 16-19)

## Training and capacity building

The shortage of hearing care professionals is a worldwide challenge. In Guatemala, our project partners, Fundación Sonrisas que Escuchan (SQE) and World Wide Hearing, are working to increase the number of hearing care professionals in their region through partnering with larger institutions to build up their local capacities. (Pages 20-23)



# Focus Area: Awareness



Raising awareness about hearing loss helps children and families understand its causes, symptoms, and consequences. It enables them to detect it early, seek appropriate treatment, and protect their own hearing health. Awareness can also help them address the misconceptions and stereotypes surrounding hearing loss, such as the stigma associated with wearing hearing aids.



Families and children attending a FUSNINPE support gathering.

# Fundación Su Niño No Puede Esperar

Our project partner in El Salvador, Fundación Su Niño No Puede Esperar (FUSNINPE), works closely with the children and families they support to raise awareness about hearing loss, and empowers families with information through monthly family support gatherings. Once a month, children with hearing loss and their families are invited to gatherings where they have access to social activities, practical workshops on hearing loss, and games and activities for children.

These gatherings serve as vital platforms for education and interaction, providing invaluable opportunities to connect, share experiences, and support fellow participants. Given that many of the affected families are spread across El Salvador, the gatherings play a crucial role in fostering a sense of belonging and solidarity. Children who might have previously resisted the idea of wearing hearing aids have shifted their perspective after interacting with peers facing similar challenges. Through these interactions, they not only gain a better understanding of their own hearing loss, but also develop a newfound sense of acceptance and confidence. By breaking down barriers, fostering connections, and empowering individuals through awareness, initiatives like FUSNINPE's family support gatherings are instrumental in creating inclusive communities with a better understanding of hearing loss.

**2,323**  
newborns and children  
screened

**638**  
people trained

**153**  
newborns and children fitted  
with hearing aids





# Focus Area: Access



Access is a key aspect to hearing care and ensures that individuals can obtain essential services and resources for their hearing health needs, from preventative to rehabilitative services. A key component is to tailor treatment options to individuals' specific needs, including the provision of hearing technology.

# WizEar

Our partner in Zimbabwe, WizEar, provides these essential hearing health services to children throughout the country. The primary goal of the organization is to fit 1,300 hearing solutions in two years. This project is supported in partnership with the Canadian foundation, World Wide Hearing.

Access to hearing care also entails affordability. Children in need of hearing aids or hearing health services can access them free of cost via WizEar clinics or hearing camps. The organization's program lead, Lucia Nkomo, shared the story of a resilient mother and her eight-year-old child with hearing loss who travelled for 11 hours by public transport to reach WizEar's ear camp to be fitted with hearing aids. This is just one example of the immense need for accessible hearing healthcare in Zimbabwe and worldwide. Through a comprehensive approach, WizEar is working to ensure that children in Zimbabwe receive timely, appropriate, and affordable services to address their hearing health needs.



A child with her newly-fitted hearing aids from WizEar.

**4,444**  
newborns and children  
screened

**177**  
people trained

**377**  
newborns and children fitted  
with hearing aids





# Focus Area: Training and capacity building



Training and capacity building can include obtaining the right equipment for clinics, implementing programs to detect hearing issues early, reaching out to communities for awareness raising, and teaming up with other health professionals to make hearing care accessible.



The SQE team practicing skills learned in their electrophysiology course.

# Sonrisas que Escuchan

Our project partner in Guatemala, Fundación Sonrisas Que Escuchan (SQE), was founded by Dr. Patricia Castellanos de Muñoz, the country's sole certified audiologist. After obtaining a master's degree in deaf education, she set out to establish audiology services in her home country, facing hurdles as a woman in a male-dominated field. Driven by a commitment to help children in Guatemala, she initiated training programs for female technicians, aiming not only to elevate their professional skills, but to empower them economically. Her team has expanded over the years, and now includes services such as neonatal screening and comprehensive audiology care. World Wide Hearing is also a joint partner of SQE.

One significant milestone in the capacity building journey was a recent training opportunity for her team in collaboration with the National University of Colombia. The team members who participated in the electrophysiology course are preparing recommendations for service improvements under Dr. Castellanos de Muñoz's guidance. They will gradually transition to conducting evaluations independently, contributing to the ongoing growth and sustainability of audiology services in Guatemala.

**32,172**  
newborns and children  
screened

**778**  
people trained

**227**  
newborns and children fitted  
with hearing aids





# Ukraine Special Aid Project

The war in Ukraine has been ongoing for over two years and an estimated 3.7 million people have been internally displaced, with many lacking access to essential services, such as hearing health care.

As part of a special aid project to support Ukraine, Hear the World Foundation donated 1,000 hearing aids for children and adults. In partnership with a local distributor network, the foundation was able to streamline the distribution of these hearing aids to eleven locations in central and western Ukraine, ranging from clinics to children's hospitals. Since the start of this initiative in the fall of 2023, 729 hearing aids have been fitted on children and adults affected by the war.

Every person given hearing aids as part of this initiative has a special and complex story. We, at Hear the World, are grateful to be part of each one and would like to thank the volunteer team at Sonova for helping us make this donation possible.

“A Ukrainian distributor asked me for support on this project that aims to provide free of charge hearing aids for children and adults. Being a Ukrainian myself, living outside the country in its darkest hour, I was happy to help.”

Julia Litvina  
Audiological Training, Sonova Warsaw Service Center

# 729

hearing aids fitted

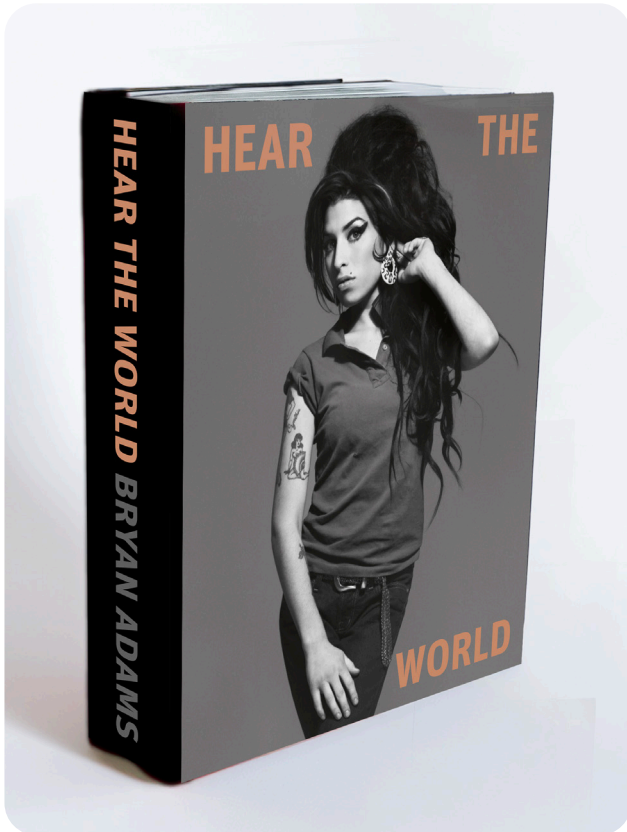
A young girl from Ukraine getting ready to receive brand new hearing aids.



In 2024, the “Hear the World“ book came to life, showcasing a collection of images from Hear the World’s ambassadors for conscious hearing. This captivating project was curated by the musician and photographer Bryan Adams for Hear the World Foundation. Beginning in 2007, out of a shared commitment to honoring the importance of hearing, this joint vision has blossomed into a powerful collective, featuring renowned artists who have lent their voices to the cause through their images. We are especially grateful for the support of our Hear the World ambassador and longtime ally Bryan Adams, as well the ambassadors who have united to amplify our cause.

# Ambassadors

## Photography by Bryan Adams



The “Hear the World” book will be launched in spring of 2024.



(From left to right) John Legend, Joss Stone, and Bryan Adams all serve as ambassadors of Hear the World.





As part of Hear the World’s global volunteering program, Sonova employees are encouraged to share their expertise with our partners worldwide. Individuals can bring their skills on-site or remotely in the areas of audiology, operations, strategy, or communications and marketing. In the year 2023/24, volunteers performed a total of 978 hours of work on 36 assignments over 119 days.

**Oir Para Crecer (OPC), Peru:** Sonova audiologists shared their expertise in audiology screening and hearing aid fitting. In just three days, 3,800 children were screened in local schools. In addition, the volunteers provided follow-up audiology training for the project team in Peru.

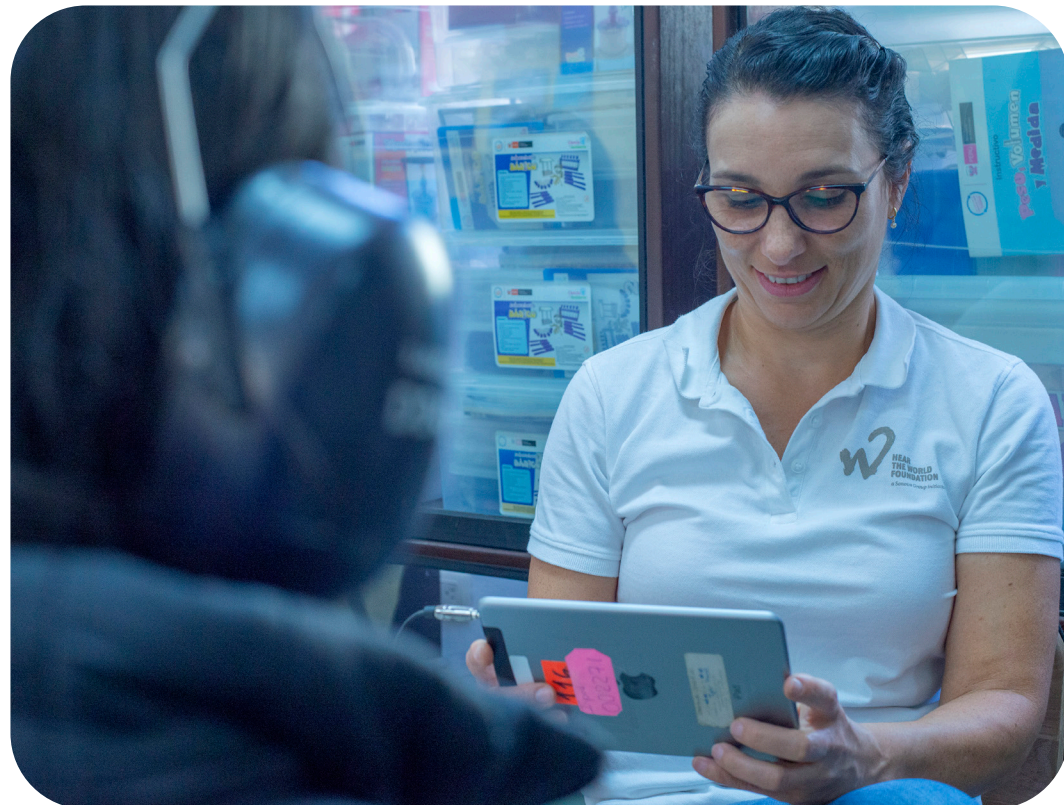
“A few years ago, HTWF supported a project in my hometown Sorocaba, Brazil, and ever since then I knew how important projects like these are. Now I had the opportunity to give back, it made me realize that we are never alone and together we can make changes and implement services that can impact an entire country.”

**-Luciana Garolla**  
Audiologist, Connect Hearing, Canada

**Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST), Jordan:** Hear the World Foundation donated cochlear implants (CIs) to four children through our project partner JUST. One Sonova volunteer, Ahmad Baghdadi, supported the activation of the CIs, educating parents on how to use the devices, and providing CI mapping training for JUST staff.

“I am always thrilled to volunteer alongside HTWF and its partners at JUST to support their cochlear implant program! It was incredibly rewarding to witness the positive impact this technology has on patients’ lives.”

**- Ahmad Baghdadi**  
Regional Clinic Coordinator, Advanced Bionics, Jordan



Volunteer, Luciana Garolla, conducts a hearing screening for a child in Peru.

# Volunteers

**The Hear the World team and our local project partners would like to give a big, heartfelt round of applause and thank you to all volunteers who have supported our work benefiting children with hearing loss in 2023/24.**

**Adlan Magomedov** Ahmad Baghdadi **Anna Biggins** Angela Pelosi **Avinash Grubb** Bettina Turnbull **Carina Rodriguez** Catherine Maillard **Chase Smith** Cloe Yang **David Orr** Demelza D’Souza **Gaurav Mahajan** Hany Taha **Helen Tesar** Heloisa Santesso **Hussain Salmi** Ira Christott **Iris Oerkwitz** Isadora Ruiz Casanova **Jana Löffel** Jean Anne Schnittker **Jenni Nuutinen** Jodie Nelson **Julia Litvina** Kalyan Dasari **Lina Granada** Luciana Garolla **Marcos Yamada** Mariana Maggio **Martin Heierle** Martina Giron **Martina Müller** Mithila Poonacha **Nadine Rapp** Nadja Laible **Peter Beerli** Quang Huy Thieu **Regula Portmann** Rico Vannotti **Sally Arafat** Stefan Launer **Sunil Kapoor** Talita Donini **Verena Pleiner** Yvonne Zahnd

**978**  
hours of work

**36**  
assignments

**119**  
days volunteered



To the General Meeting of

Hear the World Foundation, Steinhausen

Zurich, 8 May 2024

## Report of the statutory auditor on the limited statutory examination

As statutory auditor, we have examined the financial statements (balance sheet, operation statement, statement of changes in capital and notes) of Hear the World Foundation for the financial year ended 31 March 2024.

These financial statements prepared in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER, Swiss law and the deed of foundation are the responsibility of the Board of Trustees. Our responsibility is to perform a limited statutory examination on these financial statements. In accordance with Swiss GAAP FER 21, the information in the performance report is not subject to verification by the statutory auditor. We confirm that we meet the licensing and independence requirements as stipulated by Swiss law.


We conducted our examination in accordance with the Swiss Standard on the limited statutory examination. This standard requires that we plan and perform a limited statutory examination to identify material misstatements in the financial statements. A limited statutory examination consists primarily of inquiries of company personnel and analytical procedures as well as detailed tests of company documents as considered necessary in the circumstances. However, the testing of operational processes and the internal control system, as well as inquiries and further testing procedures to detect fraud or other legal violations, are not within the scope of this examination.

Based on our limited statutory examination, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not give a true and fair view of the financial position, the results of operations and the cash flows in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER. Furthermore, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not comply with Swiss law and the deed of foundation.

Ernst & Young Ltd



Martin Mattes  
(Qualified Signature)  
Licensed audit expert  
(Auditor in charge)



Pascal Solèr  
(Qualified Signature)  
Licensed audit expert

### Enclosures

- Financial statements (balance sheet, operating statement, statement of changes in capital and notes)

# Annual Financial Statement

## Balance sheet as of March 31

(in Swiss francs)	2023/2024	2022/2023
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	819,228	834,794
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>819,228</b>	<b>834,794</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accrued liabilities	9,693	9,693
<b>Fund capital</b>	<b>105,927</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Capital of the organization</b>		
Paid-in capital	500,000	500,000
Free capital	203,608	325,101
	703,608	825,101
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>819,228</b>	<b>834,794</b>

## Operation statement April 1 to March 31

(in Swiss francs)	2023/2024	2022/2023
<b>Income</b>		
Income from donations earmarked	202,200	0
Income from donations free	7,090,446	5,183,929
<b>Total income</b>	<b>7,292,646</b>	<b>5,183,929</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Technological support for projects abroad	(6,652,782)	(4,789,220)
Financial support for projects abroad	(446,206)	(416,622)
Professional support for projects abroad	(80,926)	(88,814)
Technological support for projects in Switzerland	(87,930)	(56,028)
Financial support for projects in Switzerland	(30,371)	(39,331)
Administrative expenses	(9,693)	(10,193)
Other operating expenses	(304)	(295)
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>(7,308,212)</b>	<b>(5,400,503)</b>
Result before the change of fund capital	(15,566)	(216,574)
Change fund capital	(105,927)	0
<b>Result for the year before allocation to the capital of the organization</b>	<b>(121,493)</b>	<b>(216,574)</b>

## Statement of changes in capital

(in Swiss francs)	Paid-in capital	Free capital	Capital of the organization	Fund capital
As of 31.03./01.04.2022	500,000	541,675	1,041,675	0
Change	0	(216,574)	(216,574)	0
As of 31.03./01.04.2023	500,000	325,101	825,101	0
Change	0	(121,493)	(121,493)	105,927
<b>As of 31.03.2024</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>203,608</b>	<b>703,608</b>	<b>105,927</b>

Hear the World Foundation, Turmstrasse 26, CH-6312 Steinhausen, Tel:+41 58 928 01 01, info@hear-the-world.com, hear-the-world.com



# Notes to the annual financial statements as of March 31, 2024

## 1 General information about the Foundation

The Hear the World Foundation aims to improve the quality of life of people with hearing loss. To reach its objective, the Foundation supports local aid organizations by providing hearing solutions, financial resources and professional support. In addition, the foundation raises awareness for the importance of good hearing and contributes to the prevention of hearing loss on a global level.

According to the Foundation charter, the initial paid-up capital of CHF 500,000 does not have to be maintained. All capital is available to the Foundation Board for grants.

The annual financial statement was approved by the Foundation Board as of 8 May 2024.

The Foundation Board consists of the following persons:

• **Arnd Kaldowski** • **Christophe Fond** • **Beate Eckhardt** • **Katrin Imhof**

The business operations of the Foundation comply with the articles of association dated December 4, 2006, and the Foundation's rules of procedure dated December 4, 2006.

Ernst & Young AG served as auditor for the fiscal year. Their mandate is based on legal regulations and generally accepted accounting principles.

## 2 Accounting and reporting principles

The annual financial statements are prepared in accordance with the accounting principles under the Swiss GAAP FER Framework, core FER and Swiss GAAP FER 21 in order to provide as reliable an assessment as possible of the Foundation's financial position, results of operations and cash flows. The preparation of a cash flow statement has been abstained from in accordance with FER 21/16. The financial statements contain comparatives and have also been prepared in accordance with Swiss Law.

There are no employees.

## 3 Valuation principles governing individual items in the annual financial statements

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in an account held with UBS Switzerland AG in Zurich and are valued at nominal value. Accrued liabilities contain the audit fees and are valued at nominal value.

## 4 Financial assets and explanations regarding assets and liabilities

The Foundation does not have any fixed assets. Its assets comprise the Foundation's capital, which is deposited in a current account. The capital was deposited with UBS Switzerland AG at an average interest rate of 0.00% and is available on a daily basis.

## 5 Donations in kind

Various resources required for the governance, management and administration of the Foundation and various of the Foundation's communication activities were provided by Sonova AG and its group companies free of charge and funded by them where necessary. This included, for example, resources in communications and administration amounting to the value of around CHF 1,255,000 (previous year CHF 868,000). To determine the expenses, annual expenses are multiplied by times the annual salaries including social security benefits. Additional resources of Sonova AG were provided in accounting and logistics services. These amounts were not recorded in the operation statement.

## 6 Transactions with entities of the Sonova Group and related parties

Technological support was provided mostly by Sonova AG. Technological devices are charged to the Foundation at production cost but are reported in the income statement at the list price. The difference between production cost and list price is reported as a donation.

In total, Sonova Group provided non-cash benefits worth CHF 6,497,784 (previous year CHF 4,585,620).

## 7 Professional support

By training project partners, Sonova Group employees conduct professional support for the Foundation. The service hours are multiplied with the median salary of Sonova Headquarter Staefa and added to the respective travel costs. They are accounted for as donations, as the foundation is not charged for these donations by Sonova Group.

## 8 Activities of the Foundation during the fiscal year

The Foundation Board determines the resources to be awarded and their allocation during budgeting. These resources were distributed as follows during the financial year:

	2023/2024		2022/2023	
	CHF	in %	CHF	in %
Technological support for projects abroad	6,652,782	91%	4,789,220	89%
Financial support for projects abroad	446,206	6%	416,622	8%
Professional support for projects abroad	80,926	1%	88,814	2%
Technological support for projects in Switzerland	87,930	1%	56,028	1%
Financial support for projects in Switzerland	30,371	1%	39,331	0%
Administrative expenditures	9,693	0%	10,193	0%
Other operating expenditures	304	0%	295	0%
	<b>7,308,212</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>5,400,503</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 9 Performance report

The performance report, containing information on the purpose, governing bodies and work of the Foundation, forms part of the Foundation's annual Activity Report. The most recent Activity Report was published in May 2023.



The Hear the World Foundation Board is made up of Sonova Group executives and external experts with extensive experience in foundation management. Members implement the foundation's purpose, providing oversight and setting the strategic direction.

The Advisory Board generously volunteers their expertise in audiology and international development. They advise the Foundation Board on the selection of projects and provide support to these projects. The Executive Team is responsible for the strategic and operational management of the foundation.

### **Executive Team**

**Joëlle Pianzola**  
Managing Director

**Domitille Harb**  
Director

**Marisa Schnurrenberger**  
Senior Fundraising and Relationship Manager

**Gerald Lilburn**  
Senior Program Manager

**Rugile Staneviciute**  
Program Manager

**Jacqueline Drexler**  
Program Manager

**Rina Hernandez-Sae Ma**  
Communications and Engagement Manager

**Miriam Hahn**  
Office Manager

### **Foundation Board**

**Arnd Kaldowski**  
President  
CEO, Sonova

**Beate Eckhardt**  
Philanthropy and Foundation Expert

**Christophe Fond**  
Group Vice President Audiological Care, Sonova

**Dr. Katrin Imhof**  
Expert in Sustainable Development  
Cooperation

# Organization

### **Advisory Board**

**Dr. Doreen Mulenga**  
UNICEF representative and retired medical  
doctor (Zambia)

**Prof. Dr. Beatriz Novaes**  
Professor at the Department of Human and  
Health Sciences at the Pontifical Catholic  
University of São Paulo (Brazil)

**Prof. Dr. Patricia Roush**  
Professor Emeritus Otolaryngology at the  
University of North Carolina School of Medicine in  
Chapel Hill (United States of America)

**Dr. med. Dorothe Veraguth**  
Chief Physician of the Audiology Clinic for ENT  
and Facial Surgery at the University Hospital of  
Zurich (Switzerland)

**Dr. Lena Wong**  
Professor of Audiology at the University of Hong  
Kong (China and Hong Kong)





# To hear is a gift that keeps on giving.

Thank you to all the generous supporters of Hear the World Foundation.

Your help makes a difference. In the last year, Hear the World Foundation received significant support from individual donors, foundations, and companies. We are sincerely grateful for the generosity of the following supporters in facilitating our work with children with hearing loss:

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