



## Annual Report 2010

In October 2002, Skat set up the „Skat Foundation“ with the conviction that promoting the exchange of knowledge and experience is crucial to efficient and effective development co-operation. Both good personal and professionally organised networks between organisations play an important role in this exchange.

In the past years Skat Foundation has addressed this core topic with various events and topics. Some of the key activities and achievements are as follows: The booklet “International Networks for Knowledge Sharing – Lessons Learnt” was published, which contains three case studies. Subsequently, various further projects developed with the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC) and the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GIZ) via networks. One of the highlights in this context was the international Workshop on the “Management of International Networks for Knowledge Sharing”, held in St.Gallen in April 2006. - Experience gathered with networks has been compiled in a GIZ publication. The manual “Work the Net – A Management Guide for Formal Networks” provides a practical guide to managing and facilitating networks. Setting out from this, Skat has been able to develop a network management course for GIZ. Thus, over the years, a simple Skat Foundation booklet has led to a number of successful projects.

Since its begin Skat foundation has run the Secretariat of the Rural Water Supply Network (RWSN). The network continued to focus its work in the four specialised fields in Africa, where there is the greatest need for action world-wide, so that the Millennium Development Goals can be achieved.

Helping innovative ideas make a breakthrough is a tedious but ultimately rewarding task that would not be possible without the active support of many actors from a content, financial and administrative angle. Based on the comprehensive assessment of potentials the four most promising innovative projects have been selected and pre-formulated in 2009 by Skat foundation within its three strategic fields. During 2010 these project ideas have been followed up with different intensity according to the available resources and capacities.

Project no. 1 "Practical Training for sustainable water supplies: Development of Training Modules" has taken concrete steps ahead: A conceptual framework has been formulated that will guide the pragmatic approach to develop the training modules; preparations for the conduction of a pilot training have been made including identification of content, syllabus, trainers, training method and venue; at the same time funding has been secured for the implementation of the pilot training that will take place in March 2011.

Project no. 2: "Rural Water Supply in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Myths of the Past, Visions for the Future." 6<sup>th</sup> RWSN Forum, Uganda. Preparation for this event have commenced. This is an international Forum which will bring together about 400 rural water supply practitioners and professionals from all over the world to discuss the most pressing aspects and practical solutions to enable access to water for the worlds rural dwellers.

Project no. 3: "On-line handbook for Practical and Innovative Building Solutions" has been on hold because of limits in resources and capacities.

Project no. 4: "Training on Network Management (internet based)" A course on Network Management developed as an e-learning training, giving access to participants from a diversity of countries to work remotely using different online tools. Fundraising will need to be intensified during the coming years.

The Skat Foundation would like to thank all those involved for their effort. And special thanks go to Skat Consulting. It was they who enabled the work of the Foundation with their staff and financial support in the first place.



Dr. Rolf Leutert  
President, Foundation Council



Karl Wehrle  
Executive Secretary

The Skat Foundation is an endowment of Skat to promote the exchange of knowledge and experience in development cooperation. To this end, the Foundation pursues three strategies: ensuring access to Skat's wealth of knowledge and experience, supporting international networks and initiating innovative projects.

## **Information and Knowledge**

*The Skat Foundation creates access to years of experience gathered by Skat possibly with its partners and makes this experience publicly accessible. This is achieved by distributing publications, conducting workshops, forums etc. and via the website.*

### **Publications**

In Switzerland, the Skat Foundation distributes its own specialist publications as well as those of partners. Internationally, distribution is carried out in cooperation with Practical Action Publishing in England. While interest in various publications does continue to exist, distribution is on the decline. Increasingly, publications are also being downloaded as PDF files from the Skat Website.

### **Website**

Skat and the Skat Foundation are represented on a joint Website with the address <http://www.skat.ch>, which is based on the Open Source solutions Zope (application server) and Plone (content management system).

The Website presents a wide range of information on Skat and the Skat Foundation, such as the most important projects, links to interesting websites and a large number of publications that can be downloaded free of charge. According to the web statistics, around 4,000 visits a month to the Website have been recorded.

## Networks

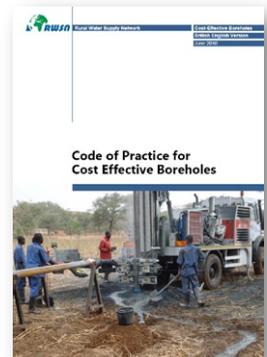
*Networks are of considerable significance to the international exchange of knowledge and experience in development cooperation. The Skat Foundation offers its services as an umbrella organisation for networks.*

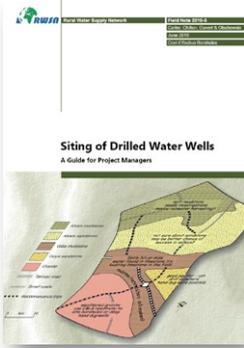
### Rural Water Supply Network

The Rural Water Supply Network (RWSN) is a global knowledge network for rural water supplies, with a membership of 2,900 individual professionals and practitioners from over 120 countries. RWSN collates documents and shares high-quality information on rural water supply technologies, approaches and best practices for project and programme implementation. Dissemination of information is through a dedicated website ([www.rwsn.ch](http://www.rwsn.ch)), a quarterly newsletter, publications, videoconferences, south-south exchange visits and the RWSN Forum.

The core network partners are a dynamic group of agencies that are committed to sustainably increasing the number of rural dwellers with access to safe and convenient drinking water: Skat Foundation, UNICEF, WSP, WaterAid, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC, the African Development Bank AfDB and the International Water and Sanitation Centre IRC. These organisations provide financial as well as in-kind support for RWSN. In 2010 this was augmented by financial support from USAID, Aqua for All, the World Bank and the Austrian Red Cross and in-kind support by the UK Department for International Development through DEW Point.

The main emphasis of RWSN in 2010 was been the completion of the **Code of Practice for Cost-Effective Boreholes**. The 36-page document sets out nine principles that relate directly to the practicalities of borehole construction. They should be adhered to in order to provide cost-effective boreholes. Each principle is broken down into sub-principles, which recommends procedures to be followed and call for the definition of and adherence to minimum standards. The Code of Practice thus provides a framework to analyse the strengths and weaknesses of existing policies and practices. It provides the foundation for the development of national protocols for cost-effective borehole provision. It provides a basis for stakeholders to examine whether they are working in accordance with international practices and can also be used by donors to reflect upon funding conditionalities.





Two **Field Notes** – on water well costing and pricing as well as bore-hole siting, complement the code of practice, and provide detailed guidance for practitioners and professionals.

In order to enable other organisations and individuals to learn from Self Supply activities in RWSN piloting countries, RWSN has published a series of **field notes** that document the experiences and lessons learned. Four field notes have now been completed, setting out the story and reflecting on the opportunities and challenges in Mali, Uganda, Zambia and Ethiopia.

## Innovative Projects

*The Skat Foundation acts as an initiator and executor of innovative projects on the exchange on knowledge and experience in development co-operation. The projects are run in partnership with other organisations. The launching and initiation of these innovations is financed by Skat's own resources while their implementation is followed up with additional contributions by other funding agencies.*

As already reported last year Skat Foundation assessed in 2009 comprehensively the potentials for essential projects and identified priority projects in the three strategic fields of Skat Foundation as follows:

Strategic Fields	Selected Innovative Projects
<p><i>Information and knowledge</i> Provision of access to knowledge and experience in Skat's fields of competence</p>	<p><i>Project no. 3:</i> On-line handbook for Practical and Innovative Building Solutions</p> <p><i>Project no. 4:</i> Training on Network Management (internet based)</p>
<p><i>Networks:</i> Initiation, participation, supporting and/or facilitation of national and international networks</p>	<p><i>Project no. 2:</i> Sustained Access to Rural Water Supplies: 6th RWSN, Uganda</p>
<p><i>Projects:</i> Initiation and implementation of innovative projects in support of knowledge and experience sharing and capitalisation</p>	<p><i>Project no. 1:</i> Practical Training for Sustainable Water Supplies: Development of Training Modules</p>

The selected projects have been followed up in 2010 regarding detailed project formulation, launching of project implementation and raising of required funds. The level of progress of the four projects varies according to available resources and capacities. In the following the progress and the project plans for 2011 are summarised.

**1. Practical Training for sustainable water supplies:  
Development of Training Modules**

A conceptual framework has been developed that explains the pragmatic strategy that will be applied in developing these training modules. The content of the first training module has been identified based on a need assessment in the context of Cameroon that reflects the situation in many other countries. Accordingly this module will address the level of construction work supervisors in the fields of implementation organisation, quality assurance, technical construction works, attitude towards clients, etc. An experienced and qualified international lead trainer could be identified. In cooperation with the selected local trainers he has already developed the syllabus for the pilot training. The local partner organisation has identified an appropriate training venue, informed interested parties (Government and private agencies) about the training opportunity and issued an official announcement of the training event. The financing of the first training course has been secured through additional fund raising activities as well as through local contributions by the training participants.

The implementation of the pilot training has been planned for March 2011. The results of the pilot training will be carefully analysed regarding its approach and methodology, content and effectiveness and role of various stakeholders. Based on the results of the assessment the training concept will be adjusted as well as the a draft of the first training module established (ready for replication). Additionally, fundraising activities will be intensified



## **2. Rural Water Supply in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Myths of the Past, Visions for the Future. - 6<sup>th</sup> RWSN Forum, Uganda**

In early 2010, Skat Foundation has commenced the preparations for next year's Rural Water Supply Network International Forum. It will take place from the 29 November - 1 December 2011, in Kampala, Uganda. The Forum is being organised by Skat, UNICEF, WaterAid, SDC, IRC and WSP and will bring together small private enterprises, political leaders from a local level, local and central government administrators, extension staff, NGO staff and donors to engage in lively discussions about the realities of improving rural water supplies around the globe. About 400 participants from all over the world are expected to attend the event and share their practical experiences and good practices on a wide range of aspects of rural water supplies. These include cost-effective technologies, accelerating self supply, management and support systems, catchment protection and finance. We hope that the RWSN Forum will inspire sector professionals and practitioners through face to face knowledge sharing, and enable new partnerships as well as informal networks to be formed.

## **3. On-line handbook for Practical and Innovative Building Solutions**

In order to up-date Skat's Manual "Appropriate Building Material" Skat plans to make use of modern communication technologies and create buildipedia.ch in the style like Wikipedia. It will include documentation including technical drawings of field proven materials and technologies, various data such as on resistance to natural hazards, questions of sustainability, energy efficiency and environment friendliness, and criteria for their application. Skat will apply its expertise to audit not only so called field proven solutions but also to assess the development of new materials and technologies. Buildipedia.ch will be open ended. Only solutions that will meet Skat quality standard will be labelled and uploaded on buildipedia.ch. This project idea has been put on hold during 2010 for reasons of limited capacities and in the absents of required financial resources. However, potential financial funding agencies have been identified. They will be systematically approached during 2011. Depending on the results of the fund raising activities this project no. 3 will be launched.

#### **4. Training on Network Management (internet based)**

Since beginning of 2007, Skat mandated by the GIZ has developed a course on Network Management using the GIZ handbook "Work the Net" as a conceptual framework. This course has been successfully implemented in two occasions in Latin America aiming at supporting the strengthening of two networks. In 2009, the course was developed as an e-learning training, giving access to participants from a diversity of countries to work remotely (in their place of origin) using a computer. Different e-learning tools have been used: theoretical inputs, free and guided chat sessions, on-line discussions, case studies and exercises. Aiming at efficient and effective learning, the course is moderated by two tutors: a conceptual and a technical one. The course is for practitioners who are interested in establishing or developing knowledge networks; thus it seeks to strengthen networking skills including understanding structures and processes of formal knowledge networks, becoming familiar with methods and instruments for managing and facilitating networks, among others. In 2010 the e-learning training has been implemented once with very active participation. Considering the interest demonstrated by practitioners from developing countries to gaining these management skills, the Skat Foundation would support the implementation of this course in the future. However, many of the interested and potential participants cannot afford to pay the full course fee (20,000 to 30,000 CHF to support 20 to 25 participants). That is why Skat Foundation has developed a project proposal that seeks financial support for those with proven need and interest who cannot afford full payment.

The Skat Foundation is a legally independent, charitable foundation of Skat that is seated in St. Gallen and is under the supervision of the Swiss Federal Supervisory Board for Foundations.

With the Foundation, Skat seeks to make knowledge and experience that it has gathered over several years available to all and promote the international exchange of knowledge and experience. As a socially responsible organisation, Skat covers the operating costs of the Foundation, provides the infrastructure and entrusts a staff member with the Foundation's management on a part-time basis.

## **Board**

The Skat Foundation is led by a Board comprising leading personalities from organisations in international development cooperation, industry, politics, science and education. The Board is in charge of supervising the Foundation.

## **Committee of the Board**

The Committee of the Board prepares the Board's affairs and monitors management activities.

## **Council of Patrons**

The Skat Foundation is supported by a Council of Patrons that provides moral support for the Foundation's goals and activities. The Council of Patrons comprises leading personalities from national and international organisations of development cooperation, public bodies, industry, education and politics.

## **Head Office**

The Foundation maintains its Head Office which also comprise its Secretariat as well as the Foundation bodies.

## **Partners**

The Skat Foundation cooperates with various experienced partner organisations, especially with its parent institution Skat and the development organisations Caritas, Helvetas and Swisscontact. In addition, the Foundation maintains close working relations with various partners and competence centres in developing countries and countries in transition.

## **Staff**

Karl Wehrle, Senior Water and Environmental Specialist of Skat, is the Foundation's Executive Secretary.

## Balance Sheet as of 31.12.2010

Description	(CHF) 2010	(CHF) 2009
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and marketable securities	340,591	150,210
Receivables third parties	13,085	62,919
Receivables related organisations	28,500	20,000
Receivables government	1,920	4,200
Advances to projects	0	0
Accrued income	0	0
Work in progress	18,967	28,321
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>403,063</b>	<b>265,650</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>403,063</b>	<b>265,650</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Liabilities third parties	144,399	53,060
Liabilities government	0	0
Prepayments	0	0
Deferred income/accrued charges	1,200	1,200
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>145,599</b>	<b>54,260</b>
Restricted funds	107,753	90,298
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>107,753</b>	<b>90,298</b>
Paid-in capital	215,000	215,000
Internally generated unrestricted operating funds	-65,289	-93,908
Internally generated designated capital	0	0
<b>Total capital of the organisation</b>	<b>149,711</b>	<b>121,092</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>403,063</b>	<b>265,650</b>

## Profit & Loss Account from 1.1.2010 – 31.12.2010

Description	(CHF) 2010	(CHF) 2009
- Contributions Swiss authorities	153,800	135,200
- Contributions local authorities	0	0
- Contributions international organisations	0	0
- Contributions others	0	0
<b>Total restricted contributions</b>	<b>153,800</b>	<b>135,200</b>
- UNHCR Projects	115,869	0
- Various other order projects	125,089	114,054
<b>Total project income</b>	<b>240,958</b>	<b>114,054</b>
<b>Fund raising</b>	<b>29,500</b>	<b>30,000</b>
<b>Bookshop</b>	<b>3,837</b>	<b>1,150</b>
<b>Operating revenue</b>	<b>428,095</b>	<b>280,404</b>
Rural Water Supply Network SDC	-153,800	-135,200
RWSN, Secr. A4A	-55,470	-12,075
RWSN IRC Secretariat	-3,852	0
CEB Code of Practice BF, USAID	-40,219	-13,562
CEB Code of Practice, UNICEF	-32,901	-89,679
Training Course: Rumpi Cameroon	0	-17,134
Training object: Adjung Water Supply	-5,500	-5,500
Una-Sana, Leporello	0	-1,873
WB: Supply Chain Ethiopia	-44,109	0
UNHCR Projects	-25,726	0
Skat Consulting Projects	-24,977	0
ARC: Co-Facilitation of handpump training	-8,595	0
Small Projects	-2,317	0
VAT adjustment	0	-744
Bookshop	0	-1,988
<b>Total direct project expenditures</b>	<b>-397,465</b>	<b>-277,754</b>
<b>Administration</b>	<b>-2,206</b>	<b>-3,091</b>
<b>Intermediate surplus</b>	<b>28,424</b>	<b>-441</b>
<b>Net financial income</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Other income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>Operating surplus</b>	<b>28,619</b>	<b>-303</b>
Income funds	412,603	363,447
Use of funds	-395,148	-273,149
<b>Net surplus for the year</b>	<b>46,075</b>	<b>89,994</b>
Allocation to restricted funds	-17,455	-90,298
Allocation to unrestricted operating funds	-28,619	303
<b>Net surplus / deficit for the year after allocations</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## **Notes to the balance sheet**

2010 closed with a profit of CHF 28,619. The capital of the organisation changed from CHF 121,092 to CHF 149,711.

## **Notes on the Profit and Loss Account**

In 2010 the Skat Foundation received contributions tied to projects from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), UNICEF, USAID, Aqua for All, IRC, Austrian Red Cross and UNHCR.

A free donation of CHF 28,500 was given by Skat Consulting Ltd.

In addition Skat Foundation received a donation from Walter Krähenbühl, Weinfelden

# Report of the External Auditor

TREHAG

## Treuhand St. Gallen AG

Notkerstrasse 10, CH-9000 St. Gallen

Telefon 071 / 243 18 18

Telefax 071 / 243 18 81

Homepage: [www.trehag.ch](http://www.trehag.ch)

E-Mail: [info@trehag.ch](mailto:info@trehag.ch)

**Bericht der Revisionsstelle**  
an den Stiftungsrat der  
Stiftung skat foundation  
Vadianstrasse 42  
9000 St. Gallen

St. Gallen, 30.03.2011  
RA/bo

Sehr geehrte Damen und Herren

Als Revisionsstelle haben wir die Buchführung und die Jahresrechnung (Bilanz, Betriebsrechnung, Rechnung über die Veränderung des Kapitals und Anhang) der Stiftung skat foundation für das am 31. Dezember 2010 abgeschlossene Geschäftsjahr geprüft. In Übereinstimmung mit den Swiss GAAP FER 21 unterliegen die Angaben im Leistungsbericht nicht der ordentlichen Prüfpflicht der Revisionsstelle.

Für die Jahresrechnung ist der Stiftungsrat verantwortlich, während unsere Aufgabe darin besteht, diese zu prüfen und zu beurteilen. Wir bestätigen, dass wir die Anforderungen hinsichtlich Befähigung und Unabhängigkeit erfüllen.

Unsere Revision erfolgte nach dem Schweizer Standard zur Eingeschränkten Revision. Danach ist diese Revision so zu planen und durchzuführen, dass wesentliche Fehlaussagen in der Jahresrechnung erkannt werden. Eine Eingeschränkte Revision umfasst hauptsächlich Befragungen und analytische Prüfungshandlungen sowie den Umständen angemessene Detailprüfungen der beim geprüften Unternehmen vorhandenen Unterlagen. Dagegen sind Prüfungen der betrieblichen Abläufe und des internen Kontrollsystems sowie Befragungen und weitere Prüfungshandlungen zur Aufdeckung deliktischer Handlungen oder anderer Gesetzesverstösse nicht Bestandteil dieser Revision.

Gemäss unserer Beurteilung vermittelt die Jahresrechnung ein den tatsächlichen Verhältnissen entsprechendes Bild der Vermögens-, Finanz- und Ertragslage in Übereinstimmung mit den Swiss GAAP FER 21.

Bei unserer Revision sind wir nicht auf Sachverhalte gestossen, aus denen wir schliessen müssten, dass die Jahresrechnung sowie der Antrag über die Verwendung des Bilanzgewinns nicht Gesetz und Statuten entsprechen.

Wir empfehlen, die vorliegende Jahresrechnung zu genehmigen.

Freundliche Grüsse  
**TREUHAND ST. GALLEN AG**



B. Brunschwiler R. Allenspach  
(Leitender Revisor)

Beilagen: Jahresrechnung 2010 (Bilanz, Betriebsrechnung, Rechnung über die Veränderung des Kapitals und Anhang)

TREUHAND  KAMMER

TREUHAND | SUISSE

## **Management Bodies**

### **Board**

Dr. Rolf Leutert, Neuhausen, President

Juerg Christen, Skat Consulting, St.Gallen

Dr. Xaver Edelmann, EMPA, St.Gallen

Dr. Urs Egger, Swisscontact, Zurich

Melchior Lengsfeld, Helvetas, Zurich

Norbert Kieliger, Caritas Schweiz, Lucerne

Prof. Dr. Georg von Krogh, ETH Zurich

Dr. Felix Walker, St.Gallen

### **Committee of the Board**

Dr. Rolf Leutert, Neuhausen, President

Melchior Lengsfeld, Helvetas, Zurich

Juerg Christen, Skat Consulting, St.Gallen

### **Council of Patrons**

Dr. Eugen David, Member of the Council of States, St.Gallen

Prof. Dr. Thomas Dyllick, IÖW, University of St.Gallen

Dr. Richard Gerster, Gerster Consulting, Richterswil

Dr. Gourisankar Ghosh, WSSCC, Geneva

Dr. Ashok Khosla, Development Alternatives, New Delhi

Dr. Rolf Wilhelm, former Deputy Director, SDC, Niederscherli

### **External Auditor (Accounts)**

Treuhand St.Gallen AG, St.Gallen

### **Executive Secretary**

Karl Wehrle, Executive Secretary

## CONTACT

### **Skat Foundation**

Vadianstrasse 42  
CH-9000 St.Gallen  
Switzerland

Tel: +41 71 228 54 54

Fax: +41 71 228 54 55

E-Mail: [foundation@skat.ch](mailto:foundation@skat.ch)

Web: [www.skat-foundation.org](http://www.skat-foundation.org)

Post Office Giro account: 90-14076-5

Bank accounts: St.Galler Kantonalbank, CH-9001 St.Gallen, Switzerland

SWIFT / BIC Code: KBSGCH22

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