

GIVE IT FORWARD TRUST – GIFT 2023 End of Year Newsletter

GIFT's Three-Year Journey:

Reflecting on our three-year journey with GIFT, our convictions have only gotten stronger: (1) Philanthropy is crucial in addressing our complex societal challenges, (2) success in philanthropy demands strategic focus and professionalization, (3) unrestricted, long-term funding is essential, and (4) locally led and implemented solutions need to be prioritized.

The last three years have been remarkable. We have learned a great deal about philanthropy and impact. Meeting inspiring people along the way has enriched our perspective on humanity. And finally, echoing what numerous studies have consistently revealed, we have found that giving makes you happy!

As a Reminder:

Our mission is to transform lives one at a time

Our vision is a world where everyone can live their life to its full potential

Our belief is that luck, good or bad, plays too large of a role in people's lives

Our goal is to give forward our good luck to those in need of a second chance

Monitoring & Evaluation

Our approach to philanthropy involves more than just financial contributions; we focus on building long-term, trusting relationships with our organisations. This includes supporting them in various areas such as capacity building, fundraising, strategic planning and catering to whatever needs they may have.

In terms of Monitoring and Evaluation, we adopt a pragmatic stance. Metrics matter but they are not everything. We maintain regular communication with our NGOs through calls to stay informed about any new developments within the organisation. Our goal is to be a dependable partner, ready to support them through both successes and challenges. If you are interested in seeing our detailed December 2023 reporting, let us know.

2023 Highlights

2023 has been an eventful year for GIFT. We are delighted to have added **two new organisations** to our portfolio: World Bicycle Relief and Skateistan (more details below). **In August 2023**, Max Pelka contributed his time and effort to the Mozambique segment of Surfers Not Street Children – his experiences are shared [here](#). **In October 2023**, we embarked on a visit to the Lotus Flower in Kurdistan, Iraq, a journey made more meaningful thanks to Leysa Noble's company. You can view the video of our trip [here](#). Additionally, in **November 2023**, we participated in the WBR fundraising gala at Geneva's Velodrome, an event that successfully highlighted the remarkable work of this organisation. See LinkedIn post [here](#).

We are excited about what the next year will bring!

Fundraising

We are proud to announce that GIFT has successfully **raised CHF 1 million** since we began. While reaching this milestone is gratifying, we are eager to welcome new donor families to amplify our collective impact. At GIFT, our philosophy is to transition from purely « heart » philanthropy to a more structured approach that maximizes impact. We are on the lookout for **partners who share our vision** and are willing to contribute to the significant, albeit modest, changes that GIFT is driving. Please get in touch if you are interested in joining our effort!

We would like to thank our existing donors for their generous and continuous support.

Our portfolio:

Given GIFT's current available time and financial resources, we believe it is best to manage a portfolio of 7-10 organisations. This size allows for maintaining a personal relationship with each organisation, ensuring effective Monitoring and Evaluation, and providing support that extends beyond just financial contributions.

GIFT is proud to support the following seven organisations:



CAMFED – <https://camfed.org/>

Co-funded taylor made five-year project that enables 521 marginalised girls in rural Tanzania to access and attend secondary education thereby increasing their potential for a better life.

Tanzania



THE LOTUS FLOWER <https://thelotusflower.org/story>

The Lotus Flower provides women and girls impacted by conflict and displacement with the tools and opportunities they need to rebuild their lives.

Kurdistan, Northern Iraq



EDULUTION <https://www.edulution.org/>

Edulution is a social enterprise which provides a digital platform to primary school children in rural sub-Saharan Africa. It uses a unique mix of technology, enterprising coaches and evidence-based analytics to effectively deliver catch up programs to children.

South Africa



SURFERS NOT STREET CHILDREN

<https://www.surfnotstreets.org>

The Surfers Not Street Children model fuses surfing, mentorship and care to empower street children and children at risk in South Africa and Mozambique.

South Africa & Mozambique



TANZANIAN CHILDREN'S FUND

<https://tanzanianchildrensfund.org/who-we-are>

TCF provides a community of 10,000 with all the tools, systems and opportunities they need to find a path out of generational poverty.

Tanzania



WORLD BICYCLE RELIEF

<https://worldbicyclerelief.org>

WBR empowers people and communities through life-changing bicycles. WBR is committed to helping people conquer the challenge of distance, achieve independence and thrive.

Africa & South America

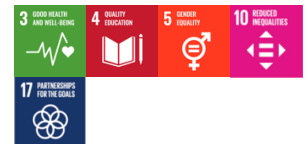


SKATEISTAN

<https://skateistan.org>

Skateistan is an award-winning NGO, driving a global movement in skateboarding and creative learning. Bold, inclusive and playful, Skateistan does whatever it takes to create safe spaces where young people can learn, play and shape their futures.

Worldwide



Merry Christmas from the Team.

GIFT

Hosted by Swiss Philanthropy Foundation

www.giftfoundation.ch

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