

KEY FIGURES IN THE 14TH FINANCIAL YEAR

Funds totalling CHF 11.3 million (2010: 10.0; 2009: 9.7) were used for the foundation's activities (cash out). CHF 10.4 million (9.1; 8.7) were channelled into direct grants and implementation activities for 50 (36; 37) support projects. Of these projects, 16 (6; 7) were < CHF 50'000, 31 (28; 29) between CHF 50'000 and CHF 500'000 and 3 (2; 1) > CHF 500'000. Total foundation expenditure amounted to 8.2 % (9.3; 9.5) of the funds used, of which 2.5 % (3.2; 3.4) were administrative expenses and 5.7 % (6.1; 3.4) direct project expenses for the themes supported. Foundation assets as at 31.12.11 amounted to CHF 170 million (177.3; 180.5). In the year under review, a net portfolio performance of 1.08 % (3.6; 14.1) was achieved with a largely passive asset allocation.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Prof. Dr. Rudolf Marty (since 2005; chairman), Prof. Dr. Peter Forstmoser (since 1997; deputy chairman), Prof. Dr. Richard Bühler (since 2011), Prof. Dr. René Dändliker (since 2007), Prof. Dr. Susan Gasser (since 2006), Christiane Langenberger (since 2008), Prof. Dr. Jürg Schifferli (since 2007), Prof. Dr. Roland Siegwart (from 2012), Prof. Dr. Carl August Zehnder (since 1998, until end 2011)

EXECUTIVE TEAM: Dr. Philipp Egger, director; Dr. Pascale Vonmont, deputy director; Jacqueline Grollmund, project controlling; Corinne Burkhardt, back office

COMMITTEES AND ADVISORY BOARDS: Chairman's Committee, Nominations Committee, Finance Committee; «venture kick» Strategy Board; «Modellprojekte Fachhochschulen» Advisory Board; «Rare Diseases» Advisory Board; Eastern Europe Committee

EXTERNAL UNITS:

Investment concept/Strategic pooling partner: ECOFIN Portfolio Solutions AG, Zurich
Asset management/Fund management: State Street Global Advisors (SSgA), Boston (global equities and bonds); Bank Syz AG, Zurich (for CHF bonds)
Investment controlling: ECOFIN Investment Consulting AG, Zurich
Accounting: Bourcart Treuhand AG, Basel
Auditors: Copartner Revision AG, Basel
Supervisory authority: Swiss Federal Supervisory Board for Foundations, Berne

SELECTION: The evaluation of projects is based on a multi-year grant-making strategy. Selection by the board of trustees follows a two-stage process: If a project proposal is approved, an invitation is extended to submit an application. Not all projects that meet the grant-making strategy criteria can be financed. This is why, in a final step, a ranking is drawn up which in many cases leads to the exclusion of applicants as «approved but not funded».

TRANSPARENCY: The website grstiftung.ch presents the foundation's policy and strategy in the form of areas of activity, it openly discloses the support criteria and provides information on procedures. The following information is given for every project supported: project managers, total grant amount, abstract, project status and results. All information reported, which is structured by project stages, is continuously updated.

GOOD GOVERNANCE: Gebert RUF Stiftung complies with the Swiss Foundation Code 2009, is a member of SwissFoundations and works closely with the University of Basel's CEPS (Centre for Philanthropy Studies). Relying on an internal control system (ICS), the board of trustees carries out an annual risk assessment of all foundation activities.

PUBLISHING DETAILS: The present short report of the executive team is an annual report of the «extended calling card» type. It is also available in German and French. The full annual report of the board of trustees in accordance with Swiss GAAP ARR can be downloaded from grstiftung.ch as of May 2012.

LAYOUT AND DESIGN: a+, Basel

FOUNDATION TYPE
«ENTREPRENEURIAL GRANT-MAKING FOUNDATION»

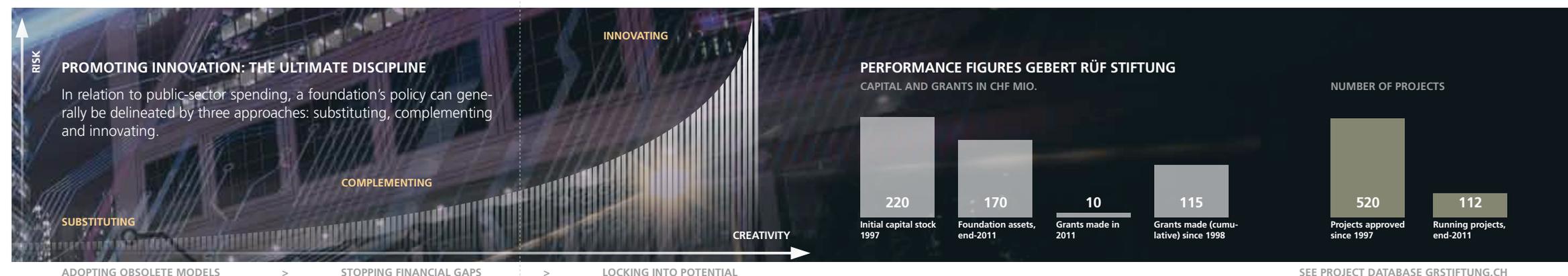
Private foundations are dwarfed by public-sector support vehicles. Even Gebert Rüt Stiftung with its current support budget of CHF 10 million p. a. – a respectable amount by Swiss standards – is a «quantité négligeable». It is the *quality* of the support that determines the impact a foundation has.

Foundations which adopt obsolete state support models or channel their resources into government initiatives without themselves having any say in how these are structured are reduced to the status of mere stop-gaps. If they engage in uninspired scatter support, they have no profile and only modest effect. However, if they themselves act like entrepreneurs, bundling and networking their limited resources, they can achieve significant things in the real world. Having a positive impact on societal changes and developments – this is philanthropy in its original sense.

2011 AT A GLANCE

SUPPORT PROVIDED:	CHF 11 million
YOUNG SCIENTISTS SUPPORTED:	450
EXECUTIVE TEAM:	3.2 full-time equivalents
EXPENSE RATIO:	2.5 %
RETURN ON ASSETS:	1.08 %
REGULATORY BASIS:	Swiss Foundation Code

Gebert Rüt Stiftung, founded by a successful entrepreneur, was conceived as a business-like venture right from the beginning. In order to optimally fulfil its remit to promote innovation, it endeavours to lend tangible form to the «entrepreneurial grant-making foundation» model.



THE FOUNDATION AS AN ENTERPRISE

FEATURES – As a private grant-making organisation committed to innovation and entrepreneurship, Gebert Rüt Stiftung must *itself* also endeavour to be innovative and entrepreneurial:

- Cultivating a dynamic foundation vision derived from the foundation purpose;
- Projecting itself as a living enterprise capable of transformation;
- Separating the strategic (board of trustees) and operational levels (executive team);
- Maintaining checks and balances with an internal control system (ICS) and risk assessment;
- Accepting controlled risks with the aim of exploiting opportunities.

STRATEGY – In accordance with its mission statement «Wissenschaft.be-wegen» Gebert Rüt Stiftung cultivates and develops a grant-making cluster of related focus areas under the heading «Innovation»:

- Results-oriented management as support model;
- Ownership in place of retail;
- Maintaining a value chain spanning the whole spectrum from early identification through selection, service agreement, monitoring and evaluation to strategic feedback;
- Managing the grant-making gap, i.e. the grey area between state and private-sector «responsibilities»;
- Integrating creative potential.

SUPPORT – Gebert Rüt Stiftung does not support the sciences per se (basic research is the preserve of the state and the corporate sector), but projects delivering concrete results:

- Aimed at solving social problems (grant-making gaps) or creating social benefits (support potential);
- Supporting projects which have a high impact in the relevant context;
- Acquiring projects driven forward by entrepreneurial teams (knowledge entrepreneurs);
- Applying an entrepreneurial view and momentum from the outset to increase the probability of innovative ideas being realised.