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To the General Assembly of

## **Wikimedia CH**

c/o BDO SA  
Via Vedeggio 3  
6814 Lamone

# **Report on the voluntary Audit of the 2021 Financial Statements**

(for the period from 1.1. to 31.12.2021)

5 April 2022  
DFO/MAR/anp

## Audit report on the Financial Statements

To the Association Meeting of  
**Wikimedia CH, Lamone**

In accordance with your instructions, we have audited the accompanying financial statements of Wikimedia CH, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 december 2021, the statement of operation, the statement of changes in capital, the cash flow statement and notes for the year then ended. In accordance with Swiss GAAP FER 21, the information in the performance report is not subject to the obligation of examination of auditors.

### Board's Responsibility

The Board is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER, the requirements of Swiss law and the association's bylaws. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining an internal control system relevant to the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The Board is further responsible for selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Swiss Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers the internal control system relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control system. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.



Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements for the year ended 31 december 2021 give a true and fair view of the financial position, the results of operations and the cash flow in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER and comply with Swiss law and the association's bylaws.

We recommend that the financial statements submitted to you be approved.

Lamone, 5 April 2022

BDO Ltd

Demis Fontana  
Licensed Audit Expert

p.p. Michele Arrigo  
Licensed Audit Expert

Enclosures  
Financial statements

# Financial Statement 2021

Wikimedia CH

7th May 2022



Mauro Cassina

Member of board and treasurer

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**I Balance sheet  
at 31.12.2021**

	Notes	31.12.2021 CHF	31.12.2020 CHF
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash		6 340 199,63	3 649 181,54
Inventory		1,00	1,00
Prepaid expenses		330 509,83	321 611,14
<b>Current assets</b>		<b>6 670 710,46</b>	<b>3 970 793,68</b>
Tangible fixed assets		1,00	1,00
<b>Non-current assets</b>		<b>1,00</b>	<b>1,00</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>6 670 711,46</b>	<b>3 970 794,68</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>			
Accounts payable		49 500,85	56 545,93
Accrued liabilities		1 210 255,73	139 754,45
<b>Current liabilities</b>		<b>1 259 756,58</b>	<b>196 300,38</b>
Restricted funds CH		27 690,59	27 690,59
<b>Fund capital</b>		<b>27 690,59</b>	<b>27 690,59</b>
Free reserves		5 383 264,29	3 596 803,71
Earmarked reserves CH	5.9	0,00	150 000,00
<b>Organization capital</b>		<b>5 383 264,29</b>	<b>3 746 803,71</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		<b>6 670 711,46</b>	<b>3 970 794,68</b>

**2 Statement of operations  
for the year from 01.01.2021 to 31.12.2021**

	Notes	2021	2020
<b>INCOME</b>			
Membership fees		15 696,21	15 292,71
Donations received CH	5.7/5.9	3 068 075,23	2 526 963,33
Donations received WMF (restricted)	5.7/5.9	1 424 640,06	1 553 974,13
Other income		1 200,00	0,00
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>		<b>4 509 611,50</b>	<b>4 096 230,17</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Wikimedia projects	5.8/5.9	-1 502 627,95	-1 544 311,86
Fundraising		-201 348,70	-130 911,26
Personnel expenses		-857 037,70	-629 003,51
Administration expenses		-160 880,51	-166 757,61
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		<b>-2 721 894,86</b>	<b>-2 470 984,24</b>
<b>OPERATING RESULT</b>		<b>1 787 716,64</b>	<b>1 625 245,93</b>
Financial result		-1 256,06	-898,05
Extraordinary result		0,00	-5 496,12
<b>Result before change in fund capital</b>		<b>1 786 460,58</b>	<b>1 618 851,76</b>
Allocation		1 183 331,59	1 263 576,72
Appropriations		-1 183 331,59	-1 263 576,72
<b>Change in fund capital</b>		<b>0,00</b>	<b>0,00</b>
<b>Annual result (before allocation to organisation capital)</b>		<b>1 786 460,58</b>	<b>1 618 851,76</b>
Allocation to free reserves		-1 786 460,58	-1 618 851,76
		<b>0,00</b>	<b>0,00</b>

### 3 Statement of changes in capital 2021

	2021 Balance 1.1.	Allocations	internal fund transfers	Appropriation All. financial result	Total change	Balance 31.12.
<b>Fund capital</b>						
Restricted Funds						
WMF	0	1 183 332		-1 183 332	0	0
WMCH	27 691				0	27 691
<b>Total fund capital</b>	<b>27 691</b>	<b>1 183 332</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-1 183 332</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27 691</b>

<b>Organization capital</b>						
Free reserves	3 596 804	1 786 461			1 786 461	5 383 265
Earmarked reserves CH	150 000			-150 000	-150 000	0
<b>Total organization capital</b>	<b>3 746 804</b>	<b>1 786 461</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-150 000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1 636 461</b>
						<b>5 383 265</b>

	2020 Balance 1.1.	Allocations	internal fund transfers	Appropriation All. financial result	Total change	Balance 31.12.
<b>Fund capital</b>						
Restricted Funds						
WMF	0	1 263 577		-1 263 577	0	0
WMCH	27 691				0	27 691
<b>Total fund capital</b>	<b>27 691</b>	<b>1 263 577</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-1 263 577</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27 691</b>
<b>Organization capital</b>						
Free reserves	1 977 952	1 618 852			1 618 852	3 596 804
Earmarked reserves CH	150 000				0	150 000
<b>Total organization capital</b>	<b>2 127 952</b>	<b>1 618 852</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1 618 852</b>
						<b>3 746 804</b>



**4 Cash flow statements for the period  
ended December 2021 and 2020**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Cash Flow from operating activities</b>		
Result of the year before variation of capital	1 786 460,58	1 618 851,76
+/- Increase/decrease of accrued and deferred tax	0,00	0,00
Decrease/increase of prepaid expenses and accrued		
+/- income	-8 898,69	69 315,48
+/- Increase/decrease of other short-term liabilities	-7 045,08	21 588,51
Increase/decrease of accrued expenses and deferred		
+/- income	1 070 501,28	-1 117 340,09
<b>Cash inflow/drain from operating activities = (operative cf)</b>	<b>2 841 018,09</b>	<b>592 415,66</b>
<b>Cash Flow from investing activities</b>		
<b>= Cash inflow/drain from investing activities</b>	<b>0,00</b>	<b>0,00</b>
<b>Cash Flow from financing activities</b>	<b>-150'000,00</b>	<b>0,00</b>
<b>= Cash inflow/drain from financing activities</b>	<b>-150'000,00</b>	<b>0,00</b>
<b>Change in cash</b>	<b>2 691 018,09</b>	<b>592 415,66</b>
Cash as at 01.01.	3 649 181,54	3 056 765,88
Cash as at 31.12.	6 340 199,63	3 649 181,54
<b>Evidence of change in cash</b>	<b>2 691 018,09</b>	<b>592 415,66</b>

## **5 Notes to the Financial Statements**

### **5.1 General information**

The Wikimedia CH - Association for the advancement of free knowledge (hereafter "Wikimedia CH") is as Swiss association as per Articles 60ff of the Swiss Civil Code. Wikimedia CH is registered in the Commercial register.

According to its bylaws, Wikimedia CH promotes Free Knowledge and thereby puts the main emphasis on the Swiss national languages. The flagship of the Wikimedia projects is still Wikipedia, a free online encyclopedia. In the same way, other projects are explicitly being promoted, such as the online repository of media files, Wikimedia Commons, or the collection of digitalized historical scriptures called Wikisource.

During the year under review, Wikimedia CH was led by a Board of six members: Muriel Staub as president, Mauro Cassina as treasurer, Jon Becker, Rama, Matthias Nepfer and Catherine Janssens. The Board members were elected at the General Assembly for a one-year term.

The Wikimedia Foundation, a US based not-for-profit foundation, operates most of the servers and is responsible for the content of Wikipedia. The Swiss chapter Wikimedia CH exercises local tasks, such as answering press inquiries, coordinating local authors, or taking actions to increase content quality. Also in Switzerland, Wikipedia ranks among the most visited websites. It contributes to making general knowledge available to a large audience. Whereas websites that are as popular are operated by large companies with billions of turnover and ten thousands of employees, the Wikimedia Foundation only counts a handful of payed employees, thanks to a decentralized structure and widespread voluntary work. In this sense, the Wikimedia Foundation as well as its Swiss chapter can be regarded as highly efficient.

The annual average number of full-time positions in the reporting year, as well as in the previous year, did not exceed 10.

### **5.2 Accounting policies**

The financial statements of the Association have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Swiss Code of Obligations and in accordance with the Swiss GAAP FER (core FER), in particular Swiss GAAP FER 21 relating accounting for charitable non-profit organisations. The recommendations have been established for entities seeking to present their financial statements to reflect a true and fair view of the financial situation.

Wikimedia CH decided to introduce these recommendations and applies them for the first time in 2007.

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF).

### **5.3 Income**

Income based on agreements are recorded over the life of the agreement, as and when the conditions set out in the agreement are met.

Donations and membership fees are recorded on a cash basis.

## **5.4 In-kind donations**

A non-profit association such as Wikimedia CH relies fundamentally on the voluntary, unpaid services from its members. In particular, the authors of the Wikimedia projects work without remuneration.

## **5.5 Expenses**

Expenses incurred by Wikimedia CH are recorded on an accrual basis. Expenditures are paid in accordance with the Expense Regulation that the Association applies since 2008 and on the basis of an original receipt.

## **5.6 Other valuation principles**

**Tangible fixed assets:** In general valuable (long-term usable) movables and equipment are capitalized, except those related to a project. Books / Media are not capitalized. Significant fixed assets are capitalized at cost, less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the tangible fixed asset item.

**Intangible assets:**

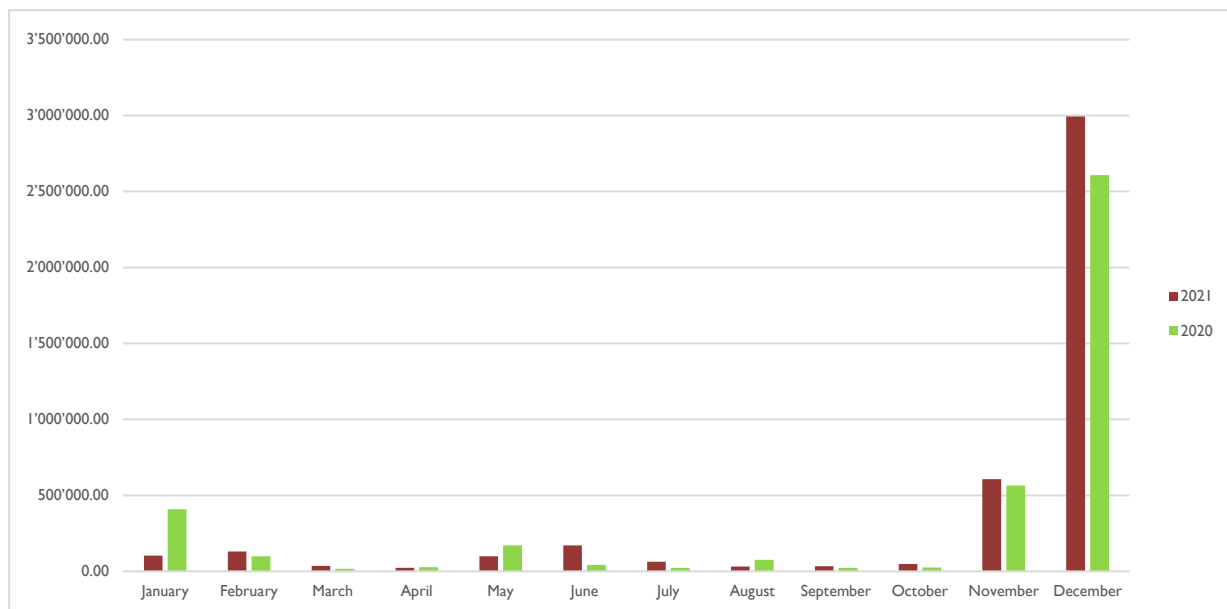
Significant software (such as CRM) are stated at cost, less accumulated amortization over a three year period. Smaller software are not capitalized.

**Domains:** Wikimedia CH has a number of domains ending in .ch and .li. These domains related to the Wikimedia projects are inalienable and therefore not capitalized.

## 5.7 Some statistics on income

The following table shows the income. The relatively high solvency in the balance sheet is explained by the fact, that most donations were received in December.

### Donations per month 2021



Month	Donations in CHF	Relative
January	102 889,38	2,37
February	131 449,47	3,03
March	36 918,50	0,85
April	22 483,04	0,52
May	99 815,33	2,30
June	170 763,55	3,93
July	63 424,73	1,46
August	32 082,86	0,74
September	34 266,13	0,79
October	49 085,60	1,13
November	605 837,70	13,95
December	2 993 699,00	68,94
	4 342 715,29	100,00%

The average size of donation (Median) was CHF 50. Most donations came from individuals, however, legal entities contributed the largest donations.

## **5.8 Projects - developing Wikimedia CH**

Projects: The largest project in 2021 was the support of the Wikimedia Foundation. CHF 1'183'331.59 was spent for this purpose, the funds were transferred to the Wikimedia Foundation. For all the other projects CHF 319'296.36 were spent.

## **5.9 Transactions with the Wikimedia Foundation**

The Wikimedia Foundation can be viewed as an umbrella organization, Wikimedia CH and associations of countries other than chapter. Wikimedia CH is attached via a license agreement and a fundraising contract to the Wikimedia Foundation, otherwise the organizations are independent.

The contract defines all assignable fundraising donations in November and December 2021 as "Wikimedia Foundation donations". Therefore, they are indicated as "Restricted" in the statement of operations.

## **5.10 Indemnities & remunerations given to Board members and Management**

All members of the Board are appointed on a voluntary basis. Board members did not receive any remuneration for their mandate in 2021, nor did they in 2020.

As only one person is entrusted with the Wikimedia CH management, the disclosure of his remuneration has been waived as permitted by FER 21.45.

## **5.11 Other information**

The WMCH is no longer receiving the APG of the WMF.

## **5.12 Events after the balance sheet date**

None.