Encouraging Research For Sustainable Humanitarian Action

Activity Report 2014/2015

FONDS croix-rouge française

No human endeavour can move forward without dedicating a part of its efforts to research and innovation

The French Red Cross Fund is an endowment fund dedicated to research and ethical reflections in the humanitarian sector. Created in 2013 at the initiative of the French Red Cross, it aims at instigating, funding and rewarding research projects which put into perspective the principles, practices and purposes of an evolving humanitarian action.



Three missions



- 13 research grants of €20,000 given to fund various projects
- 4 research prizes of €5,000 awarded along with an honorary award
- 13 Countries from four continents, furnished project proposals



Promoting Sustainable Humanitarian Action

- Organized meetings, workshops, and round tables concerning the role of ethics and research in the humanitarian sector
- Participated in two preparatory meetings for the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit (WHS)
- Launched the collection "Devenir humanitaire" with the Éditions Karthala publishing house



Exploring Fieldwork Issues

Launched a research project for the French Red Cross aimed at analyzing and understanding challenges encountered during the Ebola epidemic in order to propose operational solutions



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Editorial



Anticipating Profound Changes the Humanitarian Field through Research and Ethical Reflection

More than eight years as the President of the French Red Cross, with as many serving on the Board of Directors of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies have given me strong beliefs concerning the current ongoing changes transforming the field of humanitarian action. Characterized by a constant dialogue with the national societies of aid beneficiary countries that voice a desire for more and more sovereignty, by the different strategies of organizations from the so-called "North" and those from the Global South, who are becoming increasingly effective, these years of service have confirmed for me the reality of the profound changes in the humanitarian sector.

Despite this, several conversations that happened at conferences that brought together leaders of various French humanitarian organizations showed me that, apart from some notable exceptions, very few critical examinations were being undertaken to try to anticipate the ongoing changes in the field. It was clear to me that there was a need to rectify this situation and the glaring lack of structures dedicated to research and ethical reflection, as well as the lack of an exchange between humanitarian professionals and academics. It is often noted that there cannot be a sustainable future for the human endeavour if it doesn't dedicate a part of its efforts to research and reflection. Humanitarian action is no exception. It was for this reason, with the support of the French Red Cross, that the French Red Cross Fund was created in 2013 with the mission to innovate, develop, and anticipate in these two areas. Thanks to several partners who agreed with the goals of the Fund, to the commitment of the Executive Board and International Scientific Council, in two years of existence, with modest budget and small team, these objectives have been realized.

Thirteen research grants have been awarded to post-doctoral students, with a priority given to students from the Global South, covering themes that touch on all aspects of humanitarian transition and ethics. The results of the first group will be presented during a conference, organized in collaboration with Le Monde diplomatique, to be held in December 2015. Two seminars, in Dakar and Abidjan, allowed for the profitable interaction of key actors amongst the academic and professional fields of humanitarian action in aid receiving countries. Four awards were given to young researchers for the innovative nature of their work. During the Convergences World Forum, two round tables bringing together researchers form the North and the South, attracted great interest. Finally, the theme of ethics retained the attention of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent as well as that of the United Nations, who organized a roundtable on the topic during the Global Consultation in Geneva, which was helping to prepare the agenda for the World Humanitarian Summit to be held in Istanbul in May 2016. To this should be added the publication of articles, various book chapters, scientific articles, numerous conferences, and interventions during conferences and seminars.

This is of course just a start, but it is encouraging, and it motivates us to envision a future with ambitions as high as our hopes.

Jean-François Mattei, president

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Research and Ethics

2014

First Call for projects and postdoctoral fellowships

A call for post-doctoral research grants on the theme of "Realities and Perspectives concerning the Humanitarian Transition in Countries Receiving International Aid." €20,000 given to each of the 6 grant receiving projects, spanning three continents.

More P.9



4 March

Finalization of a Partnership Agreement with the IRD

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A first partnership agreement signed in Marseilles, between the French Red Cross and the IRD (Institut de recherche pour le développement): two as disconstructions around contacts through

two co-financed research grants and contacts throughout the world.

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26 March

West African Regional Consultation for the World Humanitarian Summit 2016

Participated at the regional preparation consultation in Abidjan for the upcoming World Humanitarian Summit (WHS). It was a valuable event and the starting point for further collaboration with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).



19-20 June

First Annual Seminar of the Fund in Dakar

The large annual Seminar was organized in one of the research priority countries with the theme of "Humanitarian Transition and Ethical Considerations in Senegal." It consisted of two days of debates and sharing field experience organized across five thematic round tables.

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Launching of the Matinales Cycle

Two workshops organized by the Fund in 2014 on the theme of NGO certification.

More on P.15

9 April

Round Table at the Convergences World Forum 2014

Organized a roundtable "What research for what humanitarian action?" With 4 speakers and more than 100 participants.



Award Ceremony for 2014 Research Prizes

Clara Egger and Thomas Fouquet were each awarded a prize of €5,000 for the quality and originality of their research work.

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September



Second Call for Projects and Postdoctoral Fellowships

The second annual call was a success, with 13 Francophonie countries represented amongst the applicants and more than 60% of the awards going to candidates based in the global South. Currently ten countries are now part of the priority research area.

More on P.09

26 January

Ethics Workshop

Exploring concepts and concrete cases, a workshop lead by Jean-François Mattei and the philosopher Pierre Le Coz helped participants learn ways of confronting the various ethical dilemmas that can arise in humanitarian field work.

More on P.15

9 June

WHS Global Consultation in Geneva

The Fund participated at the final preparatory conference, held at the European HQ of the United Nations, for the May 2016 WHS in Istanbul. This featured the participation of Jean François Mattei in a round table focused on the introduction of ethics in the humanitarian field.

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Start of the Ebola Project

This is a research project entrusted to the Fund by the French Red Cross aimed at understanding issues encountered on the ground while responding to the Ebola epidemic.

More on P.13

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The Seminar featured five thematic roundtables and debates which brought together academics, political leaders, and field actors to discuss the humanitarian transition in Côte d'Ivoire, and, more generally, the conditions that are necessary for sustainable humanitarian action.

More on P.15

18-19 November

The "States of Research"

In partnership with Le Monde diplomatique, the Fund presented the research results of the Fund's first six research grant recipients, followed by a debate focused on the evolution of the North/South relationship.

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Awarding of the 2015 Research Prize

2015 award winners, Julienne Anoko and Elodie Convergne, were selected by the Fund's jury for the quality of their research. A honorary award was also given to Jean-Pierre Olivier de Sardan.

Collection

Launching of the Devenir humanitaire

With the publication of "Humanitarian Transition in Senegal," the first volume of the new Devenir humanitaire collection of the Fund has been launched, in partnership with the Éditions Karthala publishing house.











Co-organisation of the Forum

The Forum Espace Humanitaire (FEH) brings together

dozens of NGO directors in order to discuss the issues

Round Table at the Convergences

This meeting served as part of the preparatory process

Values and Ethics: What Should Guide Humanitarian Action?

Organized a roundtable on the theme "Principles,

The "États généraux de l'action

The Fund participated in the event and co-organized

the opening round table focused on the humanitarian transition, with the participation of researchers

humanitaire internationale"

for the WHS Global Consultation in Geneva.

Espace Humanitaire 2015

facing humanitarian action.

5-7 February

World Forum 2015

September

supported by the Fund. More on P.17

3-4 November

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Our Vision

Research Helps Humanitarian Action Re-Invent Itself

Virginie Troit

General Delegate of the French Red Cross Fund.

In a rapidly changing world, humanitarian action is constantly undergoing a process of self re-invention. Today, the citizens of aid receiving countries are calling for a rebalancing of the North/ South relationship, so that the beneficiaries of humanitarian actions – individuals or communities – will be placed at the heart of interventions, because, in today's world, everyone should have the ability to directly shape the humanitarian actions that impact them.

"The Humanitarian Transition is Underway"



D V. Troit

This concept encompasses all of the issues raised by new forms of coordination between humanitarian actors and beneficiaries. How to organize the redistribution of roles, both in the operational and political sphere, and with which actors? How to organize the interface between humanitarian action, social action, and development? In what way, and under what conditions, can ethical principles help enlighten us in a moment of great change in the field?

"Support Research in Order to Apply Better Solutions in the Field"

Responding to all of these issues implies a considerable research effort in a profession where field interventions are often carried out in moments of crisis. This is why the French Red Cross, a pioneer in humanitarian action for almost 150 years, wanted to have a dedicated structure that could encourage and support the indispensable research effort necessary to bring the best solutions to the field responses, both for today and the future.

With this perspective, the Fund has given itself three objectives:

- Define the issues facing humanitarian action in the future, and give a priority to supporting academics in aid receiving countries;
- Support all the actors and local stakeholders involved in international solidarity actions during the humanitarian transition process;
- Publish and promote the knowledge that is being developed from the diversity of perspectives and stimulate further debate.

"Forge a Strong Link between Academics and Humanitarian Actors in the Field"

In order to achieve its objectives, the Fund wants to encourage links between the academic and operational worlds, both in the Global North and South. Like the members of its governance, the Fund seeks to mix backgrounds, promote interdisciplinary dialogue, and bring together academics and humanitarian professionals, in order to derive the best possible lessons from operational field experience, where the most relevant and innovative methods tailored to current conditions are being developed. This is because the humanitarian transition is being driven, more and more, at the crossroads between traditional humanitarian action, citizen initiatives and social policy.

"Ethics as a Guide"

Throughout its effort, the Fund argues for the necessity to encourage a widespread ethical debate in order to guide responses to unprecedented challenges facing humanitarian interventions, and as a guard against interventions that are all to often paternalistic, despite their altruistic intentions. In so doing, the Fund is following in the footsteps of the traditions and daily actions of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. It shares its core principles: humanity, impartiality, neutrality, unity, independence, voluntary service, and universality.





Our Scientific Mission

In 2014, the Fund structured the three pillars of its scientific mission around the following commitments:

Address to the Issues Raised by Humanitarian Actors

Identifying and investing in priority areas allows the Fund to freely respond to the questions being raised by humanitarian actors, in accordance to the role the French Red Cross gave to it. It is a risky bet, because it is not just simply the analysis of the experience of local associations, but rather to make available, as a basis for reflection, all of the diversity of practical experiences;

Support Francophone Researchers

The priority is to better integrate analysis coming from non-English speaking areas. This work is currently poorly diffused, but its integration into the wider humanitarian discourse is vital in representing the diversity of cultures and local schools of thought. The Fund therefore decided to focus its initial efforts on supporting Francophone researchers. This also includes promoting these research results in international humanitarian circles;

Promote Research in Aid Receiving Countries

The Fund seeks to promote the participation of countries that receive international aid as majority members, notably in the area of social science research.

2014 and 2015 in Action

From North to South, from South to North, in the field with humanitarian actors as in the halls of academic reflection and debate, the Fund is working for innovative and sustainable humanitarian action.

WAND GAMP

17 Researchers and Research Teams supported in 2014/2015

By financing and supporting, each year, projects being carried out by post-doctoral researchers, across four continents, the Fund has given a decisive push in helping develop reflection that will allow for a better understanding of the reality of the humanitarian transition playing out on the ground and to better conceptualize the future role of humanitarian action.



Sadio Ba Gning, 2015 promotion

Call for Projects



Since its creation, the fund has awarded several research grants to academics and post-doctoral researchers within the broad theme of **"The Realties and Perspectives of the Humanitarian Transition in International Aid Receiving Countries."**

The 13 research grants of \notin 20,000 per year were the key elements of the 2014-2015 period. They were given to researchers investigating the humanitarian transition via one of the following angles:

- Knowledge of local humanitarian stakeholders: actors and dynamics.
- From emergency to sustainable humanitarian aid: between humanitarian action and social action
- International and national aid workers: which return, which process, which effect?
- Apprehension of ethical principles in humanitarian action.
- The new geopolitics of international aid, funding, values, and operational principles: fragmentations and/or new alliances?

Half of the 13 grants were given to researchers from the Global South, and they covered the totality of the priority geographic areas.

In order to encourage research relevant to Francophone areas, priority geographic areas were identified: Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Mali, Senegal, Haiti and Laos, with the addition in 2015 of Madagascar, Ethiopia, Burundi and the DRC.

The research projects, published in French, came from individual candidates or from research teams affiliated with research institutions or universities. Most researchers have received a PhD in their fields. Qualifying proposals are evaluated by evaluating pairs from the Executive Board, the International Scientific Council, and the Fund's associate experts.



Emeline Uwizeyimana, 2015 promotion, and Virginie Troit

Focus: the 6 Projects of 2014

From Emergency Interventions to Sustainable Humanitarian Action. Redistributing Operational Roles among Humanitarian Actors, Local Partners and Beneficiary Populations in Mali and in Burkina Faso

Research Team Director: Jacky Bouju, anthropologist, researcher at the Institut des Mondes Africains (IMAF) in Aix-en-Provence.

Country: Burkina Faso

In Burkina Faso, achieving a successful humanitarian transition is a goal put forward by every actor, from international NGOs to local associations, to governmental figures. However, in reality, each actor proceeds according to their own pace and vision. What are the sticking points, the misunderstandings, and even conflicts that revolve around the notion of humanitarian transition? This is the question that Jacky Bouju tries to answer by putting side by side the various visions of different humanitarian actors. The research analyses the gaps and assets present in the local landscape of humanitarian associations without overlooking the role and influence of funding organizations whose principles, their own funding constraints, or even managerial practices can sometimes come into conflict with local customs and populations.

Humanitarian Actors in Ivory Coast and Intervention Strategies

Research Team Director: Jérôme Konan Kouakou, sociologist attached to the Research Centre for Development (CRD) of the University Alassane Ouattara de Bouaké (UAO)

Country: Ivory Coast

In lvory Coast, the post-electoral crisis of 2011 left many scars and displaced certain population groups into neighbouring countries. It was in this post-crisis context that the team chose to conduct its research, by concentrating its research in Western areas of the country, the most impacted, specifically in the Montagnes district. The team focused its research on issues of land ownership in the region and their links to social cohesion. Who are the local actors? What are the relationships between them? What are their interests? How do those interests converge or diverge? All of these questions help better understand the specificity and utility of interventions being carried out, along with the experience gained by humanitarian professionals during the implementation of their actions.

The humanitarian landscape of lvory Coast: actors and dynamics

The Researcher: Adou Djane, researcher attached to the Swiss Centre for Scientific Research (CSRS) in Ivory Coast.

Country : Ivory Coast

Ivory Coast has for a long time benefited from humanitarian action carried out both by local and international actors. Despite this, research that gives a clear understanding of the humanitarian dynamics in the country and the actors involved remain rare. This project aimed to answer the following question: are there large regional disparities in the aid sector in Ivory Coast? Adou Djane attempts to establish a mapping of humanitarian action and its actors, at the micro local level, with a focus on the Western region of the country, in particular the Man-Guiglo-Duékoué axis. The project tries to understand the mechanisms that influence the functioning of local humanitarian organizations following the progressive deactivation of the 6 "clusters" put in place by the United Nations between 2001 and 2012.







OLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONAL, avec l'appui de l'Órganisation internationale pu ligrations (OIM) et du peuple du Japon, accompagne les communautés locales, les pôpu unérables et les ménages retournés dans la réhabilitation de leurs habitations endomm rs de la crise post-électorale.

don du peuple japonais

From Emergency Interventions to Sustainable Humanitarian Action: Between Humanitarian Action and Social Action

The Researcher: **Odonel Pierre-Louis**, professor at the Ecole normale supérieure of Port-au-Prince, in Haiti

Country: Haiti

Following the devastating earthquake of 2010, Haiti saw an enormous influx of funding and humanitarian organizations for results that, five years later, are still the subject of debate. The work of Odonel Pierre-Louis focuses on the experience of lifesaving and aid organizations after the catastrophic earthquake. It seeks to better understand the conditions by which international compassion was expressed to mobilize aid in the emergency situation. The research has two main axes. The first is philosophical. Its objective: to understand the logics at work, including the effects they produce. The second is an anthropological and sociological investigation that aims to describe how the distinction between emergency relief and development NGOs no longer seem relevant on the ground.

Organisational Issues Associated with Humanitarian Action: Actors' Networks, Strategic Dynamics and Normative Systems

Research Team Director: **José-Carlos Suarez-Herrera**, professor and researcher of Organizational and Health Systems Management at Kedge Business School.

Country: Senegal

Given the diversity of collective action networks and humanitarian organizations in West Africa and the risk that they might follow divergent interests, a study in this area seemed necessary. The team directed by José-Carlos Suarez-Herrera concentrated on three objectives: identifying networks of key actors, deepening our understanding of their strategic dynamics and studying their normative frameworks, within the context of humanitarian action in Senegal. This study should allow a better understanding of how to organize humanitarian interventions in Senegal.

International Aid in Laos: A Dynamic Cartography of Actors, Systems and Governance Mechanisms

The Researcher: **Danielle Tan**, PhD in Political Science, associate researcher at the Institut d'Asie Orientale (IAO) of ENS Lyon.

Country: Laos

Heavily dependent on international aid, Laos deals with problems stemming from a local context where international NGOs are forced to intervene with a limited freedom of action. This project is aiming to construct a dynamic mapping of actors, capabilities and governance structures across the entire country. By using Geographical Information Systems (GIS), the study attempts to provide an exhaustive, global, cross-referenced, and interactive description of the landscape of humanitarian organizations in Laos. This new tool will allow the various international aid actors to better understand the local environment and, ultimately, help them as they re-evaluate their intervention strategies.





Research Awards

Each of the Fund's Research Awards, amounting to €5,000 each, rewards both young doctoral students and experienced researchers for work that presents new and innovative research perspectives. It honours both general and applied research in the field of humanitarian action, development policy or international charitable aid, without disciplinary or national discrimination. Two honourees were selected for 2014, then in 2015 by a jury of 5 members of the Board of Directors of the Fund and the International Scientific Council.

Thomas Fouquet - 2014

Between Humanitarian action, Social mobilization, and Citizenship in Africa

Thomas Fouquet, anthropologist, researcher at the CNRS, has been interested in youth citizen movements in West Africa since the 1990s, notably the critical discourses emerging from urban youth trapped between local constraints and global aspirations. His research started with a focus on the Senegalese *y'en a marre* movement (*We're fed up*), a movement that is based around citizen workshops that seeks to increase the engagement of local residents. He shows that classic humanitarian action efforts are increasingly being carried out by local popular movements.

Clara Egger - 2014

Decoding Cooperation in Crisis Interventions

After obtaining a professional master's degree in humanitarian studies and international security, Clara Egger undertook a thesis on humanitarian action and military intervention in conflict situations in Afghanistan, Somalia and in Kosovo. She focused on describing the link between formal and informal relationships developed between intervening actors and local populations. Her work showed that in a number of countries, the political invocation of "liberal peace," which attempts to join together democracy, peace, social justice, and market economics, does not make sense to local actors.

Elodie Convergne - 2015

The United Nations in Conflict Resolution

PhD in international relations, and researcher at the Centre of International Research and Study (CERI - ScPO), Elodie Convergne was the first student from a French institution to receive the Dissertation Award of the Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS). Supported by numerous interviews with public servants of international organizations, diplomats, politicians, and civil society representatives, in New York and in the field, her research focuses on the mediation efforts of UN emissaries in new conflicts.

Julienne An<u>oko - 2015</u>

An Anthropological Approach to the Ebola Crisis

Julienne Anoko is a socio-anthropologist, specialized in epidemiology, public health, and gender. For many years, she has conducted consulting missions for the WHO and other UN organizations as part of responses to epidemics, intercultural health and communication for development. She is currently undertaking a mission for UNICEF Guinea to investigate the Ebola crisis, and to ensure that a cultural approach is undertaken in the development of programs and aid projects. Her various publications all fall within her fields of research. She has notably authored with Alain Epelboin a touchstone study of the Ebola epidemic entitled "Humanizing the Response to the Ebola Epidemic in Guinea: An Anthropological Approach."









Jean-Pierre Olivier de Sardan

Years of Involvement in Development Anthropology

Jean-Pierre Olivier de Sardan is a French and Nigerien anthropologist, Director of Studies at the EHESS and Emeritus Director of Research at the CNRS. He is known in particular for his contribution to the field of the socio-anthropology of development, for which his book "Anthropology and Development. A socio-anthropological test of social change" (1995) is one of the seminal works. His research has gradually expanded to the study of the distribution and management of public goods and collective services in Africa, i.e. modes of governance or public action, whether by the state, local authorities, public services, associative actors or development institutions. He has conducted methodological and epistemological research promoting collective and rigorous study, assisted by researchers in various countries, and is the author of many respected works. Finally, he is a Co-Founder of the Laboratory for Studies and Research on Social Dynamics and Local Development (LASDEL) in Niger – a country where he has conducted research since the 1960s – and the Euro-African Association for the Anthropology of Social Change and Development (APAD).



2015 Funded Research Projects

ALIMA and African doctors: Autonomy and accountability in the platform of the medical NGOs in the Sahel. Postdoctoral research conducted by Marion PECHAYRE, of the Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme (FMSH).
State agents and humanitarian actors: challenges of a negotiated interdependence. Case study of Gambella (Ethiopia). Research team lead by Alice CORBET, from the French Centre for Ethiopian Studies (CFEE).
Humanitarian proof of rationalisation. The impact of the management of security risks on social relations in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince. Postdoctoral research conducted by Arnaud DANDOY, from the State University of Haiti (Port-au-Prince, Haiti).
Actors and dynamics of the humanitarian landscape in Madagascar: National Office of Risk and Disaster Management and its networks. Research team lead by Christiane Rafidinarivo, from the IEP Madagascar.
Actors and local and international humanitarian workers: Organisational issues in Burundi. Postdoctoral research conducted by Ms. Emeline UWIZEYIMANA, from the International Cooperation and Development Study Centre (CECID), Brussels Free University (ULB).
Doing harm or doing good: Ethics at the heart of humanitarian action in West Africa. Postdoctoral research conducted by Mr. Aimé MALANHOUA Kouassi, attached to the UNESCO Chair in the Culture of Peace, Félix Houphouët Boigny University, Ivory Coast.
NGOs, governance space: ethnography of practices in Senegal. Research team lead by Mrs Sadio Ba GNING, from the Centre for Research on Social Policies (CREPOS), Cheikh Arta Diop University of Dakar.

Devenir humanitaire: a New Collection is launched

"Humanitarian Transition in Senegal" the first volume of the collection *Devenir humanitaire*, will be published this year in collaboration with the Karthala publishing house. It brings together contributors from the research, institutional and non-governmental fields on the topic of Senegal's humanitarian transition.

DEVENIR HUMANITAIRE

"Humanitarian Transition in Senegal" inaugurates a series of books based on the proceedings of seminars organized annually by the Fund in its priority research countries. In November 2014, the Fund's team set up shop in Dakar for exchanges and discussions, organized in partnership with the Senegalese Red Cross, the Cheikh Anta Diop University and the Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD). Bringing together academics, aid organizations and representatives of national and international institutions, this event has allowed a dialogue between professionals and academics that have too few opportunities to meet and discuss. These exchanges and communications have produced eight articles that were collected in a bilingual book based on two main themes: "Thinking about the Senegalese Humanitarian Landscape (and beyond): from Research to Action"; and "Mobilizing on values: the Humanitarian lever."

The second volume of *Devenir humanitaire* is already in preparation, following the seminar in Abidjan (Ivory Coast) conducted by the Fund in November 2015. The variety of contributions, proposed by authors of very different social, geographic and professional horizons, and national focus of each book will enable the collection to foster dialogue between a variety of situations and stories, placing it at the service an original and critical humanitarian approach.

The Devenir humanitaire collection therefore contributes to the Fund's mission to promote research close to populations affected by humanitarian work and to benefit the various actors.

Publications: In order to raise the profile of the activities it conducts, the Fund developed in 2015 a specific editorial strategy. It comprises of the publication of working papers from the Fund's grantees and a collection of books dedicated to Devenir humanitaire. In partnership with the Mérieux Foundation, the International Handicap Foundation, and the Action Against Hunger Foundation, a humanitarian review project is under preparation with the aim of expanding French research in the humanitarian field. Lastly, research news and progress of the projects supported by the Fund are presented in the Letter of the Fund, of which three issues have been published.



Sharing Knowledge and Experiences: the Fund's Initiatives

The Dakar Seminar:

"Humanitarian Transition and Ethical Considerations in Senegal"

Meeting on 5-6 November 2014, the fifty participants in the Dakar seminar shared their understanding of the Senegalese humanitarian landscape and discussed ethical concerns.

Organized by the Fund and the Senegalese Red Cross in partnership with IRD, Cheikh Anta Diop University and the Veolia Foundation, the meeting brought together academics, NGOs and civil society around five roundtables:

- Realities and Prospects of the Senegalese Humanitarian Landscape;
- The Humanitarian Transition under Debate;
- Leadership, Skills and Training: towards sustainable humanitarian action;
- Research and humanitarian work: the stakes of (re) conciliation;
- Ethical and humanitarian principles.

The closing debate identified several lines of action of the humanitarian transition now at work. For Abdoul Azize Diallo, President of the Senegalese Red Cross, the seminar allowed "the meeting of knowledge and expertise, because it is indeed the academics, researchers and field workers who have exercised responsibilities in the organization of humanitarian action in Senegal and elsewhere that were invited. However, the open reflection during these two days must continue in order to build a global vision."



The Abidjan Seminar: "Humanitarian Transition and Ethical Considerations in Ivory Coast"

In November 2015, the changes in the humanitarian world remained in the program of the seminar organized by the Fund in Ivory Coast after the first edition in 2014 in Senegal. A space for dialogue and debate among stakeholders, beneficiaries and researchers, the annual seminar of the Fund also carries a vision of the humanitarian transition, in which ethics is a guiding value. The program for this 2015 edition comprised of five round tables:

- Actors and specificities of the Ivorian humanitarian landscape;
- Historical and Geographical perspectives; From Post-Conflict;
- Emergency to Emergence: the realities of the Ivorian humanitarian transition;
- Supporting Humanitarian Renewal; Humanitarian and Ethical Principles;
- The Humanitarian and Ethical Transition put to the Test by Ebola.



The Matinales: Twice a year, the Fund invites one or two experts from France or abroad to discuss issues that lay at the heart of current humanitarian changes. The first cycle of meetings dealt with the topic "NGO Certification" with the presentation of Luciano Loiacono, Accountability and Quality Manager at Handicap International. Would the establishment of an international humanitarian certification for the NGO sector be feasible, timely, prioritised? Such are the questions that animated these meetings.

The "States of Research in 2015": In December, the annual study day "Humanitarian Transition: the States of Research", organized in partnership with *Le Monde Diplomatique*, presented the first results of research for the 2014 promotion and the new promotion of 2015. The objectives of the Fund: to compare the practices and knowledge of researchers, and ultimately to lead a research network capable of generating and mobilizing knowledge on changes in international aid.



The Fund, Present in the Debate on the Future of Humanitarian Action

The Convergences World Forum

The Fund participated in the Convergences World Forum in September 2014 in Paris by organizing the roundtable "What research for what humanitarian aid? Accompanying the transition in humanitarian assistance".

In front of more than a hundred participants, four speakers questioned the link between research and humanitarian work. The exchanges allowed the reflection on the way NGOs of the North and South such as Oxfam or Enda Health integrate research into their operational activities. It also allowed discussion of the CRASH initiatives, a structure attempting to take a critical look at the practices of Doctors without Borders (MSF).

In 2015, the Fund once again organised a panel on the theme: "Principles, values and ethics: guidelines for humanitarian action" The panel included, among others, the OCHA head of office in Ivory Coast and a researcher from LASDEL in Niamey. The debate focused on the essential role of ethics in the decision-making process and the exchange of views and experiences. This meeting served as a preparatory roundtable for the WHS Global Consultation of Geneva.

The Forum Espace Humanitaire (FEH)

Since 2009, the Forum Espace Humanitaire has met three times, gathering around forty leaders of international solidarity organizations with the aim of implementing a collective reflection on the future of humanitarian action.

The FEH was initiated by Jean-François Mattei, then president of the French Red Cross, alongside Philippe Ryfman, professor of political science at the University of Paris I, and Benoît Miribel, Managing Director of the Mérieux Foundation. Charged with representing the French Red Cross as a founding member, the Fund is also a member of its steering committee. It participated in the preparation of its 2015 edition: "Which Transitions for which Humanitarian action?"

The National Humanitarian Conference (NHC)

NHC is a meeting place and point of discussion for all varieties of actors in the French humanitarian sector. This second edition, held on March 29, 2014 in Paris by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in partnership with the *Groupe URD*, was an opportunity for the Fund to observe the realities of humanitarian transition and dialogue with French humanitarian players. Jean-François Mattei, President of the Fund, was invited to summarize the day during the closing session alongside Véronique de Geoffroy of the *URD*.



Mickaël Neuman, round table of the fund, convergences 2014



Philippe Ryfman, FEH 2015



Véronique de Geoffroy and Jean-François Mattei, session summary, CNH 2014

Participation in Research Forums

The Fund participated in several debate forums in order to dialogue with organizations with similar fields of activities, to better reflect the research and to identify the networking needs in order to break down barriers between thought and action.

- The conference "The Figure of the Beneficiary", organized by the ACF and the University of Paris III on the 19th and 20th of June in Paris;
- Meetings of African Studies, organized by the Etudes africaines on the 4th of July in Bordeaux;
- The Humanitarian Congress met on the 10th and 11th of October in Berlin, organized by Doctors without Borders, Doctors of the World and the German Red Cross.



The États généraux de l'action humanitaire internationale

The États généraux de l'action humanitaire internationale, organized in Grenoble in 2015 by the Humacoop Association, aims to call into question the practices and impacts of humanitarian and development projects and their stakeholders. At the heart of discussions during the second edition were North-South partnerships. The Fund moderated a panel discussion on the different dimensions of the humanitarian transition, including three of its research fellows supported in 2014 and 2015.



Marion Pachayre, Virginie Troit, Danielle Tan, Jacky Bouju États généraux 2015

© V. Troit



The Ebola Project: a Challenge for Humanitarian Research

In early 2015, while the epidemic of Ebola was regressing in West Africa, the French Red Cross contracted the Fund to conduct a reflective study on its intervention in Guinea. Objective: To learn from a complex emergency response in order to better cope with future outbreaks.

Although it is not the first experienced by the continent, the Ebola epidemic that broke out in Guinea in December 2013 was unprecedented in its virulence and magnitude. Faced with this disaster, humanitarian organizations took the lead in their response; the French Red Cross, supported by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs quickly mobilised in many parts of the country to help the victims.

A Global and Complex Humanitarian Crisis

Faced with a global humanitarian crisis, the actions of the Red Cross were multiple and complex: in addition to providing medical care of the sick, it was necessary to provide victims a dignified and healthy burial to avoid transmissions, to track people who had been in contact with the sick, to mobilise communities particularly in rural areas in order to curb the epidemic, and to provide material assistance to affected populations.

Already confronted with the technical challenges posed by the epidemic (no specific treatment or vaccine, soaring speed of transmission), the humanitarian response had been particularly difficult in an environment of panic. Many rumours, often "conspiratorial" and sometimes exploitative, were spread about the fate of hospital patients or the origins of the outbreak. Reinforced by malfunction and blunders, such hearsay generated a sense of hostility and violence against humanitarian workers when they arrived to a village clothed as "cosmonauts", further hindering the fight against Ebola.

The Ebola Epidemic: Stocktaking and Analysis

After having affected nine countries and causing more than 11,000 deaths, according to the WHO, the epidemic seems to have been contained, and it is now time for the first assessment. As research body, the Fund was commissioned by the French Red Cross to conduct a scientific study to understand the difficulties encountered in order to improve the response to future epidemic crises.

Since September 2015, the Fund has thus piloted an anthropologic study entitled "The Red Cross put to the test by the Ebola Epidemic in Guinea: an Analysis of an Emergency Humanitarian intervention in the context of a Multidimensional Crisis." Lead on the ground by Dr. Anicet Zran, researcher at Houphouët-Boigny University (Abidjan), and under the scientific supervision of Jean-Pierre Dozon, scientific director of the Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme (FMSH), the study took place over nine months in Guinea and Ivory Coast. It will analyse first the action of emergency deployed by the French Red Cross, the perception of the epidemic by its agents and their internal relations (among nationals and expatriates in particular) with the other humanitarian actors and local communities. The representatives of the populations will also be at the heart of the study, thereby allowing a better comprehension of their dynamics over time, along with the impact of humanitarian programs and their evolution.

For this project, the Fund aimed to fulfil its scientific mission and to honour the Red Cross Movement's commitment to put social science research at the service of a more ethical humanitarian action more adapted to the contexts to which it is deployed.



In 2016, let us support an Ethical Approach to Humanitarian Work at the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) of Istanbul

The commitment of the Fund to the promotion of ethical and sustainable humanitarian work materializes. Building on the reflections of recognised men of thought and actions, a project of International Humanitarian Charter on Ethics was proposed by the President of the Fund at the Global Consultation in Geneva in October 2015.

Ethics is at the heart of the career of Jean-François Mattei, Professor of Medicine, Genetics Specialist, and Rapporteur on Bioethics Laws in France in the 1990s. His experience as president of the French Red Cross and the Governing Board of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) have enabled him to gauge the proximity of the medical and humanitarian fields, where asymmetries between the helpers and the helped are created. In a humanitarian context in transition, the wise application of ethical principles of autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence and justice sheds fundamental light on putting the victim back at the centre of decisions that concern him or her. In addition to the humanitarian principles of the Red Cross Movement, ethics allows us to reinvent a more sustainable humanitarian action.



Jean-François Mattei received in New York by Dr Jemilah Mahmood

The Fund, flag-bearer for Ethical Principles in Humanitarian Action

Since its inception, the Fund has supported research on the understanding of ethical principles in humanitarian action, supporting several scholars working on this theme in 2014 and 2015. It initiated the debate between academics and practitioners at its events in the North and the South, with roundtables and

ethical workshops at annual seminars like the one held in St Louis, Senegal under the leadership of Professor Niang, and the contributions of ethicists like Pierre Le Coz, Philosopher specialising in ethics, or Félicien Mulopo Munday, Professor of Ethics at the University of Kinshasa.

The Preparation for the WHS

The positive feedback and support received by the Fund for its efforts, along with the synthesis of the preparatory initiatives at the WHS, confirmed that the sentiment for a need of ethics in the humanitarian sphere is shared. The meetings with the Office for the Coordination of United Nations Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in Dakar and New York with Dr. Jemilah Mahmood, head of the WHS Secretariat initiated collaboration with the Fund. It took the form of a roundtable on ethics at the Geneva Global Consultation, final preparatory meeting of the Istanbul Summit, where, with support from the IFRC, Mr. Mattei proposed drafting an International Humanitarian Charter on Ethics. At the invitation of the IFRC President, Jean-François Mattei had previously presented to the Governing Council meeting in Vienna on why humanitarian needs ethics.

With the convening of the WHS in May in Istanbul, 2016 promises to be an important year for the humanitarian world. With its third call for fellowships, its various events and the organization of a seminar in Haiti, the Fund will continue its commitment to promoting an ethical approach to sustainable humanitarian action.



Training in Ethics: In order to meet the demand of aid professionals in the field faced with difficult ethical dilemmas, the Fund organized in the first semester of 2015 an ethics training day. Lead by Jean-François Mattei, President of the Fund, and Pierre Le Coz, a philosophy professor and former member of the National Consultative Ethics Committee, training alternated between fundamental concepts and concrete cases submitted by participants themselves

The Life of the Fund



Committed Partners

The life of the Fund rests on exchange and on a collective and participatory approach. This is why partnerships - with research institutes, NGOs, companies, French and international public actors - play a leading role.

The French Red Cross

Beyond the contribution to the initial endowment of the Fund, the French Red Cross remains the main financial partner of the Fund, having allocated an annual balancing subsidy during its first four years. It can also seek additional partners to support and finance research implemented by the Fund.

"As the largest French humanitarian organization, the Red Cross cannot neglect the current need for a strong organisation dedicated to research and education. The creation of the French Red Cross Fund expresses a shared desire to provide a broader space for academic research and to create a space for debate conducive to innovation. We believe that both are essential to enriching our understanding of the evolution of international solidarity and to preparing its present and future protagonists to better serve people in need."

> Jean-Jacques Eledjam, President of the French Red Cross

Operational Partners

On a daily basis, the Fund's partners are universities, institutes, research centres and media involved in humanitarian research. Several are included in the Fund's governance bodies and are involved in research events organized by the Fund. The Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS) and the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Santé Publique (EHESP) are thus present in its governing board. The Fund and the IRD have been close as ever, especially to facilitate the relations of academic and operational partners in the countries where the IRD has an agency. The IRD has, moreover, committed to co-fund two grants awarded by the Fund for Southern researchers for two years. *Le Monde diplomatique* accommodates the Fund researchers with pro bono subscriptions. It contributed decisively to the organization and the hosting of the States of Research.

Institutional Partnerships

In 2014, the Fund signed a partnership with the Princely Government of Monaco to fund research on humanitarian action in Africa. Some partners of the Red Cross expressed interest and support for Fund initiatives. Thus, in 2014, an agreement was concluded between the French Red Cross and the City of Strasbourg to finance a research project on the evolution of humanitarian work in Haiti. Likewise, the CDC, the Crisis and Support Centre of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs joined, via the Red Cross, in support of the Fund in 2015.

The Financial Partners and Sponsors

Companies, corporate foundations and major donors can accompany and support the Fund through the financing of projects or scientific events, or even via skills sponsorship. In 2014, the Mérieux Foundation thus committed to provide financial support for the scientific mission of the Fund for over three years. The Veolia Foundation has in turn helped finance the seminar in Dakar. Moreover, major donors commit personally: one of the Research Awards was financed in 2014 and 2015 thanks to the circle of major donors from the Tiffany Circle. The communication Ledouze agency defined the graphic identity of the Fund and supports the production of its communication materials on a probono basis.

"The French Red Cross Fund offers its partners the chance to take an active role in the preparation of the humanitarian transition in current aid beneficiary countries, which are now ready and willing to take responsibility for it. For businesses, in particular, it is essential to anticipate the current and future developments in close cooperation with research, especially in the field of humanitarian action."

Jean-François Mattei



Governance

The Board

A Multidisciplinary Governance

The Fund has sought to establish a governance reflecting the diversity of research actors and of humanitarian action, while ensuring a strong link with the French Red Cross. The Board decides guidelines and scientific projects, and oversees the financial management, the choices concerning human resources and statutory life. It decides in particular the attribution of fellowships and research awards. Its scientific decisions are made based on the expertise of the International Scientific Council (ISC). Associate experts accompany the fund on a sustained basis on a theme or a particular geographical area and participate in the scientific life of the Fund.

The Bureau

- President: Jean-François Mattei, Professor of Geriatrics, Genetics and Biomedical Ethics. He is Honorary President of the French Red Cross and former Minister of Health, Family and the Disabled. He is a member of the Institut de France and of the French Académie nationale de Médecine.
- Vice President: Philippe Ryfman, Professor and Honorary Research Associate in the Department of Political Science and Sociology at the European Centre and Political Science at the Sorbonne, University of Paris I. Expert with NGOs, he is a lawyer practicing in Paris, and a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal Humanitaire.
- Treasurer: Caroline Cussac, of the French Red Cross, personally committed to the French Red Cross since 1995, and president of the Northwest region.
- Secretary: Olivier Bernard, MD, former President of Doctors of the World, and member of the CNRS Laboratory of Anthropology.



Other Board Members

- Laetitia Atlani-Duault, Head of research at IRD, CNRS Bronze Medal for her research in anthropology of humanitarian aid and development;
- Francois Bricaire, Professor of Medicine specialising in infectious and tropical diseases, member of the French Acédémie nationale de Médecine, Board member of the French Red Cross;
- Régine Ducos. Director of International Relations of EHESP. holds a Masters in Health, Population and Nutrition in Developing Countries;
- Wolf-Dieter Eberwein, Professor of Political Science and International Relations, former President of VOICE, a network of 83 European humanitarian organizations;
- Jean-Jacques Eledjam, Professor of Medicine and Anaesthesiology at the University Hospital of Montpellier. President of the French Red Cross since 2013;
- Eloi Ficquet, a Anthropologist and Historian. Lecturer at EHESS, Associate Professor at the Senghor University of Alexandria and the University of Hamburg;
- Daniel Meyran, MD, Chief Medical Officer of the Naval Firefighter Battalion of Marseilles and Board member of the French Red Cross;
- Pierre Richard, a Computer Scientist and Specialist in Management and Administration, Member of the Commission nationale de surveillance of the French Red Cross;
- **Robert Sebbag**, MD Lecturer in Public Health at the University Paris VI, Board member of the French Red Cross, Vice Chairman of the Sanofi-Aventis Group
- Danièle Sommelet, Professor of Medicine, member of the Comité des Sages of the French Red Cross. She served as the head of the 1978 to 2003 Paediatrics Service at Nancy Hospital.







The International Scientific Council

The International Scientific Council (ISC) of the Fund brings together researchers and experts in the world of humanitarian or social aid, cooperation or development aid. With a mission to provide advice and make recommendations on the scientific mission of the Fund, the Committee met twice in 2014. The ISC is fully involved in defining the scientific direction of the Fund and evaluating research projects.

ISC Members

- Francis Akindes (President), Professor of Political and Economic Sociology and President of the Scientific Council of the Alassane Ouatarra University (Ivory Coast), Scientific Coordinator of the UNESCO Chair in Bioethics;
- Malika Aït Mohammed Parent, Deputy Secretary-General of the Services Division of the Statutory Bodies and Management, International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent;
- **Yvan Conoir**, Political Scientist, specializing in the design and evaluation of humanitarian programs, expert associated with the Raoul Dandurand Chair of the University of Quebec in Montreal;
- Mireille Guigaz, Doctor of Medical Law and Health Economics, former Vice President of the Global Fund;
- Dominique Kerouedan, MD and Political Science Professor at the School of International Affairs at Sciences-Po Paris;
- Gautier Pirotte, Sociologist specializing in the emergence of civil societies in East Central Europe and in Africa, Professor at University of Liège;
- Isabelle Polisset-Whitehouse (Secretary), Supervisor of the Institutional Centre of Direction of International Relations and Operations of the French Red Cross.

"The ISC aims to identify the earliest possible new problems emerging in the humanitarian field and development. These concerns are similar to my own research path, because I have studied in depth the socio-political situations in countries in crisis and transition. They create new conditions for humanitarian action, which is faced with the need for constant change."

Francis Akindes



The Team and Associate Experts

Bringing together experienced professionals, the operational team acts daily to implement the decisions of the Board and to propose opportunities for action.

• Virginie Troit, General Delegate of the Fund. Holds a Master in Management (ESC Toulouse) and a Masters in Political Science (Panthéon-Sorbonne), she has over ten years of experience in the humanitarian field with Doctors without Borders, AFD, and the international network of Handicap International.

Caroline Vitaglione, Administration and Communication Coordinator. Certified translator, Caroline translated for many years for several NGOs. She was then in charge of communication and press relations for the Salon Des Solidarités for 5 years.

■ Vincent Léger, Scientific Advisor. Doctor of Anthropology, he supervises the projects of research fellows and liaises with their sponsors from the CSI. He participates in the formulation of the call for research bids, scientific publications and planning of scientific events.

The Fund's team regularly welcomes student interns in International Relations, Political Science or Humanitarian Action in positions as scientific project officers. In 2014 and 2015, the team had the pleasure to work with: Clémence Schweitzer (IRIS-Sup), Julie Jarno (Sciences-Po Paris), Marco Sacchi (Sciences-Po Lyon) and Rémi Reboux (Sciences-Po Paris).



Thomas Fouquet

The Experts

- Richard Banegas, Professor of Political Science at Sciences-Po. A specialist in West Africa and the Great Lakes, he is the Co-Chair of the Joint African Studies with Columbia University;
- Thomas Fouquet, Doctor of Anthropology and top-ranked researcher at the CNRS (France's national Scientific Research Center). Serving as a Scientific Advisor for the Fund in 2014, he led the scientific program for the Dakar seminar and directed the development of the first instalment of the Devenir humanitaire collection.

From left to right : Rémi Reboux, Virginie Troit, Jean-François Mattei, Marco Sacchi and Caroline Vitaglione 🧯



2014 Financials

A Balanced Financial Situation

The French Red Cross Fund is an endowment fund created by the French Red Cross (FRC) in May 2013. It has a net expendable endowment of €500,000. Its accounts are consolidated with those of the French Red Cross. In line with its bylaws, the Fund may receive investment income, financial and material support from private individuals wishing to support its missions, and revenues from its activities.

The year 2014 is the first full year of activities of the Fund. It was marked by the launch of its scientific mission and development activities: fundraising and communication. The Fund must gradually find its own financing sources to implement its scientific mission. Having signed a charter of good conduct with the French Red Cross, the Fund is committed to not organising campaigns appealing to public generosity. This first year of activity has kept its promises with the signing of many partnerships in France and abroad. Its resources are consistent with the 2014 budget and it was break-even due to the balancing subsidy granted by the French Red Cross.

New bylaws: Validated Amendments

In addition to the changes regarding the number of Board members and their distribution college that had been validated in June, the Board voted on 10 December new amendments to the bylaws of the Fund. These amendments are intended to provide the Fund with bylaws more adapted to the operations of an endowment fund, to clarify its research funding mission particularly through fellowships, and to add an additional mission of financing humanitarian operators and charities. Revisions validated in December affected following articles: Art. 2: Objectives; Art. 3: Means Art. 7: Capital Allocation. These revisions were validated by receipt of the Préfecture on 24 December 2014.

2014 Financial Statements: In line with the Budget

The accounts of the Fund as of 31 December 2014 include a balance sheet, income statement and an annex. The following presentation is a summary. All detailed figures and charts are available and published in the Official Gazette and on our website.

Income Statement

In 2014, revenues comprised of donated private funds, contributions from the French Red Cross and its partners, and financial interests. For a first year, the commitment of partners is encouraging despite their lack of awareness about the need for investment in humanitarian research. Note that the income is recorded on the balance sheet as an accretion to the endowment before appearing on the income statement for the use of the expendable endowment.



€	2014
Expendable endowment (funds raised among private partners included)	2 131 957,00
Operating expenses	418 073,00
Exceptional income	273 593,00
Non-recurring charge	2 000 000,00
Financial interests	16 173,00
Net income	- 0,00

Exceptional income consists of the balancing subsidy granted by the French Red Cross. Exceptional expenses are exclusively related to the partial consumption of the allocation as voted by the Board. This is a donation of 2 million to the French Red Cross to enable it to address the Ebola crisis in Guinea, Ivory Coast and Mali, and to continue its actions in primary and mother and child healthcare, as well as nutritional care in Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania and Niger.

2014 Financials

Revenues

The initial use of the expendable endowment being excluded, the Fund's revenues are divided into:



The first raised funds were used to finance the net amounts of research (grants and awards). Nearly 61% of revenues from partnerships and donations are assigned to a single scientific project.

Expenses

In 2014, operating expenses were €418,072. In addition to this amount a donation of 2 million was given to the French Red Cross. The Fund had no financial interest or commitments. Expenses were stabilised and slightly below budget. After cost allocation, operating expenses can be split as per the following chart:

€	2014
Scientific mission	258 007,00
Fundraising/ communication costs	28 759,00
Overheads	119 728,00
Non-recurring charge	- 2 000 000,00
Provisions	11 577,63

Expenses assigned to scientific projects organised by the Fund⁽¹⁾:



(1) Calculated on an indicative basis, personnel costs dedicated to these projects excluded

Balance Sheet

Assets

Current assets consist mainly of cash amounts, which are invested.

Liabilities

The majority amount of debt consists of 2014 grants instalments, which will be paid in 2015.

€	2014
NET ASSETS	638 772,00
Net fixed assets	73 459,00
Current assets	564 973,00
Adjustments	340,00
LIABILITIES	638 772,00
Association funds	500 000,00
Debts	138 772,00

* Calculated on an indicative basis, personnel costs dedicated to these projects excluded

The Funds financials have been audited and certified with no reserve by the auditor:

"We certify that the financial statements are, in accordance with French accounting rules and principles, regular and sincere and present fairly the results of the operations for the previous year as well as the financial position and the assets of the endowment Fund at the end of this year"

P. Guay, Auditor General of the French Red Cross Fund, Societé Deloitte.



Contact

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