



Annual Report

Year ended 31 December 2011



Administrative Information

Registered Office: Steinengraben 5
CH-4003 Basel
Switzerland

Auditors: Testatoris AG
Töpferstrasse 5/ Postfach 4255
CH-6002 Luzern
Switzerland



Structure, Governance & Management

Human Dignity Foundation (HDF) is a Swiss registered charity established in 2004. The foundation is a pro-active grant-making foundation and does not carry out any other activities.

The foundation is governed by a board of seven Directors including the Chairman; two new directors were appointed in 2011.

A strategic review in 2009 led to the board's decision to become a limited life foundation. The expected lifespan is ten to fifteen years during which the foundation will spend both its income and its capital to achieve its objectives. The foundation does not actively fundraise.

In October 2010 an Executive Director was appointed to lead HDF through the development and implementation of an agreed strategy.

Taking advice from the Executive Director, and other advisers, the Directors make all decisions regarding the approval or otherwise of grant applications. Day-to-day management of the foundation is undertaken by the Executive Director.

During 2011 HDF developed a clearly articulated strategy and accompanying finance policies and procedures.

Risk Management systems are in place to mitigate exposure to major risks and further risk management work will be done in 2012.

Our Vision

Human Dignity Foundation envisages a world where all humans live in dignity; where root causes of poverty and social injustice are removed and rights are fulfilled.

Our Mission

Guided by our vision Human Dignity Foundation works to:

- bring about positive and lasting change in the lives of poor people
- enable children & women to fulfil their rights

We do this by:

- providing financial and collegial support to relevant organisations
- collaborating with others to maximise impact and learning
- influencing other foundations and philanthropists to work towards our mission

Our Target Group

Our target group is children & women in the context of their families and communities.



Grant-making Policy

For the most part HDF solicits applications rather than accepting submissions from unknown entities. The Board reviews and approves or declines grants on the basis of sound, written documentation; a signed MoU forms the basis of fund disbursement. Each funded project is monitored through site visits, reports and external reviews. Multi-annual commitments to a maximum of 5 years are made where that is deemed to be appropriate for both the project and the grantee.

Investment Strategy

HDF pursues a conservative investment strategy in conjunction with external investment advisers to meet the following investment criteria:

- Security of capital
- Spread of risk
- Generation of income to contribute to project funding commitments

The investment strategy is reviewed on a continuous basis to ensure that these investment criteria are being met.

Commitments to fund projects are only entered into to the extent that funds are available. As HDF is a spend-down foundation as more projects are identified for funding the investment portfolio will be appropriately managed to ensure availability of cash.

Our Work in 2011

During 2011 HDF approved eight grants to new organisations and delivered on five existing commitments to three organisations as per the table below.

We undertook exploratory and monitoring trips to Malawi, South Africa, India & Nepal.

Schedule of Grants FY 2011

Organisation	Country	Description	Year of Approval	Total Amount Disbursed 2011
Amnesty Intl	EU	End FGM	2007	433,510
Amnesty Intl	Sierra Leone	Access to Justice	2007	340,481
Azad Foundation	India	Skills & employment for resource-poor women	2011	25,000
Camfed	Malawi/Zimbabwe	Girl child education	2011	200,000
Foundation Nepal	Nepal	Integrated rural development	2011	43,056
Friends in Ireland	South Africa	Support to orphans & vulnerable children	2011	37,227
Global Fund for Children	Uganda, Ghana, South Africa	Support to grassroots organisations working with invisible children	2011	100,000
Global Fund for Women	India	Support to grassroots organisations working on women's economic empowerment & political participation	2011	100,000
Link Community Development	Uganda, Ghana	Healthy schools programme	2011	200,000
Protea	South Africa	IT for primary schools in Western Cape	2007 & 2010	2,410,967
Trocaire	Malawi	Addressing root causes of engendered vulnerability to HIV	2011	111,448
Women for Women International	Afghanistan	Economic Empowerment	2011	150,000
Grand Total		TOTAL		4,151,689



Plans for 2012

During 2012, HDF will focus on the following:

- Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Policy
 - Website construction
 - Risk management policy
 - Investment strategy to meet HDF's performance, liquidity & ethical requirements
 - Refined geographic focus and individual country strategies
 - Grant-management procedures and policies
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