

Jahresbericht 2011

## Unseren Nachkommen ein wertvolles Erbe

«Cancer continues to be the major cause of death and the most important cause of loss of productive years of life in young persons. In spite of significant progress in the treatment of these diseases the burden continues to increase, with the aging population in the West and huge unmet medical needs in resource poor countries. Society can only face this burden through active involvement in research on prevention and treatment of cancer to make cancer more preventable and more treatable in the future and to alleviate suffering in those who cannot be cured. It is the mission of SWISS BRIDGE to support research and other projects in Switzerland and worldwide.»

Prof. Dr. med. Jakob Passweg, President, Swiss Cancer League

Annual report 2011

## A precious legacy

### Wichtigste Aktivitäten

#### SWISS BRIDGE AWARD

Der SWISS BRIDGE AWARD 2011 mit einer Preissumme von CHF 500'000 wurde an zwei Forscher aus der Schweiz sowie einen Forscher aus Israel vergeben.

Damit teilten sich bisher 32 internationale Wissenschaftler die Preissumme von CHF 6.85 Mio. Gesamthaft wurden in dieser Zeit weit über 500 teilweise bahnbrechende Projekte eingereicht, die von der internationalen Jury bewertet wurden.

**+** Detaillierte Projektinformationen finden Sie unter [www.swissbridge.ch](http://www.swissbridge.ch)

#### Kinderkrebsstudie an der Uni Bern

Seit einigen Jahren unterstützt SWISS BRIDGE spezielle Projekte über Krebs bei Kindern, gegenwärtig eine Studie über Spätfolgen von Krebserkrankungen bei Kindern an der Uni Bern.

#### International Extradonal Lymphoma Study Group, IOSI, Bellinzona

Mit Unterstützung von Tessiner Supporter hilft SWISS BRIDGE über drei Jahre bei der Finanzierung dieses internationalen Projektes, welches am Istituto Oncologico della Svizzera Italiana koordiniert wird.

#### Mittelbeschaffung durch Spenden

Die Spenden sind im Jahr 2011 erneut unter dem langjährigen Durchschnitt ausgefallen, da verschiedene mehrjährige Spendenprogramme ausgelaufen sind. Aufgrund der rekordtiefen Zinsen in der Schweiz können viele Stiftungen nur noch reduzierte Erträge ausschütten. Umso mehr erfreut es, dass neue Spender zu SWISS BRIDGE gefunden haben.

**+** Detaillierte Finanzinformationen finden Sie unter [www.swissbridge.ch](http://www.swissbridge.ch)

### Important activities

#### SWISS BRIDGE AWARD

The SWISS BRIDGE AWARD 2011 awarded a total amount of CHF 500,000 to two researchers from Switzerland and one from Israel. Since 2000, a total of CHF 6.85 Mil has been shared among 32 international researchers. Over 500 projects were submitted and evaluated by our international jury, some of them pioneer projects.

**+** Detailed project information under [www.swissbridge.ch](http://www.swissbridge.ch)

#### Childhood cancer study at the University of Bern

For several years now, SWISS BRIDGE has been supporting special childhood cancer projects. The project currently supported is the Swiss Childhood Cancer Survivor study by the University of Bern.

#### International Extradonal Lymphoma Study Group, IOSI, Bellinzona

With the help of supporters from the Canton of Ticino SWISS BRIDGE will financially contribute for three years to this international project coordinated by the Oncology Institute of Southern Switzerland.

#### Donations

Donations for cancer research projects were this year again below the historical average as several perennial donation programs came to an end. Due to the record low level of interest rates in Switzerland many foundations had to reduce their spending. However, we are pleased that new donors came to support SWISS BRIDGE and its projects.

**+** Detailed information under [www.swissbridge.ch](http://www.swissbridge.ch)

**SWISS BRIDGE** geht zurück auf die Initiative des ehemaligen Geschäftsleiters und heutigen Mitglieds des Stiftungsrats Thomas Hoeppli. Zweck der Stiftung, die im Jahr 1997 mit Unterstützung der Krebsliga Schweiz gegründet wurde, ist es, qualitativ hochstehende in- und ausländische Forschungsprojekte im Kampf gegen Krebs durch private Donatoren und Stiftungen finanziell zu unterstützen. Seit der Gründung der Stiftung konnte SWISS BRIDGE rund 20 Millionen Franken für Projekte von Forscherinnen und Forschern aus Belgien, Brasilien, England, Frankreich, Israel, Italien, Norwegen, Schweden, Spanien und der Schweiz einsetzen.

**SWISS BRIDGE** was founded on the initiative of the former managing director Thomas Hoeppli, who is now a member of the Board of Foundation. The purpose of the organisation, founded in 1997 with assistance of the Swiss Cancer League, is to financially support high-quality Swiss and international research projects, which are expected to deliver new findings in the fight against cancer, through contributions from private donors and foundations. To date, a total of some 20 million Swiss francs have been conferred by the SWISS BRIDGE foundation for cancer research projects of scientists based in Belgium, Brazil, England, France, Israel, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Spain and Switzerland.

## Partnerschaften

### **Krebsliga Schweiz und Krebsforschung Schweiz, Bern**

Das wissenschaftliche Sekretariat der Krebsliga/Krebsforschung Schweiz unterstützt SWISS BRIDGE und dessen wissenschaftliches Komitee jedes Jahr tatkräftig bei der Auswahl der Forschungsprojekte.

### **Union for International Cancer Control (UICC), Genf**

UICC ist seit Gründung der Stiftung SWISS BRIDGE 1997 ein wichtiger Partner. Die Mitgliedschaft der begünstigten Forschungsinstitute gibt uns Gewähr, dass durch SWISS BRIDGE unterstützte Projekte unsere anspruchsvollen Kriterien erfüllen. Mitbegründer und Stiftungsrat Thomas Hoeppli amtiert als Botschafter der UICC World Cancer Declaration.

### **Stiftung biobank-suisse, Bern**

Die im Dezember 2005 mit Beteiligung von SWISS BRIDGE gegründete nationale Biobank hat ihr Pilotprojekt erfolgreich abgeschlossen und steht mitten im Aufbau. Damit biobank-suisse den Forschern in der Schweiz qualitativ hochstehende biologische Informationen zur Verfügung stellen kann, wird sie von der Stiftung SWISS BRIDGE finanziell unterstützt.

### **ecancermedalscience, Zug**

Die mit Unterstützung von SWISS BRIDGE aufgebaute elektronische Plattform verschiedenster onkologischer Publikationen und Informationen, einschliesslich eines TV Kanals, ist inzwischen erfolgreich etabliert.

## Partner Organisations

### **Swiss Cancer League and Foundation Cancer Research Switzerland, Bern**

The scientific office of the Swiss Cancer League supports SWISS BRIDGE and its scientific committee each year with the careful evaluation of research projects.

### **Union for International Cancer Control (UICC), Geneva**

UICC has been an important partner of SWISS BRIDGE since its foundation in 1997. With over 400 members in 120 countries, UICC ensures that the international research organizations we support meet our high-quality requirements. Thomas Hoeppli, co-founder and member of the Board of the Foundation, has been named Swiss Ambassador of the UICC World Cancer Declaration.

### **Foundation biobank-suisse, Bern**

The national biobank, founded in December 2005, has successfully completed its pilot phase and will soon be fully operational. After careful consideration, SWISS BRIDGE has committed to give further financial support to this project to provide researchers in Switzerland with high-quality biological information.

### **ecancermedalscience, Zug**

This online publishing company which provides access to medical publications and information in the domain of oncology was established in 2008 with the financial support of SWISS BRIDGE. In this short period of time its activities, including the set up of a TV channel, have reached unexpected dimensions.

**Unser Ziel: den Kampf gegen Krebs mit allen zur Verfügung stehenden Mitteln voranzutreiben.**

**Our stated priority is to advance efforts to fight cancer with all available means.**



**Giorgio Noseda**  
Präsident des Stiftungsrates



**Gordon McVie**  
Präsident des  
Wissenschaftlichen Komitees



**Thomas Hoepfli**  
Mitbegründer und Mitglied  
des Stiftungsrates

## Entwicklungsberichte / Progress reports



### **Anna Maria Teti**

Department of Experimental Medicine, University of L'Aquila, Italy  
*New experimental antiresorptive therapy for the treatment of bone metastases*

#### **SWISS BRIDGE AWARD 2008**

„The grant generously provided by the Swiss Bridge Foundation has supported our research project on a new experimental therapy to combat breast cancer bone metastases. We used a peptide derived from a protein, called PRELP, naturally expressed in our body. The project has lasted three years and have provided consistent results that this peptide is active at inhibiting bone metastases and tumor progression. A paper has been published (Rucci et al., *Jornal of Cell Biology* 2009, 187(5):669-83) and another is about ready for submission for publication“ (April 2012)



### **Dario Neri**

Department of Chemistry and Applied Biosciences, ETH Zurich  
*Next Generation Antibody Therapeutics: Vascular Targeting Antibody-Drug Conjugates*

#### **SWISS BRIDGE AWARD 2008**

„The generous financial support of Swiss Bridge and of the Stammbach Foundation has allowed our group to perform three years of research on a promising strategy for cancer therapy: the „arming“ of tumor-targeting antibodies with cytotoxic drugs. This work has led to a new class of therapeutic agents, which have shown promising results in preclinical models of cancer. A number of articles on antibody-drug conjugates produced by our group have appeared in leading chemical and biomedical journals, including: Palumbo et al. (2011) *Br. J. Cancer*, 104, 1106; Bernardes et al. (2012) *Angew. Chemie Int. Ed. Engl.*, 51, 941; Casi et al. (2012) *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, in press. We are grateful of the Foundation(s) for the essential support to our research activity“ (April 2012)



### **Stephen C. West**

London Research Institute, Cancer Research UK  
*Interplay between the cancer pre-disposition disorders Fanconi Anemia, Bloom's Syndrome and BRCA2 breast cancer*

#### **SWISS BRIDGE AWARD 2009**

“The generous financial support provided by Swiss Bridge allowed us to explore the inter-relationships between three inheritable cancer predisposition syndromes that share a common factor – they are caused by defects in the repair of DNA damage. Efficient DNA repair is essential for maintaining the integrity of our genome, and cells derived from individuals with Fanconi anemia, Bloom’s Syndrome and BRCA2-related breast cancers are known to be defective in the repair of chromosome damage. We carried out genetic, biochemical, and structural analyses of key factors that are defective in individuals with these diseases, leading to new insights into the underlying causes of the disease process. Although not all the work has been completed as yet, a number of major discoveries relating to these cancer predisposition diseases have been published in leading international journals including: Thorslund, T. et al., *Nature Structural & Molecular Biology* 17, 1263-1265 (2010); Deans, A. et al., *Nature Reviews Cancer* 11, 467-480 (2011); Wechsler, T. et al., *Nature* 471, 642-646 (2011); Matos et al., *Cell* 147, 158-172 (2011). (April 2012)

## Finanzielle Kennzahlen

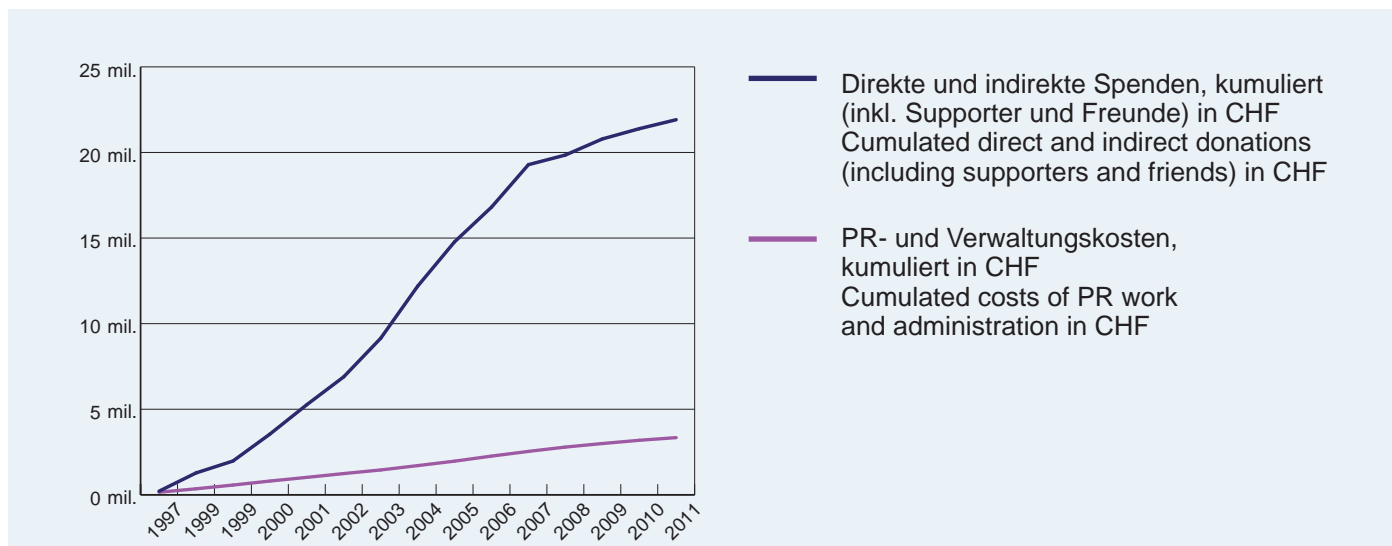
## Financial key figures

	2011	2010	
Bankguthaben	1'397'733	1'475'279	Cash at banks
reserviert für Projektfinanzierungen	1'344'834	1'421'179	Reserved for project financing
Stiftungskapital	56'911	48'489	Endowment capital
Spenden (ohne direkte Spenden)	525'191	353'588	Donations (excluding direct donations)
Verwaltungsaufwand	155'331	190'200	Administrative expenses
Direkte Spenden (durch SWISS BRIDGE vermittelt)	0	250'000	Direct donations (conveyed by SWISS BRIDGE)

**+** Detaillierte Finanzinformationen finden Sie unter / Detailed financial information under [www.swissbridge.ch](http://www.swissbridge.ch)

## Spenden/Kosten Vergleich

## Cost/donation comparison



## Organisation

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### Management

Heinz Waech, Zürich

Stiftung SWISS BRIDGE  
Verena-Conzett-Strasse 7  
Postfach 9419 / CH-8036 Zürich  
Telefon +41 (0) 43 317 13 60  
Fax +41 (0) 43 317 13 42  
[info@swissbridge.ch](mailto:info@swissbridge.ch)  
[www.swissbridge.ch](http://www.swissbridge.ch)

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Credit Suisse, 8070 Zürich  
IBAN: CH52 0483 5095 7385 1100 0

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