

Together, we build  
effective and lasting  
solutions for  
the common good

2023  
Activity  
Report

Fondation  
de  
France

La Fondation  
de toutes les causes

←  
In the gardens of nonprofit Alter'Ego in Aurignac (southwest France), the nonprofit welcomes exiled families and helps them settle into village life.



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# Leading philanthropy network in France

Philanthropy is a key driver in creating a more peaceful, inclusive, and sustainable world. This strong belief prompts Fondation de France to encourage everyone to strive for the common good. Its mission is to support powerful visions for positive change and to transform them into effective projects across all non-profit sectors.

977

DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS

Including

36

DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS CREATED IN 2023

530

VOLUNTEERS

792,891

ACTIVE DONORS OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS

6

REGIONAL FOUNDATIONS

2

INTERNATIONAL OFFICES (NEW YORK AND HONG KONG)

259

STAFF

50

CORPORATE PARTNERS

Fondation de France and its donor advised funds have allocated

295.6

MILLIONS EUROS

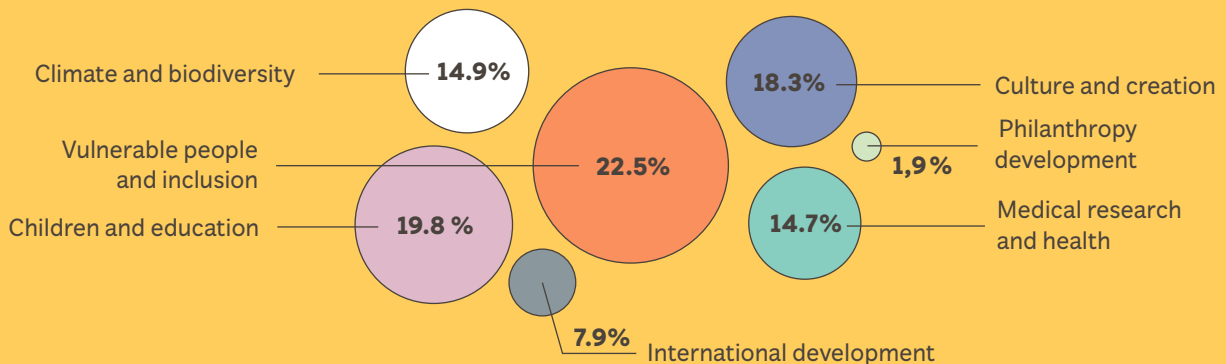
For 50 years, Fondation de France and its donor-advised funds have supported over 200,000 projects across all non-profit sectors.

to

12,600

PROJECTS

### Breakdown of amounts allocated





## **Axelle Davezac**

Fondation de France Executive Director

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## **Pierre Sellal**

Fondation de France President

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## **Repair and rebuild**

### **Pierre Sellal**

2023 was marked, perhaps more than ever before, by unprecedented environmental and political challenges around the world. The former included repeated natural disasters and the ever more costly and tangible effects of climate change, while the latter ranged from the breakdown of civil dialogue and the escalation of warmongering and violent conflict.

Fondation de France and its donor-advised funds address emerging risks, damages, and injuries in order to rebuild and empower heavily impacted communities. By securing crucial funding, it provides emergency aid, prioritizing the most vulnerable victims and facilitating the transition to new environmental realities.

However, repairing is only one aspect of philanthropy. To go beyond quick fixes, philanthropy seeks to actively shape and change the future. It aims not only to prepare for environmental and societal changes, but to innovate, anticipate, design, and build. This is very much the case at Fondation de France, where funding research remains one of its primary goals. Building a better future also means investing in younger generations through initiatives focused on transferring skills and knowledge, providing training, and facilitating access to the labor market. By supporting these initiatives and working actively to create lasting solutions, Fondation de France and its donor-advised funds don't just hope for a brighter future, they know it is achievable.

Experimentation, fine-tuning, and embracing trial and error are vital for addressing pressing challenges and longstanding issues. These approaches instill confidence in each project, driven by a clear vision that inspires real change not only in public policy, but also shapes our collective actions and perspectives.

The diversity of work carried out within the Fondation de France ecosystem demonstrates why we continue to place our trust in philanthropy as an unparalleled vehicle for positive change. Yet, while we accomplished so much in 2023, we know we can still achieve more. This motivation underscores our belief that together, we can make even greater strides toward our shared goals for a better, more inclusive future.

## Together, we drive philanthropic momentum

### Axelle Davezac

The world is currently facing strong challenges and uncertainty, with new conflicts and an endless stream of social and climate crises in 2023. At the same time, more of us than ever before are rising to the occasion, in the form of donations, volunteering, and non-profit initiatives. At Fondation de France, 2023 turned out to be a remarkable year, witnessing an exceptional level of generosity and mobilization: as donations surpassed 200 million euros.

In this troubled environment, we are more focused than ever on empowering change-makers. Our guiding principle is clear: working together is how we produce effective and enduring solutions to today's challenges.

In fact, this wish to better combine strengths, share resources, and work in partnership is the driving force of Fondation de France's new project: "Together, we drive philanthropic momentum." Faced with the urgency and scope of the world's needs, we must, as philanthropic actors, commit to ensuring that projects are relevant and effective. With our wealth of experience, knowledge, and resources, we have the responsibility to

ensure that these tools are allocated in the most effective and efficient way to achieve our shared goals.

In 2023, this firm belief led us to start a major overhaul of our working methods and led us to create Action Collectives. By bringing together donor-advised funds, experts, nonprofits, and other stakeholders, these collectives reinforce our ability to take action on priority missions. They include support for younger generations, fair and inclusive ecological transition programs, prevention of crises and disasters, and initiatives which combat all forms of inequality and discrimination.

These Action Collectives make up the Philanthropic Factory, the structure embodying our collective vision for the years to come. This vision encompasses collective action for greater impact, encouraging collaborative dialogue, and producing and sharing knowledge with all those in the non-profit sector.


# Highlights



## Emergencies

### Fondation de France's exceptional involvement in the face of emergency

There were several major emergencies in 2023: massive earthquakes struck Turkey and Syria on February 6, then Morocco on September 8. There was unprecedented flooding in the north of France. On September 19, in Nagorna-Karabakh, a military offensive launched by Azerbaijan led to 100,000 people fleeing to Armenia. Faced with these crises, Fondation de France and its donor-advised funds were swift to respond, launching calls for funds and carrying out operations on the ground. Our *modus operandi* consists of meeting the needs of the most vulnerable and drawing on local nonprofits rooted in the regions concerned.

 [Browse](#) reports of our work on our website.



↑  
In the province of Al Haouz, Morocco, NGO Jood installs prefabricated housing and sanitary facilities for the earthquake victims.

←  
Following historic flooding in the north of France, Fondation de France mobilizes to assist both the people most affected and nonprofits.



→  
In Turkey, nonprofit Yeced offers psychological support and activities for the children of Syrian refugees facing particularly precarious situations.

April 6

## *Laureates Concert*

### **Recognition for young virtuoso artists**

At the National Conservatory of Music and Dance in Paris, the Yves Brieux Ustaritz, Dauphin de Verna, Marthe Depelsenaire, Drouet-Bourgeois, Monique Gabus, Macari Lepeuve, Monique Rollin, and François-Louis Baradat Foundations awarded prizes and grants to 22 students at the Laureates Concert on April 6. This year, the François de Hatvany Foundation also awarded its first two music prizes. As it has done for the past 20 years, the concert gave young musicians an opportunity to display their talent by playing works from Jean-Sébastien Bach, Frédéric Chopin, and Giorgi Makhoshvili.



March 29

## *An evening for medical research*

### **Supporting research to better understand, prevent and treat diseases**

For more than 50 years, medical research has been at the heart of Fondation de France's engagement and that of its donor-advised funds. As is the case each year, it was celebrated at the Val-de-Grâce School in Paris on March 29. Over the course of the evening, renowned researchers spoke of their work in two major fields: cardiovascular disease and cancer. The two laureates of the Fondation de France/Jean Valade Research Prizes were also announced: Professor Pierre Gressens, for his research on neurodevelopment disorders, and Doctor Alexander Puissant, for his work on the treatment of acute myeloid leukemia.

 **Look up** the evening's highlights on our website.

June 7

## *Parliamentary Meetings*

### **A new institutional event for philanthropy development**

In 2023, Fondation de France launched a new forum for special meetings between members of parliament, creators of foundations, and non-profit actors. The aim is to undertake an in-depth analysis of current philanthropy topics and their associated charitable activities. On June 7, the first Parliamentary Meetings brought together 170 stakeholders at the French National Assembly, overseen by its vice-president, who serves on the Committee on Legal Affairs, Naïma Moutchou. It was a perfect time to present the early release of a new report on foundations and endowment funds in France, and to hear testimonies from several foundation representatives.





June 15

## Meetings with Creators of Foundations

### The power of collective action


Every year, Fondation de France hosts a gathering to strengthen connections and collaboration among its donor-advised funds. In 2023, almost 200 creators of foundations gathered in a venue in the Bois de Boulogne in Paris. Points on the agenda included inspiring debates regarding the place and role that philanthropy has today. Numerous influential speakers took the stage, including Jacques Attali and Gilles Pélisson. Discussions moderated by Isabelle Giordano were followed by workshops for shared thinking, with a goal of drawing up plans for future activities and action models.



## A report on foundations and endowment funds in France

### An unwavering dedication to act in the public interest

The Fondation de France Philanthropy Observatory presents a report on foundations and endowment funds in France every four years. On June 7th 2023, it was delivered to members of parliament and nonprofit stakeholders at the French National Assembly. This latest edition testified to the vitality of the sector: the report lists more than 5,300 active foundations and endowment funds in 2022. Their financial impact increased, with assets totaling 40 billion euros and expenditures approaching 15 billion euros. Social projects were still the primary area of work, with a quarter of philanthropic organizations engaged in this field, accounting for 40% of expenditures.

 [Read the study in full on our website.](#)



July 5

## Together

### Building the future together

Three years after the Covid pandemic and the major fundraising operations it spurred, such as United Against the Virus and Solidarity with Students, Fondation de France brought together partner associations, volunteers, and other non-profit actors at the Recyclerie in Paris on July 5. The aim was to share a review of this exceptional wave of generosity, and to think about the way the pandemic drastically changed cooperation models.



# Fondation de France Asia

## Developing philanthropic links with Asia

Already present in Asia following a number of emergency interventions, Fondation de France, with the creation of Fondation de France Asia, is now established in Hong Kong, the continent's philanthropic hub. The aim is to become a gateway for generosity between France and Asia. To celebrate this launch, an evening event was organized at the Guimet National Museum of Asian Arts in Paris, on September 27.



## September 26 2023 #Gems

### Celebrate those who take action in the public interest

Social connection, climate change, health, education... these are all major challenges which nonprofits tackle on a daily basis with concrete solutions. Each year, Fondation de France supports more than 12,000 solidarity initiatives in all areas of the non-profit sector. In the summer of 2023, 14 projects were presented on French radio station RTL and six were the focus of news stories on the France 24 television channel. On September 26, all these charitable "gems" came together at Ground Control, a cultural venue in Paris, to talk about their projects and their work with an audience of donors, founders, and journalists.

 [Browse](#) the 2023 Gems on our website.

↑  
An evening of "Gems" at a roundtable moderated by Alexandre de Saint Aignan (RTL radio station host) on projects relating to sports, with representatives from Graines de footballeuses (Football for girls), Aquarius and Big Bang Ballers.



## Light Up the Season with Solidarity!

### Festive events to reinforce social connection

During the holidays, isolation and poverty can be felt more harshly, especially for the most vulnerable. To make the holidays festive for everyone, Fondation de France created community holiday dinners over 20 years ago, supporting local nonprofits all over France in organizing inclusive events in the holiday season. In 2023, almost 200 holiday dinners allowed several thousand people to enjoy a meal, shows, workshops for children, gifts, and other cheer-inspiring activities. These initiatives provide a sense of togetherness for those in need and reinforce social connections in a lasting way.

↑  
Nonprofit Refugee Food organized a large community dinner for hundreds of people, with food prepared by refugee cooks. The event took place in Paris on December 18.

## September 27-29 Congress of French Notaries

### Meeting notary professionals

The 119th Congress of French Notaries was held in Deauville on September 27-29. Each year, Fondation de France takes part in this major annual event gathering French notaries. Notaries engaged in discussions with Fondation de France's teams and to cover topics related to estate management and its application to charitable projects.

# *Together, we drive*

## **Fondation de France's**

has been dedicated to developing philanthropy for over 50 years. Over the years, this commitment to the public interest has translated into developing the leading French philanthropic network, consisting of founders, donors, and managers of nonprofits. At Fondation de France, the power to turn dreams into actionable change lies in the collective power of a network that addresses all types of charitable activities.

## **Breathing life into this collective**

and channeling the desire for change into effective action lie at the heart of Fondation de France's strategy for philanthropic achievement in upcoming years.

## **To reinforce the impact of the work carried out,**

Fondation de France has fine-tuned its organization, adapted its skills, and revisited its priorities. Now, more than ever, it is focused on the support and development of effective non-profit projects. This goal is particularly evident in the Philanthropic Factory project, aimed at enhancing cooperation, sharing experiences, and launching collective initiatives.

### **The Fondation de France Philanthropic Factory**

**Gaining momentum as a team** and co-building transformational and lasting solutions is the mission of the Philanthropic Factory, a structure created and facilitated by Fondation de France, its donor-advised funds, and their partners.

#### **This collective approach promotes:**

- sharing ideas and resources to benefit mutual causes, especially through Action Collectives,
- developing and sharing knowledge on philanthropic activities, particularly drawing on reports published by the Philanthropy Observatory and its partners,
- meetings which facilitate sharing experience, expertise, and best practices.

# *philanthropic momentum*



***Collective intelligence produces the best solutions,***

which is why we create spaces for dialogue and consultation, and encourage connection and cooperation among non-profit actors.

..... p.12



***The challenges we need to meet are increasingly complex and our missions are increasingly interconnected,***

which is why collective action reinforces the impact our work carried. This holds true for both France's regions and across Europe.

..... p.15



***The power of philanthropy lies in its agility and its ability to innovate, explore, and take risks,***

which is why we experiment and produce new solutions to transform society.

..... p.19



***The desire to take action is unique to each actor, and takes many forms,***

which is why we provide the most effective support possible change-makers through environments which nurture new ideas.

..... p.22



***We are living in a period of profound transition,***

and philanthropy actors must remain agile to anticipate and adapt their projects. This is why we are producing and sharing knowledge which helps us better understand the global challenges we face.

..... p.25

# *We create **social engagement**, forge **connection**, and encourage **cooperation***

Collective intelligence produces the best solutions, which is why we create spaces for dialogue and consultation, forge connection, and encourage cooperation among all those working toward a more peaceful, inclusive and sustainable world. Throughout the year, meetings are organized so that foundations, nonprofits, companies, and government agencies can exchange views, engage in dialogue, and identify potential for shared projects. This networking approach, which works on local, national, and international levels, represents one of the pillars of our mission: creating solutions, together.



## *Promoting **cooperation** among *European foundations**

### **Philea Forum: cultivating cooperation across Europe**

To tackle climate change, migration, and protect democracy, a transnational approach is crucial. Fondation de France has therefore joined forces with its European partners, in particular via Philea (Philanthropy Europe Association). The network, totaling over 10,000 foundations in Europe, aims to promote the development of European philanthropy, encourage the sharing of best practices, and advocate for a legislative and administrative environment sympathetic to the non-profit sector. In May, Fondation de France participated in the annual Philea Forum, alongside 700 European philanthropic actors. Over the course of two days, inspiring encounters allowed everyone to share their key priorities and contributions regarding key challenges of today's world.

↑  
2023 Philea Forum,  
Sibenik, Croatia.

# Exchanging views, igniting inspiration, and acting together

/ Testimony /



**Claire Broussal**  
Head of Relations Quality and  
Facilitation of Donor-Advised Funds

“ As the leading philanthropic network in France, we are dedicated to fostering collaboration and connection across all charitable initiatives. In order to coordinate and strengthen our network, we offer donor-advised funds the opportunity to take part in 50 meetings each year. The aim is to provide inspiration and to help everyone in developing their project, while also encouraging collective action. In addition to the annual Founders' Day, we organize themed meetings, so that philanthropists focusing on a common cause can discuss strategic priorities, share their experience of projects supported, and, where applicable, consider joint initiatives. In 2023, the themes were gender equality, digital citizenship, solidarity with migrants, and equal opportunities. The event brought together 16 foundations and higher education institutions (grandes écoles).

Webinars are also set up to provide assistance on day-to-day matters like launching a call for funds or implementing a skills sponsorship scheme. Lastly, we offer the foundations events such as *Rencontres Intersections* (Intersectional Meetings), where researchers, government agencies, nonprofits and philanthropist are invited to discuss major societal challenges such as digital citizenship and democracy.

All these events represent an opportunity for the community of founders to get to know each other, exchange views, and talk about how to work together when addressing the key issues of the future..”



## Founders' Meetings

Each year, Fondation de France organizes a meeting to reinforce relationships and shared goals with donor-advised funds. In on June 15, 2023, almost 200 founders gathered in a venue in the Bois de Boulogne in Paris. In the presence of renowned speakers, the agenda consisted of inspiring debates on the place and role philanthropy has today, followed by discussion workshops on priority actions and how to better work together.

“Faced with increasing requests, how can you bring yourself to say ‘no’ to a project? Having the support of a network of foundations multiplies your capacity by a factor of ten.”

**Sylvie Marchais**  
Séquoia Fondation

« When we founders get together, we all have the same questions, but we all have a range of responses which can become resources for other people »

**Catherine Arteau**  
Terroir Fondation/  
cultural landscapes



## Founders' Meetings – Western France

On September 29, ten donor-advised funds met in the Branféré nature reserve in western France. The aim was to reinforce connections among the regions' founders, discuss common issues, share experiences, and introduce collective actions.

# Exchanging views and experiences

## Recovery Workshops in mental health in Rennes, France

Building on a long-standing commitment to the field of mental health, in 2021, Fondation de France teamed up with Fédération Santé Mentale France (French Mental Health Federation) to create Recovery Workshops, a series of regional meetings on best practices in mental health. The objective is to identify, consolidate, and enhance protocols promoting the recovery and social inclusion of people suffering from mental disorders. Not only do these workshops attract health professionals, but they also welcome managers of care facilities, nonprofits, and, crucially, the people experiencing mental disorders as well as their caretakers. In 2023, more than 500 participants in Rennes, France, came together to improve practices and change perceptions on mental health.

## Sports serving the public interest

With the Paris Olympic and Paralympic Games on the horizon in 2024, Fondation de France has showcased sports by inviting nonprofits, founders, and government agencies working in the field to a unique event on November 7-8. Two days of debate were organized at France's National Institute of Sports, Expertise, and Performance.

*"Thanks to all of you, nonprofits, founders, and private funders, who have supported pioneers and innovative initiatives, we are now able to raise awareness for sports in the service of public interest,"* highlighted Agnès Firmin Le Bodo, Minister in Charge of Territorial Organization and Health Professions. A strong advocate for sports as a powerful tool for change, Fondation de France has incorporated them in many initiatives concerning health, social inclusion, combating discrimination, and helping the most vulnerable.

*"These two days have been invaluable, and we can now better appreciate the powerful impact of Fondation de France, and all those serving public interest within the sports sector. Not only does this motivate us to continue, we want to go further, thanks to inspiring presentations, discussions, and the contacts established."*

**Karine Pradier**  
Director of nonprofit  
Up Sport!



↑  
Nonprofit CoMet' offers hiking holidays and day trips for women who experience isolation or are victims of violence, helping them regain their confidence.



## Reinforcing connections among nonprofits

On November 13-15, Fondation de France teams, together with leaders of the 23 nonprofits that are part of the Inventing the Future Program, came together in Rennes, France, for three days of collaboration and discussion. The goal was to reinforce relationships, share what is happening on the ground, and continue brainstorming to develop new solutions that can transform society.

*"These events are always very inspiring; we feel enriched and stronger. This is a real community, which shares the same values. Even if we work in different areas, there are always similar issues or ways of doing things that can inspire us. There's a sense that we're right at the heart of social innovation."*

**Clémentine Opagiste**  
Project Officer  
at nonprofit Possible

# We act together

The challenges we need to meet are increasingly complex and our missions are increasingly interconnected, which is why collective action is necessary to reinforce the impact of our work. This belief holds true for both France's regions and across Europe. To that end, Fondation de France promotes consultation, mutual assistance, and co-building projects with the nonprofits it supports, including its donor-advised funds as well as other foundations in France and in Europe.

## New ways of taking action to **reinforce the impact of our work**

In 2023, in order to bolster the impact of our work, Fondation de France launched an innovative method to collectively tackle priority issues through Action Collectives. Bénédicte Fossard, Deputy Director of Action programs at Fondation de France, explains: *“Action Collectives came about as the result of several observations. In order to act effectively in a profoundly changing world, it is important to thoroughly understand societal, cultural, and environmental challenges, and to share the knowledge we gain. Choosing collective action means that we can exchange views, define transformation priorities better, and multiply impact exponentially. In line with these principles, we have defined nine Action Collectives based on shared governance with representatives of donor-advised funds, volunteer experts, project leaders, and those directly concerned by the challenges we are targeting. The aim is to meet the priority needs identified, with systemic change as the goal. These collectives will co-build and co-fund joint programs aimed at tackling the roots of the problems for truly transformative impact. Three Action Collectives were launched in 2023: The Collective for Fair and Inclusive Ecological Transition, the Collective for Crisis and Disaster Prevention, and the Collective for the New Generations. A further six are currently being set up and they will be operational by the end of 2024.”*



**Bénédicte Fossard**  
Deputy Director  
of Action Programs

### Building a peaceful, inclusive, and sustainable world





↑  
In the Kembs archipelago, in the Haut-Rhin department (eastern France), a third space is dedicated to ecological translation and led by a collective of citizens.

## Focus on the Action Collective for the New Generations: helping people aged 25 and younger build the future

Founded in 2023, the Action Collective for the New Generations has three objectives: combating inequality from the earliest age, de-constructing stereotypes, and providing young people with the tools they need to take action. *“The work of the Action Collective for the New Generations concerns children, teens, young adults, and all the people who support them, including parents and professionals. Preventing inequality, especially at school; combating all forms of violence, harassment, and isolation by creating spaces for dialogue; supporting young people’s engagement and developing their critical thinking – they are all priorities to ensure that younger generations become fulfilled, active, and responsible citizens,”* explains Juliette Louis-Servais, Head of the Collective for the New Generations. In 2023, meetings and joint work sessions were organized with donor-advised funds and project leaders engaged in these topics. They played a key role in organizing the Action Collective for the New Generations, especially during a workshop day in May, where 18 donor-advised funds collaborated to brainstorm solutions, develop operational procedures, and establish governance frameworks.

### / Testimony /

**Sophie de Benoist**  
General Secretary of  
the 29 Haussmann Foundation

“ The 29 Haussmann Foundation, a Fondation de France donor-advised fund, gives children access to opportunities so they can grow up and become citizens of the future. We support nonprofits that promote equal opportunities, academic achievement, and general fulfillment for children and young people at school and elsewhere. We joined the Action Collective for the New Generations as soon as it was created, and we fully share in its aims and approach. Bringing together all stakeholders, including foundations, nonprofits, and experts, fills a real gap. Here, we can share problems, think things through, and work together to reinforce our impact. Because it is rooted in its local communities, Fondation de France also provides a valuable regional dimension, especially when identifying charitable projects. It’s really interesting to contribute to this collective approach so early in its creation, and to build solutions alongside other actors from the Fondation de France network.”



# Cooperative operations with multiple foundations



← A field visit in Morocco, with nonprofit INSAF in the village of Hait Ayoub..

## Strong mobilization in the event of emergency

Earthquakes in Morocco and Turkey-Syria, conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh.... In the wake of these disasters, Fondation de France stepped up to provide help to the victims of these populations. In 2023, several donor-advised funds joined this effort, providing financial support or deploying additional intervention. They were also involved in Fondation de France’s preventive approach to cope with the increasing number of climate disasters: *“We want to work early in the process to prevent, prepare for, and anticipate hazards better, while ensuring that we work together with donor-advised funds systematically,”* explains Karine Meaux, Head of Emergencies at Fondation de France.

*“Fondation de France calls on local partners to help identify effective projects to help vulnerable children. It regularly sends teams on the ground to monitor operations, which is invaluable, and guides us in our strategy. Co-funding projects with Fondation de France has increased the impact of the work carried out this year, for the benefit of families in difficult circumstances in Turkey and Poland, as part of the Solidarity with Turkey and Syria Programs and the Solidarity with Ukraine Program.”*

**Emmanuelle Dumas**

Head of Communication and Sponsorship at the Mustela Foundation



↑ The 2023 laureates of the Déclics jeunes (grants for young people) competition, which took place on October 10, in the presence of Axelle Davezac, Executive Director of Fondation de France.

## Grants for young people (“Déclics Jeunes”)

Each year, the Déclics Jeunes competition is organized by Fondation de France and its donor-advised funds to enable young people with inspiring projects to access grants. Over a thousand young people have benefited from financial support over the last 50 years. In 2023, 26 young laureates aged 18 to 30 received grants ranging from 3,000 to 8,000 euros to achieve their project. They covered a broad range of innovative projects in many fields: supporting those who are most vulnerable, combating discrimination, and promoting innovative solutions for the ecological transition.



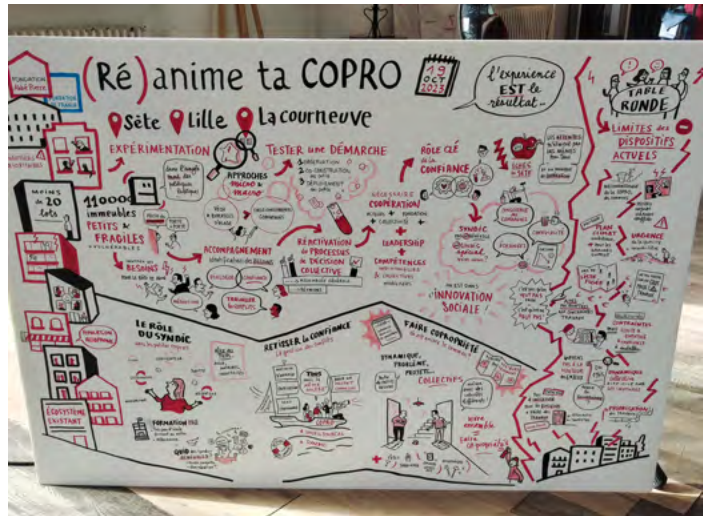
**READ ABOUT** the laureates on our website.

# Working alongside other French and European foundations

## NEF alliances

The Network of European Foundations (NEF) is a nonprofit bringing together several European foundations who have partnered on collaborative funds and charitable initiatives throughout Europe.

Fondation de France is a member of four alliances created by the NEF: Civitates, which defends and upholds democracy in Europe; EPIM, which responds to migratory challenges in Europe; Jafowa, which supports sustainable family farming in western Africa; and AGE, which works to promote gender equality. *“The societal challenges that Fondation de France tackles extend well beyond national borders, hence the need to think and work collectively at a European level. NEF alliances are very powerful innovation laboratories because they enable foundations to take part in these experiments together. That way, they can be bolder and more impactful in the projects undertaken. In 2023, Fondation de France reinforced its commitment by joining the alliance for gender equality,”* says Laëtitia Veriter, Head of Programs and Donor-Advised Funds at Fondation de France.



## “(Ré)anime ta copro !” (Liven up your Condo!), an experiment carried out with the Abbé Pierre Foundation

Five years ago, Fondation de France joined forces with the Abbé Pierre Foundation to launch an experimental program with residents of small, collectively owned condominiums, a project that faced technical, financial, social, and legal challenges. The aim was for the live-in-landlords and tenants of these buildings to build stronger relationships to facilitate collaborative solutions regarding maintenance and renovation. The experiment was conducted with local authorities and nonprofits in three locations: Lille, La Courneuve, and Sète. On October 19, all the stakeholders came together at the Bellevilloise residence in the north of Paris to present the program’s outcomes. The review was very encouraging. Following the test stage, concrete solutions were implemented in several condominiums. These were carried out by electing a volunteer or professional condominium association in six out of the ten residences where problems had been identified. Ongoing support is now provided by local authorities, who now recognize the significance of intervening appropriately to encourage collective engagement in small residential areas.

# *We develop and test solutions*

The power of philanthropy lies in its agility and its ability to innovate, explore, and take risks. This is why we experiment and produce new solutions to meet current global challenges. Fondation de France is a unique laboratory for social innovation, and works closely with local nonprofits and actors. Its strength lies in its flexibility and responsiveness, which means that it can develop adaptable, systemic approaches that are crucial to increasing the impact of our work over the long term.

## *Inventing the Future: encouraging innovation and cooperation among nonprofits*

Since 2020, Fondation de France has introduced a new way of working with nonprofits as part of the Inventing the Future Program. This program is developing a new type of “apprenticeship” with project leaders that is broader and more lasting. The program includes 23 nonprofits networks and collectives, which develop experimental, innovative solutions that tackle the root of problems: the Petites Cantines (Small Cafés) create space for social connection in local community restaurants; Clubhouses provide living spaces made by and for people suffering from mental disorders, RFFLabs (Network of French Fab labs) brings fab labs together throughout France to promote cooperation and stimulate initiatives and local production and initiatives. The «Inventing the Future Program» does not solicit project proposals; rather, it emphasizes sustained, collaborative efforts, trust-building, and regular exchange of insights among all involved parties over an extended period. The ambition is to reinforce the impact of philanthropy.

*“The power of trust and long-term action, the right to experiment, and the right to make mistakes all change the balance between ‘funder’ and ‘funded,’ moving towards mutually supportive and lasting relationships. This innovative approach towards the common good opens’ doors to a realm of possibilities, fostering transformative change for both society and philanthropy.”*

In Rennes, France,  
at the meeting of the  
key actors for change  
of the Inventing the  
Future Program.



**Marion Moulin**  
Deputy Director  
of nonprofit Possible



## **Fight for Dignity: a new program to rebuild lives through sports**

Regaining confidence and self-empowerment for women who have been victims of violence is the mission of Fight for Dignity, whose unique approach centers around an adapted karate program. Since 2018, Fondation de France has supported this initiative, which helps women who have experienced violence to rebuild their lives, physically and mentally, through the practice of karate as part of a multidisciplinary care program. In 2022, it was awarded the distinction of being a “Gem.” Five years later, Fight for Dignity has restructured to reach more women. First offered at the Maison des Femmes (Women’s Home) in Saint-Denis in the north of Paris, the care protocol has now been rolled out in various locations across France. To highlight the powerful impact of this approach, an action-research program was carried out in partnership with the Sports and Social Science Department of Université de Strasbourg. The program confirmed the effectiveness of the protocol, especially noting the significant positive effects on decreasing stress, anxiety, and depression, and improving the confidence of the women who had taken part in it.



## **“A violin in my school”: how music develops children’s capacity to learn**

Since 2015, the Vareille Foundation has brought violins into classrooms. Inspired by neuroscience, the pedagogical program, “A Violin in My School” is experimenting with violin practice for four-to eight-year-old children in priority education areas, with the aim of boosting school performance. The mandatory group activities are part of the curriculum. The goal is to convince government agencies of the research-supported benefits of playing a musical instrument to roll this practice out in all primary schools. To ensure that the objective can be met, a structure was developed in partnership with education boards to reach 8,500 children in 93 schools, primarily in the Val-d’Oise department north of Paris. At the same time, the Vareille Foundation is funding an impact study carried out by the CNRS (French National Center for Scientific Research) involving 2,000 children, to assess the effects of violin practice on their cognitive, social, and behavioral development, as well as on their academic achievements. The Foundation will publish the study results at the end of 2024 in the hope that the French national education will adopt this program on a much larger scale.



## Participatory research: CO3, a promising experiment

The mission behind the CO3 participatory research program is to bring together researchers, actors on the ground, and civil society in joint research to meet environmental challenges. The Ademe (French Agency for Ecological Transition), which launched this initiative, reached out to foundations like Fondation de France and the Daniel et Nina Carasso Foundation to expand their reach. The model consists in supporting projects on the ground, measuring their impact, and capitalizing on their work to promote the cross-fertilization of collective research. After five years of implementation, more than 44 projects were created, centering around access to food, protecting biodiversity, and improving agroecological practices. While the CO3 experiment has now ended, it has opened the door to an innovative form of research which is as-yet underexplored, but highly promising.



/ Testimony /



**Benoît Mounier**  
General Director France  
of the Daniel et Nina Carasso  
Foundation

## “*Experimenting and producing knowledge is in our DNA*”

“At the Daniel et Nina Carasso Foundation, to achieve change, we try to get to grips with all the components of a system or issue, and work where we have greatest impact. Experimenting and producing knowledge is in our DNA and both are enshrined in our two strategic priorities: sustainable food and inclusive arts.

For example, we are coming to the end of the TETRAA (Territories in Agroecological and Food Transition) experiment on the reinforcement of social, environmental, and economic sustainability of local collectives’ agriculture and food systems. This initiative, undertaken in partnership with AgroParisTech (agricultural college) and the Porticus Foundation, was implemented in nine pilot regions. After four years of activity, our aim is to identify both catalysts for improvement and obstacles so that we can better inspire and equip other territories.

As part of our inclusive arts initiative, we also launched the PEGASE experiment in partnership with the Versailles education board. This program widens access to the arts and

cultural education in schools, placing students’ achievement at the heart of its vision. It encourages ambitious, transdisciplinary projects designed by and working closely with local arts and cultural institutions. Created in 2018, it currently works in five schools. With input from 387 teachers and almost 13,000 students, 140 arts and culture projects were launched. We worked with Université de Cergy researchers to carry out an assessment measuring the effect of the program on the students and their community. The findings, as well as 11 recommendations, were presented to the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Culture, and the educational community to provide inspiration for future public policies and practices.

At a time when teaching art at school is being challenged, we are dedicated to blazing the trail for arts education.”

# We empower change-makers

A donor passionate about their cause, a family who wants to create a foundation, a company who is decided to community engagement – these are all examples of how everyone can take action. Supporting change-makers in the most effective way is Fondation de France’s raison d’être.

→  
On October 14, a new sports field was inaugurated by nonprofit Sport dans la Ville (Sports in Town) in Gonesse, in the north of Paris, with the support of the Crédit Mutuel Alliance Fédérale Foundation. The nonprofit works towards the social and professional integration of young people from disadvantaged neighborhoods.



## / Testimony /



**Daniel Baal**  
President of Crédit Mutuel  
Alliance Fédérale

“Several reasons prompted Crédit Mutuel Alliance Fédérale to create its foundation at Fondation de France. In addition to the staff’s listening skills and high-level support, it provides safety and expertise. It is also established in various locations, where our teams enjoy a warm relationship with the teams. In 2023, our foundation unlocked a new level of giving thanks to the “social dividend”, which consists in allocating 15% of net annual income for the benefit

of environmental transformation and solidarity projects. In 2024, our sponsorship will thus amount to 80 million euros of the 617 million euros of the social dividend. It represents a new vision of shared values and building a brighter future. This is a vision we share with Fondation de France: together, we will contribute to the vitality of the philanthropy and sponsorship sector for a more united and sustainable society. ”

# Supporting all forms of generosity for maximum impact



**Sabine de Soyres**  
Head of the Philanthropy Center

/ Interview /

## What are the main reasons that lead people and companies to take action in the public interest?

In the current context of social and climate emergencies, an increasing number of people are becoming aware of the need to take action in the public interest. They want to support initiatives that provide solutions, given the frequency of crises in France and

elsewhere. This desire to take action can take various forms: donations, bequests, creating a foundation, etc. In 2023, bequests rose sharply. It illustrates an increasingly strong desire to commit oneself, beyond death, to important causes by assigning all or part of one's estate to benefit a charitable cause. The sum of all these donations enable Fondation de France to pursue its objectives on a fully independent basis, strictly respecting the wishes of the donors and testators who place their trust in us.

## How does Fondation de France support these desires to take action?

Our mission is to support all these forms of generosity by ensuring they achieve maximum impact. For instance, when a company contacts us to talk through their sponsorship initiative, we help them set out their strategy for action, the areas in which they want to work, and the best way for them to implement their project in practical terms, such as involving coworkers. Where relevant, we can also guide them towards the creation of a donor-advised fund. In addition, and this is very important for us, we meticulously account for the way we use donations, irrespective of whether donations come from individual or corporate donors. We produce individual reports of donation use, organize meetings with the staff of a corporate sponsor and the nonprofits supported, and so on. This is a key aspect to maintaining the trust that links us to our donors. Concerning emergencies, for example, we regularly provide activity reports to the donors who worked alongside us. We naturally publish all this information on our website.

## What are the latest trends for donor-advised funds?

In 2023, we received almost 1,250 requests to assist in the creation of a foundation, and we welcomed 36 new donor-advised funds. The three challenges that were of greatest concern for founders were ecological transitions, education, support for young people, and help for vulnerable women. There was also a strong desire to take action collectively. In 2023, several



↑  
A third space dedicated to ecological transitions in the Kembs archipelago, in the Haut-Rhin department (eastern France), as part of the "Growing with Nature" call for projects, which was launched by Fondation de France and some of its donor-advised funds.

new family-based donor-advised funds opted for generational governance. As to corporate foundations, staff were increasingly involved in their development. Thanks to the teams' strong commitment, it was easier to build robust projects.

# Supporting the vital needs of all our **donor-advised funds**

Fondation de France offers custom philanthropic support to its donor-advised funds, whether founded by families, businesses, or created through bequests. With its expertise in a wide range of causes and its deep roots throughout the country in six regional foundations, Fondation de France is uniquely situated to provide key assistance. This daily support hinges on three main strategic themes:

advancing the foundation's mission by offering help, for example, in identifying and selecting which initiatives to support; networking between foundations, nonprofits and other actors in the sector to develop cooperative projects and collective action; and, of course, securing and managing foundations' legal and financial needs through appropriate tools.

*“Fondation de France oversees the governance of 217 foundations created through bequests, or which have transferred governance to us. After a founder passes away or withdraws, we keep their vision alive in the most precise way possible, according to the initial wishes of the founder. In 2023, the foundations governed by Fondation de France continued to take action, awarding 391 prizes and grants and supporting 124 projects, for a total of 6.5 million euros.”*

**Valérie Janin**

Head of Foundations Governed by Fondation de France

*“In 2023, we modernized our organization to make our support more effective and pertinent. We created expert hubs according to foundation type (business, family, regional, or institution-specific), as each has its own expectations and specific needs. We also strengthened the network's facilitation dynamics and rethought our philanthropic actions, creating nine Action Collectives, each advocating for a specific cause. Our goal is to increase collaboration and impact by building partnerships with our donor-advised funds.”*

**Vincent Bodin**  
Deputy Director  
of Philanthropic Support



←  
Solidarité Habitat is developing an intergenerational living project supported by the Jean et Simone Pascale Foundation and the Giacinto et Héléne Accornero Foundation, both under the governance of Fondation de France.



# *We develop and facilitate knowledge sharing*

Because we are operating in the midst of profound transitions, philanthropic actors must remain agile and adaptive. This is we are dedicated to developing and sharing knowledge and ideas about issues impacting the world around us. Whether they take the form of research studies, events, or collaborations between key players, these analyses and ideas contribute to developing and better understanding the impact of philanthropic activities, increased potential for improvement.

## *Raising awareness about the philanthropic sector*

On June 7, 2023, a study on foundations and endowment funds in France gave a preview presentation at the National Assembly in front of members of parliament and philanthropic professionals. Conducted every four years by the Philanthropy Observatory of Fondation de France, this study is a powerful reference tool: it identifies the number of philanthropic entities as well as their economic weight and their various areas of activity. In 2022, over 5,300 foundations and endowment funds were active, totaling 40 billion euros in held assets and close to 15 billion in funds spent. While individuals and families still constitute the majority of founders, businesses are becoming increasingly involved, representing half of philanthropic

organizations. Social action remains the main area of activity, comprising 40% of funds spent and a quarter of philanthropic entities involved in this domain. Another fact revealed is that over half of foundations and endowment funds choose to intervene at a departmental or regional level. The study also includes, for the first time, a qualitative component, which explores the actions and priorities of these foundations, both of which indicate a growing interest in systemic approaches.



**EXPLORE** the sixth edition of the study “Foundations and endowment funds in France” on our site.

Naïma Moutchou, Vice President of the National Assembly, during the presentation of the study on foundations and endowment funds before members of parliament on June 7.



# Stimulating conversations about major social issues



↑  
Photo by Priska, from the exhibit  
*Solitudes 2023: (Re)liés par les lieux.*

## 2023 13th Solitudes study: one out of every three French people is struggling with isolation

On January 23, International Lonliness Awareness Day, Fondation de France presented the results of its new study on isolation in France. Titled “(Re)liés par les lieux” (“(Re)connected by places”), the study was conducted in collaboration with a research team (Cerlis and Audencia) and the CRÉDOC research center. This study confirms the extent of the isolation crisis: in 2023, one out of ten people in France found themselves in a state of total isolation, meaning they had no strong social connections. This year, the presentation was accompanied by an exhibit addressing loneliness and location through photographs, drawings, and texts created by people interviewed during the study. “Beyond the emotions provoked by these works, this exhibit enriched our understanding of isolation and loneliness, giving it a visual and personal dimension,” explains Axelle Davezac, Executive Director of Fondation de France.



**READ** all our studies on our website.

## A new seminar format: “Les Dialogues”

At the beginning of 2023, Fondation de France initiated a new event series, under the strong conviction that the complexity of major contemporary issues requires creating space for dialogue, discussion, and different points of view. Three events were held during 2023, covering various themes: discrimination in March, youth and eco-anxiety in June, and the relationship between digital citizenship and democracy in November. At these encounters, researchers and actors from the public and non-profit sectors exchanged viewpoints. The seminars created windows of opportunity for understanding future challenges and helped create action plans for all public interest stakeholders.

## The study “Philanthropy and democracy: what are the issues and outlooks for foundations?”

While philanthropy contributes to promoting democracy, it must also be legitimately “democratic” as a private organization serving the public interest. This theme was the subject of a study commissioned by the Philanthropy Observatory and carried out by two independent researchers: Nicolas Duvoux, a sociologist specializing in philanthropy at Université Paris 8, and Sylvain Lefèvre, a political scientist at University of Quebec at Montreal. This study is the second edition of the “Philanthropy and Society” collection, meant to foster dialogue about philanthropy’s role, place, and responsibility in the face of the world’s current challenges.

“Fondation de France is strongly engaged in several networks on an international level: Philanthropy Europe Association, the Network of European Foundations, Ariadne, etc. These discussions allow us to share thoughts about major issues and identify work together on high-priority action plans.”

**Maja Spanu**  
Director of the Research  
and International Affairs Center

November 28 at Fondation de France, the third meeting of its discussion series “InterSections – Les dialogues de la Fondation de France” on the theme of Digital Citizenship and Democracy.



# Shine a light on the role of foundations and improve the impact of their work



## “Achieving equitable ecological transitions”: a study in partnership with the ESS lab

On March 14, 2023, the ESS lab presented the results of its study “Réussir une transition écologique juste” (“Achieve equitable ecological transitions”), conducted in partnership with Fondation de France. The goal was to identify the role of social and economic solidarity in this transition, and to suggest action plans and recommendations. It was also a chance to highlight inspiring long-term projects, including some supported by Fondation de France, which has long been dedicated to promoting a fair and inclusive transition towards more ecological practices. Recognizing that there is a double crisis facing our society, both social and ecological, the study notes the need for a collective response to ensure an ecological transition that leaves no one behind. In particular, the study analyzes the way that ESS contributes to transforming our society towards a more just and sustainable model. The product of over a year of research, the study was conducted in collaboration with a variety of actors, ensuring that many voices and perspectives were heard.



**READ** the study “Achieve an equitable ecological transition” on our website.

## Foster a culture of systemic change: the Racines Initiative

Considering the social and environmental crises our society is currently facing, it is essential to address the root causes in a systemic manner. In 2021, Ashoka, Fondation de France, Bettencourt Schueller Foundation, BNP Paribas Foundation, Entreprendre&+, Essec, Entreprendre Foundation, and Ticket for Change launched the Racines Initiative with a common goal: to raise awareness for the need for systemic change within the philanthropic sector, so that it can more effectively respond to our rapidly changing society. In 2023, the initiative organized several webinars on “The anti-guide to the systemic approach,” by Cyrille Tassart. The goal was to provide the tools for putting a systemic change strategy in place, with a question as a throughline: “Where and how can we act to sustainably ‘reconfigure’ a ‘system’?” Project managers shared their tools and past experiences, highlighting the work that has been done to help achieve a sustainable transition. In October 2023, the Racines collective initiative also launched a program called “Systemic Philanthropy” to provide in-depth training to foundation managers who wish to master this approach.



## The La Fonda Tribune : a collaboration between La Fonda and Fondation de France

In March 2023, La Fonda, an organization that showcases nonprofits, joined Fondation de France for a special issue of their magazine, “Nonprofits and foundations in the face of systemic change.” This issue of the La Fonda Tribune focused on systemic change issues in the foundation sector.

# Governance

## Executive Committee 2023



↑ From left to right: Loïc Lavoué, Chief Information Officer, Lazare Mariller, Chief Human Resources Officer, Axelle Davezac, Executive Director, Frédéric Théret, Chief Development Officer, Sabine Lenglet, Chief Information and Communications Officer, Olivier Neumann, Chief Financial Officer, Alexia Henry, Chief Legal Officer, Alexandre Giraud, Chief of Operations.

### The Board of Directors, the driving force behind the strategy

The Board of Directors defines Fondation de France's strategy and controls implementation. It votes on the budget and action programs, approves accounting, oversees operations, and enforces the legal framework. The president of the Board of Directors – a volunteer, like all board members – is elected by the Board for a four-year term, with a two-term limit. The president appoints the Executive Director, who, along with the executive committee and the operational teams, proposes strategy and action plans and drives implementation.

### External audits

Since 2015, Fondation de France is a recipient of the IDEAS label, from the Institut de développement de l'éthique et de l'action pour la solidarité (Institute for the Development of Solidarity Ethics and Action). This label signifies good practices in terms of governance, finance management, and follow up on the effectiveness of actions. Fondation de France is also the subject of several external audits (statutory auditors, the Court of Auditors, Ministry of Finance). In its 2021 report, the Court of Auditors praised the quality of the Foundation's established procedures, which "guarantee the reliable management of funds," the "cost management" of collecting funds, and "a fully secure management of donations, especially in terms of bequests."

### Committees at the center of a rigorous management approach

Fondation de France has established a rigorous internal monitoring system. Five committees – whose members are all volunteers – oversee the use of funds: the Finance Committee, Audit Committee, Donation Committee, Committee Supervising of Individual Funds Managed by Fondation de France, and Remuneration Committee. The accuracy and transparency of the annual accounts are certified by a statutory auditor.

### Transparent use of donations

Donors, testators, and founders can direct their donations to one or several causes. Fondation de France scrupulously respects their wishes and is committed to keeping them informed through various forms of media (websites, social networks, quarterly publications, or mail) about current projects. For example, emergency actions are reported on regularly, both online and to donors. Finally, an activity and financial report give an overview of operations for the year and sketch out possibilities for actions to come.

# The Board of Directors

## Members of the Fondation de France Board of Directors

### President

#### Pierre Sellal\*

French Ambassador

### Vice-president

#### Pascale Rousseau-Dewambrechies\*

President, Bordeaux Atlantique Committee, Fondation de France Sud-Ouest (term ended in September 2023)

### Vice-president

#### René Ricol\*

President, Ricol Lasteyrie & Associés

### Treasurer

#### Yves Perrier\*

President, Board of Directors, Groupe Edmond de Rothschild

### Members

#### Bruno Angles

Chief Executive Officer, AG2R La Mondiale

#### Christian de Boisdeffre

General Administrator of Public Finance, French Ministry of Economy and Finance

#### Bruno Chetaille

Former Chief Executive Officer, Médiamétrie

#### Pierre Chevalier

Director of Legal and Tax Affairs, Groupe Caisse des Dépôts

#### Christophe Devys\*

Representative of the French Prime Minister and Councilor of State

#### Frédéric Donnedieu de Vabres

Partner, Arsene Taxand and President of the Arsene Foundation

#### Yann Dyèvre

Inspector General of Education, Sports and Research, French Ministry for Sports, Youth, Popular Education and Community Life

#### Marine Fabre

Head of the Associations and Foundations Office, French Ministry of the Interior

#### Lionel Farcy

Director of Private and Corporate Accounts, Neuflyze OBC

#### Véronique Faujour

Secretary General, Crédit Agricole SA

#### Anne Florette

General Council for the Environment and Sustainable Development, French Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition

#### Thierry Le Goff

Secretary General, French Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Research

#### Michel Mathieu

Chief Executive Officer, LCL

#### Léa Morgant

Head of Philanthropy, Secretary General, French Ministry of Culture

#### Leïla Phelouzat

Secretary General, Caisse d'Épargne Prévoyance Île-de-France

#### Albane Rouvillois

Director of Sponsoring, Société Générale; Managing Director of the Société Générale Foundation

#### Jean-François Sagaut\*

Notary, President of SAS Thibierge Notaires; Professor, Université Paris 2 – Panthéon-Assas

#### Dominique Soyer

Director of Development, Hauts-de-France, CDC Habitat

#### Odon Vallet

Historian, Professor, La Sorbonne

\* Bureau members

# Guaranteeing

## Program Expert Committees

Suggests intervention policies to the President and the Board and advises them on which actions to fund.

## Regional Foundation Committees

Processes requests, proposes funding, and contributes to brand promotion and fundraising.

## Executive Committee

Implements Fondation de France's strategy.

## Board of Directors — Bureau

Prepares Board meetings and executes delegated powers conferred by the Bureau.

## Finance Committee

Ensures quality financial asset management in accordance with management objectives and principles.

## Audit Committee

Monitors accounts, implements budgets, and manages risk.



**Frédéric Donnedieu de Vabres**

Partner, Arsene Taxand;  
President of the  
Arsene Foundation

## Remuneration Committee

Approves wage policies.



**Pierre Sellal**

French Ambassador

## Donation Committee

Verifies donation compliance and monitors the real estate portfolio.



**Maître Jean François Sagaut**

Notary and President of SAS  
Thibierge Notaires; Professor,  
Université Paris 2—Panthéon-Assas

## Committee Supervising Individual Funds Governed by Fondation de France

Oversees the activity of individual funds that are governed by Fondation de France.



**Christophe Devys**

Representative of the French Prime  
Minister and Councilor of State



**Yves Perrier**

President of the Board  
of Directors of Groupe  
Edmond de Rothschild

# transparency

# Two viewpoints



## **Léa Morgant**

Head of Philanthropy, Secretary General, French Ministry of Culture and Member of Fondation de France's Board of Directors since 2022.

“ Ever since I joined the Board of Directors, I have been in awe of the breadth of Fondation de France's missions. During 2023, I also was struck by its ability to transform itself and to adapt to philanthropic issues. I discovered how modern and innovative its approaches to new issues are, and how it uses strategic thinking. Going beyond traditional charitable activities, Fondation de France questions its priorities and thinks about how to adapt to social change, always prioritizing the needs of those on the ground. Projects currently in the process of launching, like the Fabrique Philanthropique (Philanthropy Factory) and the Action Collectives, seem particularly pertinent to me in their chosen themes as well as in their methods, particularly in the collective approach they have taken.

I also very much appreciate the work of the Philanthropy Observatory, in particular their study on funds and foundations. It's a valuable contribution to the sector, and a reference that we rely on at the Ministry of Culture to help us complete our mission to evaluate cultural sponsorship. More generally, I find that through its studies, actions, and the tools it develops, Fondation de France contributes to the development of the entire sector. A leading philanthropic actor, Fondation de France is a barometer of public interest.

My role on the board of directors is rather special, since I represent a ministry. The presence of the State is also an important part of the history of Fondation de France, which was created over 50 years ago under the directive of André Malraux. It's an important reflection of the mutual relationship that exists between public and private actors working in the public interest. All of this gives Fondation de France a unique role and a distinctive responsibility in the philanthropy sector. „



## **Bruno Chetaille**

Member of Fondation de France's Board of Directors since 2019

“ In an era shaken by crises and social divisions, in a world subjected to profound changes like ecological and digital transitions, philanthropy is a response to the upsurge in individualism, which all too often takes precedence over solidarity and cooperation. Fondation de France is therefore a reference for how to act in unison to build a better world. I have experienced its key role in emergencies, as in September 2023 during the earthquake in Morocco. As a Director, I can truly appreciate the extent of the causes that it serves, acting side by side with both the young and the old, in the face of inequality and isolation, for sustainable development, medicine, and culture. I am struck by the strength of its regionally rooted network. With the help of with its donor-advised funds, the nonprofits it supports, and its community of experts, Fondation de France brings solutions that are closely adapted to specific needs. As a father who wants to pass on values, and as an entrepreneur who served the common good, and, today, as sponsor of a startup, I'm naturally thrilled to see families, established businesses, and young leaders who want to share their success create new foundations every year under the umbrella of Fondation de France. Finally, I want to emphasize how dynamic the team is at Fondation de France. Always in search of a way to be even more effective, the team combines agility in action, adaptability of work methods, and rigorous management. The strategic road map for 2024–2028 that we adopted in 2023 is a good example. These are just a few of the reasons Fondation de France is a trusted partner in the world of philanthropy. „

# Our regional foundations look back on 2023



**Yann Desdouets**  
Managing Director



**Laurence Lambert**  
President

## **FONDATION DE FRANCE GRAND OUEST**

*“In 2023, the regional foundations clearly expressed their desire to work together. In September, we gathered for a first workday with the heads of ten donor-advised funds from the western region to improve our networking abilities and share our skills and expertise. With the same goal in mind, we created a foundation management position with a strong regional presence to reinforce cooperation. The same objective moved us to launch the Cercle des Fondations Centre-Bretagne (Foundation Circle of Central France and Brittany). The motivation driving that project: to act collectively to increase our impact and offer solutions to today’s challenges!”*  
Y.D.



**Béatrice Bausse**  
General Manager



**Pascale Rousseau-Dewambrechies**  
President

## **FONDATION DE FRANCE SUD-OUEST**

*“We will remember 2023 as the year of new collaborations with the TerrESS chair of Sciences Po Bordeaux, the ATIS incubator on successful aging, higher education institutions ... and the Pyrénées-Atlantiques department, who opened their doors to us so we could help them better understand what philanthropy is all about. By strengthening trust with local partners, both private and public, philanthropy is finding its footing in the southwest. It’s becoming a strategic ally, driving training and innovation initiatives for the betterment of our region and its residents.”*  
B. B.



**Laure Decouvelaere**  
General Manager

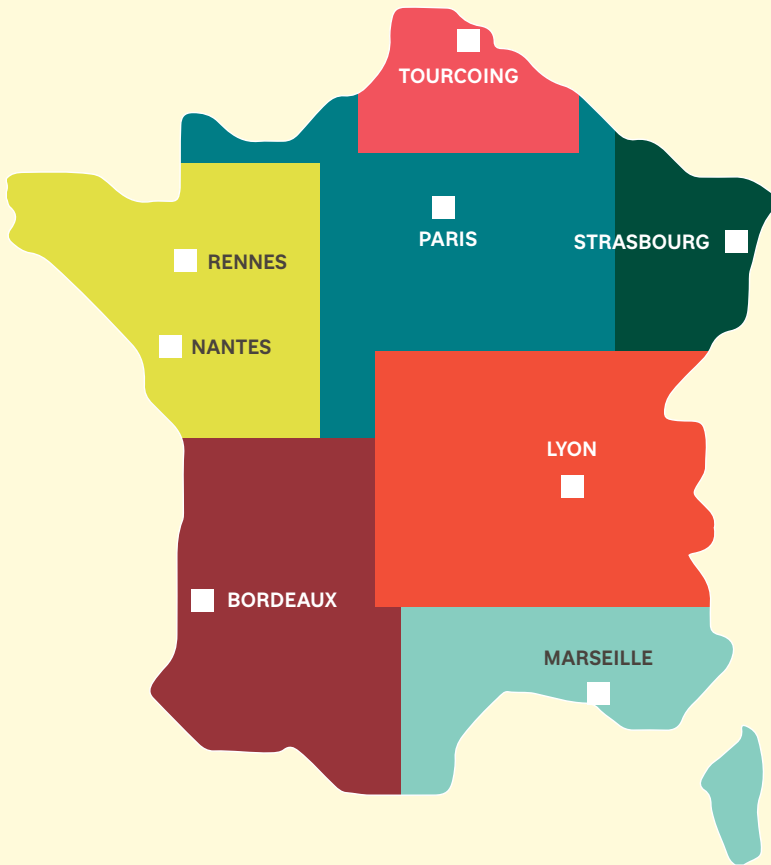


**Hervé Knecht**  
President

## **FONDATION DE FRANCE RÉGION NORD**

*“After the series of unprecedented floods that submerged the Pas-de-Calais region at the year’s end, we quickly mobilized to help local nonprofits that were directly impacted, as well as those that needed to give more support to people that were particularly vulnerable. This desire to help quickly was infectious: several hundred private donors and businesses joined us, in addition, of course, to the valuable contribution of Fondation de France’s donor-advised funds. We also work closely with the Pas-de-Calais department to help out actors in the public sector. Our close relationship with actors on the ground allows us to precisely identify needs and priorities. We act collectively, staying flexible, reactive, and supportive, so we can respond in an emergency, but also continue our support over the long-term to assist those most in need.”*  
L.D.





**François Bouillon**  
General Manager



**Francis Hirn**  
President

**FONDATION DE FRANCE GRAND EST**

*“Social innovation and regional development are at the heart of our activities. In a post-Covid context, which accentuated isolation and challenges for young and older adults, we have given priority to projects that promote social contact and encourage actions for positive change. Whatever their approach, be it food, intergenerational connection, access to culture, or collective self-consumption, the initiatives we have supported all work to give power back to those who are most vulnerable and make our regions more inclusive and resilient.”*

F. B.



**Delphine Allarousse**  
General Manager



**Yves Minssieux**  
President

**FONDATION DE FRANCE CENTRE-EST**

*“Philanthropy has accelerated in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region, thanks to the strong commitment of businesses. After Ile-de-France, our region is the leading philanthropic zone, with 10.8% of all foundations and endowment funds. Among them, 46% have at least one company among their founders. In this dynamic ecosystem, Fondation de France Centre-Est promotes cooperation and encourages regional solidarity between actors from the financial world and nonprofits, promoting dialogue and collaboration. On December 21, Fondation de France Centre-Est and Medef Lyon-Rhône organized their first conference on entrepreneurial sponsorship, which brought together 70 participants. In addition to our presentation on the philanthropic commitment of businesses in our region, we also invited the Fondation d’entreprise Solidarités Crédit Agricole Centre-Est, the bioMérieux endowment fund for education, and the donor-advised fund Clasquin to share their experiences with us.”*

D. A.



**Anaïs Jacoby**  
General Manager

**FONDATION DE FRANCE MÉDITERRANÉE**

*“In 2023, a significant touring event took place in the Cévennes region, spanning two days and covering a distance of 100km. This event marked the culmination of five years of support for eight nonprofits through Fondation de France Méditerranée, made possible by a generous donation from a major contributor. This great accomplishment highlights Fondation de France’s ability to respond to a donor’s vision by identifying the actions that are the most pertinent to the region. The event highlighted how different groups in the region came together to achieve a common goal! 2024 is a new chapter. We will continue, of course, to support nonprofits that contribute to building the world of tomorrow, but we will also strengthen our role in joining with businesses that commit to serving their region. Considering the issues at stake, philanthropy must be a collective effort.”*

A. J.

# Program expert committees

## AIDS, Healthcare and Development Committee

### Marie-Josée MBUZENAKAMWE

Doctor, public health consultant

## Autism and Development Committee

### Pierre GRESSENS

Research Director, head of UMR, Inserm 1141, Robert Debré Hospital, Paris

## Cancer Committee

### Vahid ASNAFI

Professor and hospital practitioner, head of an onco-hematological laboratory and director of the “normal and pathological lymphopoiesis” team at Institut Necker-Enfant Malades, UMR Inserm 1151, Paris

## Cardiovascular Disease Committee

### Geneviève DERUMEAUX

Team manager “Aging, Metabolism and Cardiovascular Disease” at IMRB (Inserm-UPEC, U955); head of the physiology and functional exploration departments at Henri Mondor University Hospital.

## Care, Relief and Support Research Committee

### Jacques SIZUN

Neonatal pediatrician, Head of Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Brest University Hospital

## Children and Education Committee

### Marie-Pierre JULIEN

Professor of anthropology and sociology, Université de Lorraine (until June 30)

## Coast and Sea Committee

### Yves HENOCQUE

Lead advisor, maritime and governance policy

## Combating Discrimination Committee

### Estelle BARTHÉLEMY

Social entrepreneur, expert on employment issues including access to the labor market; founder, She Senior and Oya Agency; co-founder, Mozaik RH; member, Dulala Board of Directors; Knight of the National Order of Merit

## Crisis and Catastrophe Committee

### Jacques DESPROGES

Founder and former president, Terra consultancy firm; president, Emmaüs Défi and board member, Emmaüs Connect

## Culture Committee

### Rachid OURAMDANE

Choreographer and dancer, director of Chaillot – National Dance Theater

## Disability Committee

### Bertrand DUBREUIL

Former director, Pluriel Formation-Recherche; trainer, consultant and external assessor

## Elderly People Committee

### Marie-Laure MARTIN

Head of two Alzheimer day care programs for the nonprofit Isatis, Paris

## Environment Committee

Committee being formed

## Eye Disease Committee

### Marc LABETOULLE

Professor, hospital practitioner, head of ophthalmology, UMR 1184, CEA/UPS, CHU Bicêtre, Paris

## Housing Committee

### Jean-Pierre TROCHE

Co-founder and associate manager, Re-Resources Group/Ville et Habitat, public policy consultant on housing and sustainable urban development

## International Development Committee

### José TISSIER

Agronomist, former deputy chief, “Agriculture, Rural Development and Biodiversity” division at AFD, Paris

## Inventing the Future Committee

### Jean-Marie BERGÈRE

Former general manager, Astrees (Association travail emploi Europe société); former general manager, Regional Agency for Development in the Limousin, bureau member of the 27th region

## Mental Health for Exiles Committee

Committee being formed

## Mental Illness Committee

### Bernard PACHOUD

Psychiatrist and professor of psychopathology, researcher at CRPMS, Université de Paris

## Parkinson's Disease Committee

### Erwan BEZARD

Research director, director of the Institute of Neurodegenerative Diseases in Bordeaux, head of the “Physiopathology of Parkinsonian syndromes” team.

## Patient-Centered Care Committee

### HÉLÈNE DE CHAMPS LÉGER

Doctor at health access office of Hôtel-Dieu Hospital

## Prison Committee

### Vincent DELBOS

Magistrate, seconded to the Contrôleur général des lieux de privation de liberté (Controller General for Detention Centers), Paris

## Psychiatric Disorders Research Committee

### Philip GORWOOD

Professor, doctor, psychiatrist and department head at Sainte-Anne Hospital, director of the “Vulnerability to Psychiatric and Addictive Disorders” team, Inserm U894, Paris

## Public Health and Environment Committee

### Béatrice FERVERS

Professor, doctor, deputy director of UMR INSERM 1265, Radiation, Defense, Health and Environment; coordinator of the Cancer and Environment department, Léon Bernard Center, Lyon

## Solidarity with Armenia Committee

### Taline PAPAŽIAN

Doctor of political science, author of several publications, including “Arménie à l'épreuve du feu. Forger l'État à travers la guerre,” Paris, Karthala, 2016

## Solidarity with the Caribbean Committee

### Jacques DESPROGES

Founder and former president, Terra consultancy firm; president, Emmaüs Défi and board member, Emmaüs Connect

## Solidarity with Haiti Committee

### Élisabeth DAHAN

Director of international relations, French Economic, Social and Environmental Council; former French ambassador to Sri Lanka and the Maldives from 1996 to 2000

## Solidarity with Lebanon Committee

### Élisabeth LONGUENESSE

Sociologist and Arabist, research director (HDR) at CNRS until 2014; director of the department of Contemporary Studies, Institut Français du Proche-Orient (Beirut) from 2009 to 2013; associate member of the Laboratoire Printemps (UMR 8085, Université de

Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines) and Institut Français du Proche-Orient since 2014

## Solidarity with Migrants Committee

### Véronique FAYET

Nonprofit activist specializing in social issues; former President of the Secours Catholique – Caritas France, as well as longtime involvement in ATD Quart Monde; former deputy mayor of Bordeaux and co-president of the National Council on Cities.

## Solidarity with Morocco Committee

### Bruno JOUBERT

French diplomat, former Special Council to the French General Accounting Office; former ambassador to the Vatican and Morocco; former diplomatic adviser on Africa for the French president from 2007 to 2009

## Solidarity with Nepal Committee

### Jean-Louis VIELAJUS

Former President, Coordination Sud; former general manager, French Committee for International Solidarity

## Solidarity with Pas-de-Calais Committee

### Hervé KNECHT

President of the Fondation de France Volunteer Committee – Northern Region

## Solidarity with Turkey/Syria Committee

### Christine ROBICHON

Former diplomat (North Africa, Middle East, Africa); officer of the Legion of Honor and commander of the National Order of Merit; administrator, French Red Cross Foundation

## Solidarity with Ukraine Committee

### Michel MAIETTA

Founder and director of IARAN (Inter-Agency Research and Analysis Network); lecturer at Paris-Saclay and Futuribles internationales

## Sports, Health and Social Integration Committee

### Philippe NICOLINO

National director of Union Sportive Léo Lagrange; Associate professor Université Lyon 1

## Young People's Health Committee

Committee being formed

# A look back on 2023 by...



**Estelle Barthélemy**  
President, Combating  
Discrimination Committee

## **As the president of the Combating Discrimination Committee, why did you accept this mission?**

I grew up in Villiers-le-Bel, which is one of the city's underprivileged neighborhoods. From a young age, I understood the diversity and richness produced there. With this awareness in mind, I co-founded the recruitment office Mozaïk RH fifteen years ago, so that graduates with diverse social and cultural origins could be recruited for their skills level. That's how I acquired and gained recognition for expertise on the subject of diversity and inclusion. Joining this committee is an extension of my desire to contribute to making French society more just and egalitarian. This is why I am proud to preside over this committee for Fondation de France, which is often a blind spot in public policy.

## **What are the primary focus areas of this program?**

This program's main priority is to address discriminatory practices linked to origins and support non-profit actions as well as research projects. The committee wishes to contribute to a better understanding of discrimination and to change the way we represent and view it. We help actors who fight against this societal affliction and who support victims in standing up to injustice through psychological support, legal aid, and helping them access their rights. We also aim to strengthen educational approaches to raise awareness among individuals exhibiting discriminatory behavior and encourage them to change their practices. Finally, the fight against systemic discrimination also requires creating spaces for dialogue to find sustainable solutions.

## **What events, discussions, or advances impacted the committee this year?**

In 2023, the committee continued to identify actions lacking sufficient support or visibility, whether they are projects managed by small local organizations or by larger national groups. We wish to support them financially and help them with organization, so they are more effective over the long term. Finally, the committee takes great care to involve those impacted by discrimination in shaping our initiatives and decision-making process.



**Vincent Delbos**  
President of the Prisons Committee

## **As an honorary magistrate, what inspired you to take on the role of president of Fondation de France's Prisons Committee three years ago?**

As a magistrate, my practice has always been guided by the feeling that detention and rehabilitation issues concern not just the penitentiary administration or the judicial system. They concern all of society. Today, I am a member of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. The question of dignity is essential. I gladly accepted to join Fondation de France as a volunteer because of its multi-cause approach, which places prison issues within the much larger framework of solidarity and rehabilitation.

## **The Prisons program has existed for over ten years. Which problems does it address, and which areas does it focus on?**

Today in France, the occupancy rate in prisons is over 130%. Overcrowding in detention centers is not only an affront to inmates' dignity, it has also become an additional barrier to rehabilitation that we must fight against. The program includes three action points: the development of alternative sentencing such as public interest work, socio-professional rehabilitation through support programs during and after detention, and, finally, maintaining family ties while in custody. We support innovative projects that work to change the way we look at prisons through projects like Beaux Mets initiative in Marseille. Beaux Mets is first rehabilitation restaurant in a prison and was named one of Fondation de France's "Pépites" projects in 2023.

## **What events or activities were particularly impactful this year?**

This year, we once again increased our cooperation with other committees to work collectively on prison issues, which concerns everyone in a democratic society. In particular, we worked with Fondation de France's teams that focus on ecological transitions and culture. These collaborations allow us to address the issue of prisons in a more holistic manner, and to strengthen the impact of our actions. Replicating the rehabilitation farms pioneered by Emmaüs helps make incarcerated individuals key partners in forging more ecological practices. To shift perceptions, we've partnered with the Justice Ministry and the European Council to support the Concertina gatherings in Dieulefit, Drôme. This annual event unites the public, artists, educators, and local stakeholders to raise awareness about detention issues.

# *Financial Report*

## *2023*

### **“Strengthening our commitment to act in the public interest”**



**Yves Perrier**  
Treasurer

In an increasingly uncertain global context underscored by numerous crises in 2023, philanthropy plays an essential role. In the face of natural catastrophes and wars, as well as the increasingly apparent consequences of global warming, Fondation de France and its 977 donor-advised funds have once again renewed their commitment to building a more inclusive and sustainable world. This year, 12,600 initiatives were supported in all public interest areas, for a total of 295 million euros, 7% more than in 2022. While these funds were primarily allocated to emergency responses, they also supported preventative initiatives which advanced all causes supported by the foundation.

This development was made possible by the profound generosity of donors. In 2023, for the first time, donations exceeded the threshold of 200 million euros, including 26 million collected for emergency operations after the earthquakes in Turkey-Syria and Morocco. Bequests and donations also increased by 40 million euros compared to 2022. 90% of collected resources were for Fondation de France’s charitable projects, equal to the percentage in the previous year, testifying to its effective project

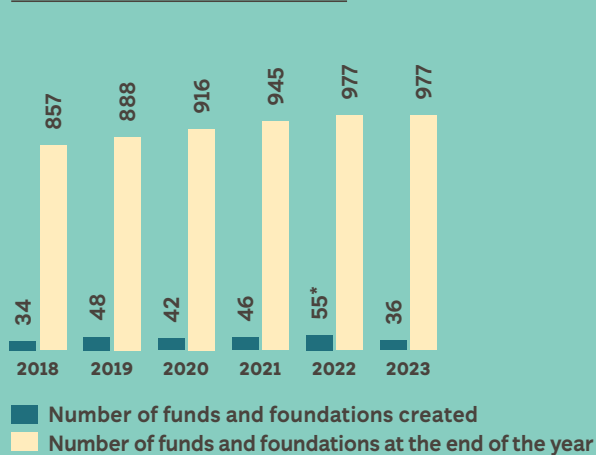
management. Management costs remained contained, despite rising inflation.

The donor-advised funds, especially mid-sized funds, also significantly increased their contributions: they committed 17 million euros more than in 2022 to support their chosen causes. Additionally, 36 new donor-advised funds were created in 2023, demonstrating that commitment to community service is continuing to grow.

Financially, the foundation responsibly managed its reserves, benefiting from recent rate increases. Returns from financial products exceeded management costs, allowing all collected resources to fund projects supporting its causes.

**“In 2023, for the first time, donations exceeded the threshold of 200 million euros.”**

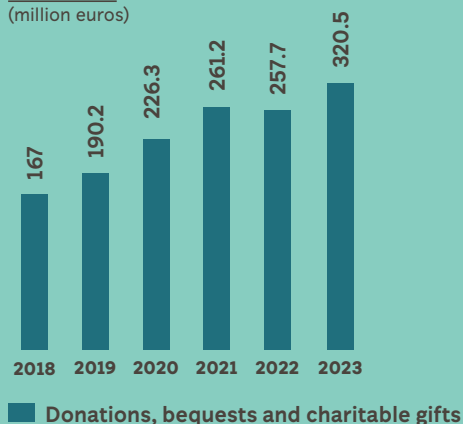
## Number of foundations



\* Not including the "île d'Yeu" foundation

## Income

(million euros)



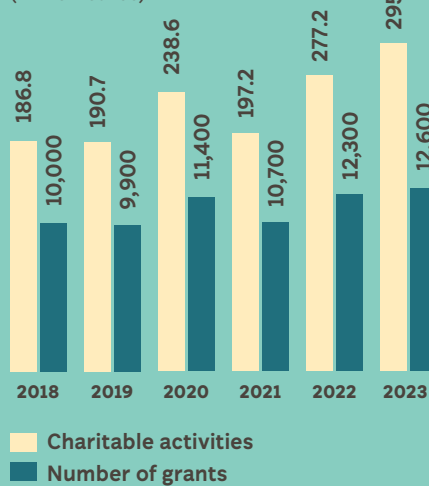
## Financial assets and income

(million euros)



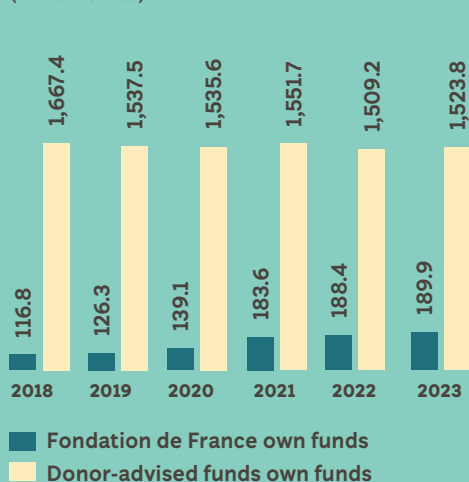
## Charitable activities

(million euros)



## Own funds

(million euros)



Find Fondation de France's complete financial report for 2023 on our website:

[fondationdefrance.org/fr/rapport-annuel](https://fondationdefrance.org/fr/rapport-annuel)



**Olivier Neumann**  
Financial Director

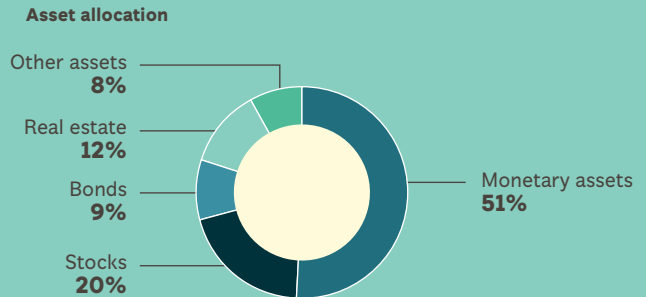
*“ In the midst of a strategic transformation, and despite a particularly unstable environment, Fondation de France’s activity was very dynamic in 2023. Thanks to the abundant generosity of its donors, the strong involvement of its teams, and solid financial management, the foundation has strengthened its commitment in all areas of public interest. This growth is an indication of Fondation de France’s continuing commitment to act more effectively to both address emergencies and long-term challenges, taking a systemic approach to respond to major contemporary issues in a sustainable manner. ”*

## Balance Sheet

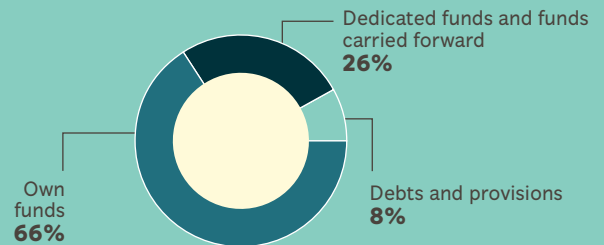
The balance sheet summarizes the asset position, at historical cost, of all the entities managed by Fondation de France, including its 977 donor-advised funds.

### Key assets

Financial assets represent 74 % of assets in the balance sheet of Fondation de France and its donor-advised funds. Financial assets are composed of diversified investments: shares, bonds, banking products, and unlisted securities, mostly from OECD countries. This reflects the fact that Fondation de France has chosen an investment strategy which combines prudence and performance. The entire investment portfolio complies with extra-financial ESG criteria (environmental, social and governance).



### Liability breakdown

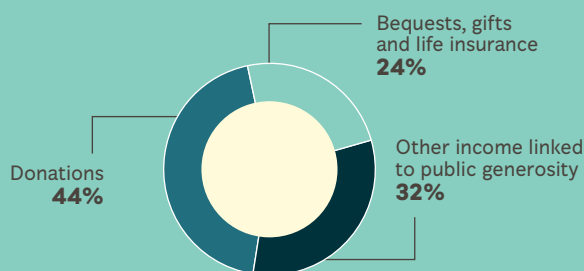


Fondation de France and its donor-advised funds have a strong and high-quality balance sheet, with own funds representing 66% of all assets. Available-for-sale financial assets represent the larger part of these. Dedicated funds are made up of those resources which donors and testators have dedicated to action programs led by Fondation de France and donor-advised funds, and which had not yet been used at the close of the financial year. Funds carried forward correspond to bequests, life insurance, and temporary usufruct donations that have been accepted but not yet cashed.

# Profit and loss statement

The profit and loss statement consists of income and use of income by destination, which is the most pertinent information regarding the activities of Fondation de France and sector-wide practices.

## Income breakdown

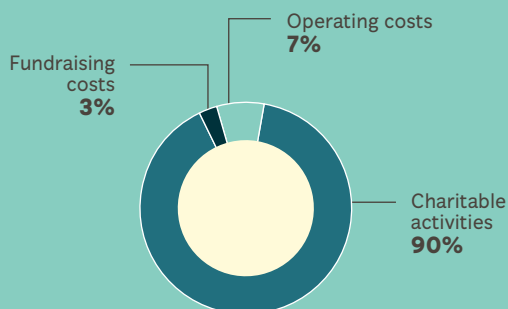


– **Donations rose to €207m** compared to €185m in 2022. In 2022, donations made up 44 % of Fondation de France’s income. Two exceptional fund-raising drives partially explain this increase: Solidarity with Turkey-Syria, which raised €14m, and Solidarity with Morocco, which raised €11m. It should be noted that Fondation Crédit Mutuel Alliance Fédérale had a significant income increase with the mutualist bank’s establishment of a “social dividend.”

– **Bequests, gifts and life insurance policies**, including resources allocated to endowment funds, totaled €113m, a decrease of €73m compared to 2022. 2023 benefited from a bequest and a donation of more than €15m. In addition, the amount of life insurance policies increased by 23 % in 2023 to €18m.

– **Other income linked to public generosity totaled €152m.** This income consists of financial and real estate assets. These assets have significantly increased compared to 2022, as a result of both the strong increase in secure short-term investments and the recovery of the stock market.

## Use of income



– **Charitable activities totaled €296m** (€277m in 2022), representing **90 % use of funds**: €199m for projects undertaken by donor-advised funds, €88m for projects carried out as part of Fondation de France’s programs, and €9m for partner organizations, as part of transnational activity. The increase in charitable activities was mainly supported by the donor-advised funds, which increased their activity by €9m and by emergency operations (Turkey-Syria and Morocco), which raised €7m.

– **Fundraising costs totaled €11m**, equal to 2021 costs. They include the cost of running fundraising campaigns, processing costs for donations, and bequests, as well as staffing costs of those directly involved in this work.

– **Operating costs totaled €22m**, an increase of €1.7m compared to 2022. This figure includes IT costs, organizational communication costs, and the general expenses required to run the operations of Fondation de France and its donor-advised funds.

Fundraising and operating costs were kept in check, despite the effects of inflation on total costs.

# Fondation de France Annual Report 2023



ACTIVITY  
REPORT



FOUNDERS  
DIRECTORY



FINANCIAL  
REPORT

## Downloadable at:

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