



Swiss Paraplegic Group 2020 annual report

Short version

Our vision is a world where people with a spinal cord injury live independent lives in the best possible health.

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2020 in figures

1.8 m

members make up the Benefactors' Association of the Swiss Paraplegic Foundation.

87.5 m

Swiss francs came from contributions from members and income from donations.

25.9 m

Swiss francs went directly to people with a spinal cord injury in the form of benefactor benefits and direct financial aid.

1.4 m

Swiss francs was the net income for the financial year.

1898

employees work for the Swiss Paraplegic Group.

60–70 %

is the professional reintegration rate of the Swiss Paraplegic Centre for people of working age with a spinal cord injury.

Reaching people across Switzerland from Nottwil

Over the next four years, the strategic focus of the Swiss Paraplegic Foundation will be on seven topics that all have one thing in common: they aim to reach people throughout Switzerland – as patients, customers, employers, partners, benefactors and politicians. This means that the Swiss Paraplegic Group wants to be even more visible and accessible in all regions.

21–24 strategy of the Swiss Paraplegic Foundation
(only in German)





“We want to reach even more people with our services.”

Together for people with a spinal cord injury

Dear Reader

2020 was an extremely eventful year for two reasons. On the one hand, we were able to make important forward-looking decisions and formally conclude numerous trail-blazing projects, while on the other hand, the Swiss Paraplegic Group was also faced by unprecedented challenges as a result of the pandemic. This exceptional year brought home to us how well we work as a group and what we can achieve for people with a spinal cord injury when we work together.

I have had the privilege of being President of the Board of Trustees since June 2020. Not only do I work for one of Switzerland's most popular solidarity networks, but I also get to experience the sheer commitment of the approximately 1900 employees to their work and to the Swiss Paraplegic Group. What has also impressed me are the 1.8 million loyal benefactors who, despite the challenges of 2020, showed solidarity with people with a spinal cord injury through their membership.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to them all for everything they have achieved and for their commitment.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'H. Hanselmann', with a stylized, flowing script.

Heidi Hanselmann

President of the Swiss Paraplegic Foundation

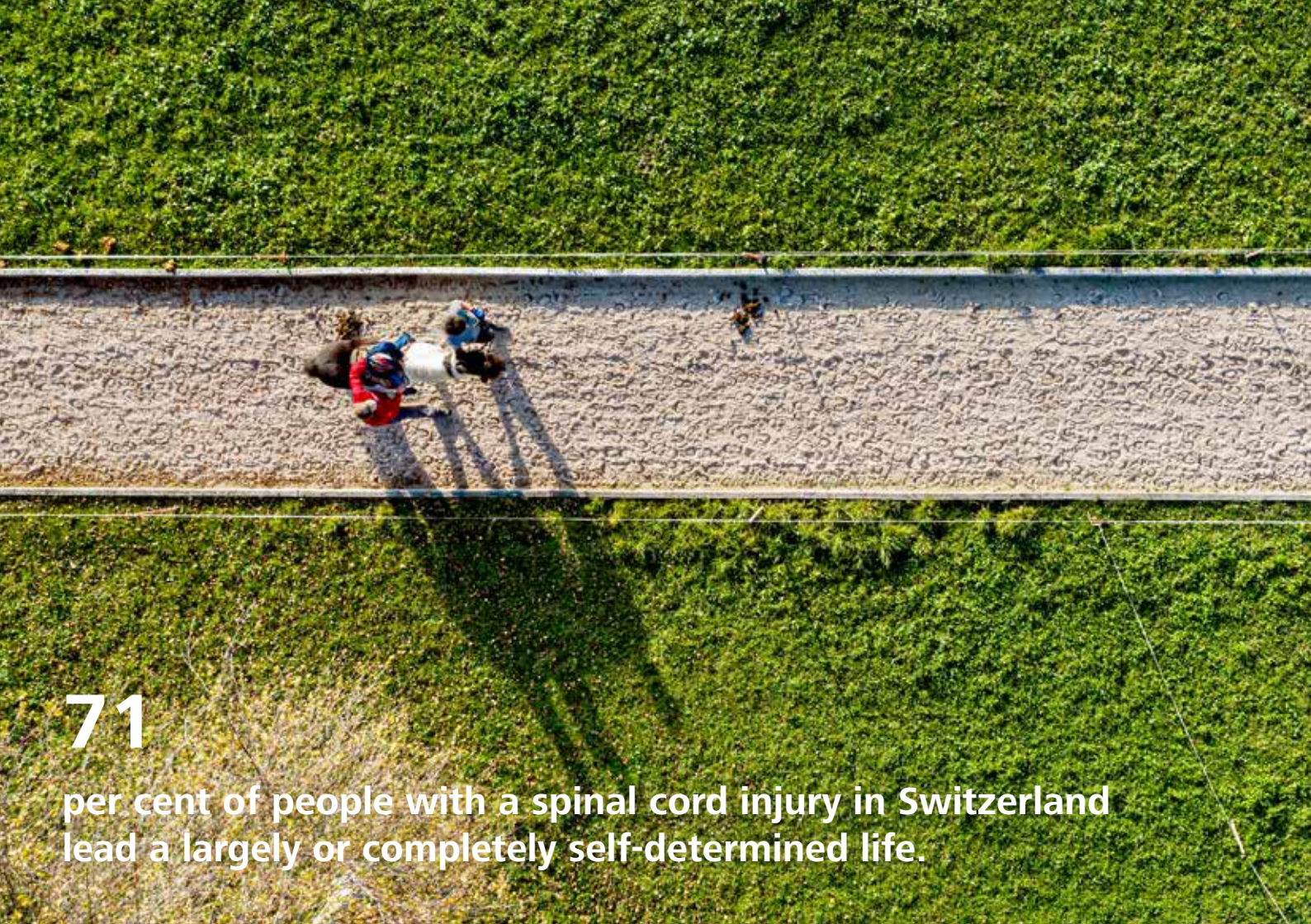


29

per cent of all membership fees and donations received went directly to people with a spinal cord injury in the form of benefactor benefits and direct aid.

Swiss Paraplegic Foundation

After a five-year construction period, the Swiss Paraplegic Foundation completed its real estate project to extend and modernise the clinic as planned. The new Board of Trustees started the 2021 – 2024 strategy period under the motto “Reaching people across Switzerland from Nottwil”. The advertising campaign of the solidarity network convinced numerous new benefactors to take out membership. Since its opening in September 2019, the ParaForum Visitor Centre has become a highly respected and much visited location on the Nottwil Campus.



71

per cent of people with a spinal cord injury in Switzerland lead a largely or completely self-determined life.

Benefactors' Association of the Swiss Paraplegic Foundation

The Benefactors' Association is delighted about the growing membership numbers. More than 10,000 of these members decided to take out life membership in 2020. Membership fees and donations meant that the Swiss Paraplegic Foundation was able to go the extra mile for the reintegration of people with a spinal cord injury. More than 60 per cent of people with a spinal cord injury were reintegrated into the primary labour market. Twenty-nine members who had an accident received benefactor benefits in the reporting year.

An aerial night photograph of a hospital helipad. The helipad is a light blue rectangular area with a large red cross in the center. The word 'NOTTWIL' is written in white capital letters above the cross. To the right of the cross, the number '6.0' is visible. The helipad is surrounded by a metal railing. In the background, there are several buildings, including a large white building with a curved roof. A white van with 'KALU 03' on its side is parked on a road next to the helipad. A blue car is parked in a yellow-lined parking space. The scene is illuminated by streetlights and building lights.

56,367

care days were provided by specialist staff for inpatients of the specialist clinic, which is equivalent to an average of 6.4 care hours per patient and day.

Swiss Paraplegic Centre

The completion of the extension and modernisation of the clinic has provided the Swiss Paraplegic Centre with a modern, completely patient-focused hospital infrastructure with the required bed capacity. The specialist clinic saw great demand for initial rehabilitation, treatment of acute medical complications, and follow-up rehabilitation for the specific problems experienced by people with a spinal cord injury. The clinic's strategic position in the field of respiratory medicine was strengthened through the admission of patients with severe lung diseases.



12,591

people with a spinal cord injury took part in a study conducted across Switzerland and in other countries on the living situations of people with a spinal cord injury.

Swiss Paraplegic Research

With its rehabilitation research work, Swiss Paraplegic Research has made an important contribution to Switzerland's international position as a research location. In addition, the research institution from Nottwil is committed to promoting young scientists. In 2020, Swiss Paraplegic Research published its insights in an impact report, thus reflecting the social dimension of the work of the Swiss Paraplegic Foundation.

An aerial photograph of a blue tennis court with white lines. A net is stretched across the middle. Two players in wheelchairs are on the court; one is in the upper half wearing dark clothing, and the other is in the lower half wearing a red shirt. Several yellow tennis balls are scattered on the court surface.

10,348

people are members of the umbrella organisation for spinal cord injuries through Switzerland's 27 regional wheelchair clubs. They received 19,312 hours of advice sessions on construction, law and everyday life.

Swiss Paraplegics Association

The strategic reorganisation of the Swiss Paraplegics Association strengthened the involvement of its members. This will have a sustainable impact on the corporate structure and culture over the coming years. The umbrella organisation for spinal cord injuries celebrated its anniversary year in a media-effective way with a thirteen-day hand bike tour across Switzerland. While most events had to be cancelled, the need for advice services increased significantly.



26,795

hours of advice sessions were provided to supply electronic aids to children and adults with a disability.

Active Communication

Active Communication continued with the growth strategy it had initiated in the previous year. An extended advice team was able to meet increasing demand for high-quality digital assistive technologies. Availability and access for customers and partners was guaranteed at all times. The establishment of a quality management system fostered and ensured the development and transfer of knowledge in line with permanent quality improvement. The newly launched multilingual web shop saw record order levels.



11,568

participant days were held by the training provider for
7,608 individuals in 687 courses.

SIRMED

SIRMED, the Swiss Institute of Emergency Medicine, established digital forms of teaching within an extremely short period of time to allow interruption-free professional training and extended its on-line presence. New cooperative partnerships strengthened the position of the training provider in the rescue and emergency setting. Customer acquisition was strengthened, and SIRMED prepared appropriate offers to deal with the anticipated acceleration of demand.



9,626

hours of advice sessions were provided for people with a spinal cord injury in their own homes all over Switzerland. There was a particularly high need for advice on the topic of pressure sores and how to prevent them.

ParaHelp

The growing demand for ParaHelp's advice skills continued unabated. Relatives in caregiving roles increasingly required support in the form of respite options. The first customers were able to benefit from the newly launched interprofessional advice service for people living with a spinal cord injury who are facing difficult situations. ParaHelp also opened Switzerland's first supervised shared apartment for young adults with a spinal cord injury.

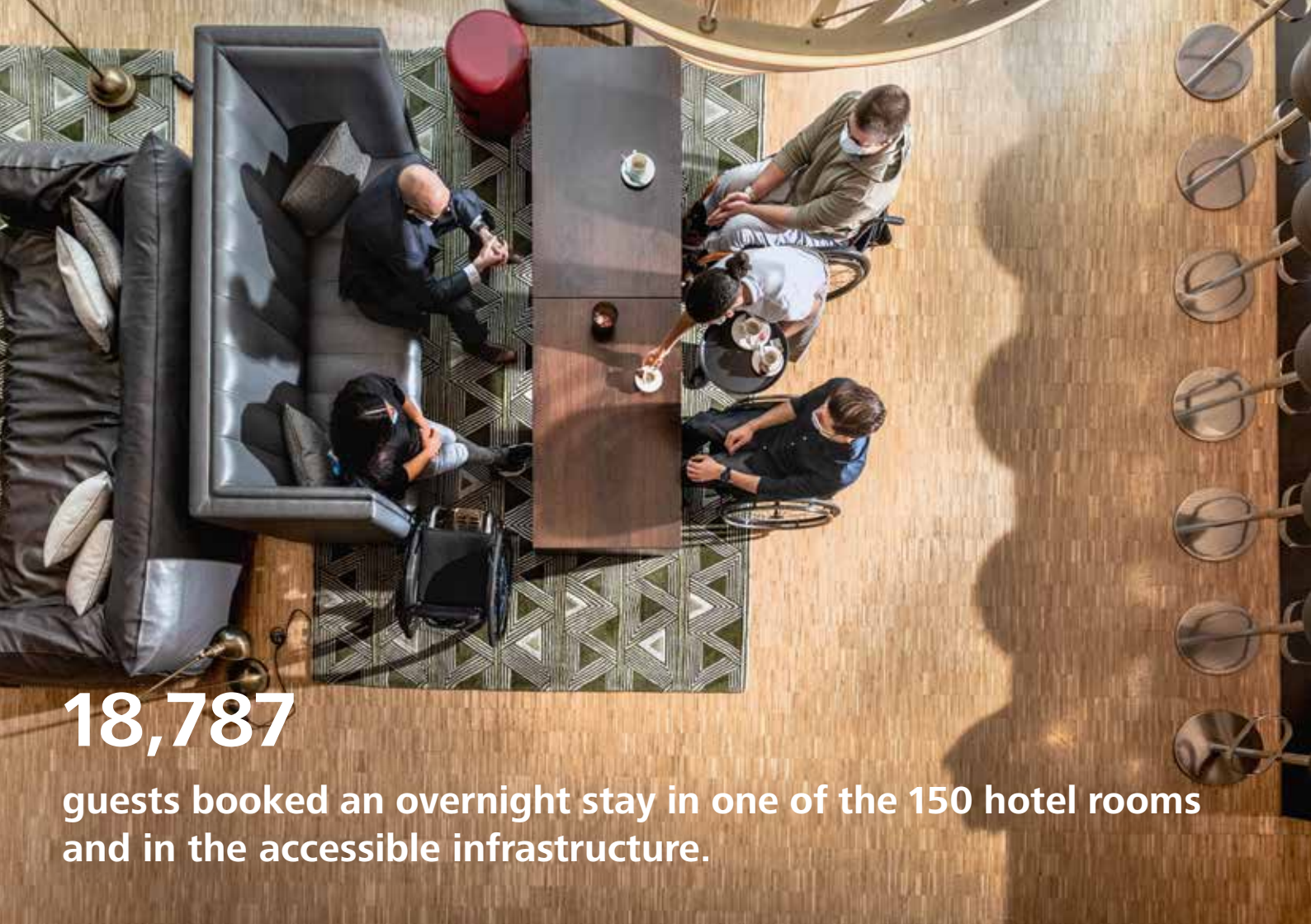


4,009

customers were served by the orthopaedic aids specialist
who filled 23,755 orders.

Orthotec

Orthotec benefited from the favourable impact of its comprehensive reorganisation. The company managed to overcome an unforeseeable year extremely successfully and ended the year with a positive financial result. Managers and employees performed their roles in the new organisation in an exemplary manner and grew together as a team. This was also discernible to customers who rated the services of the orthopaedic aids specialist as exceptionally good.



18,787

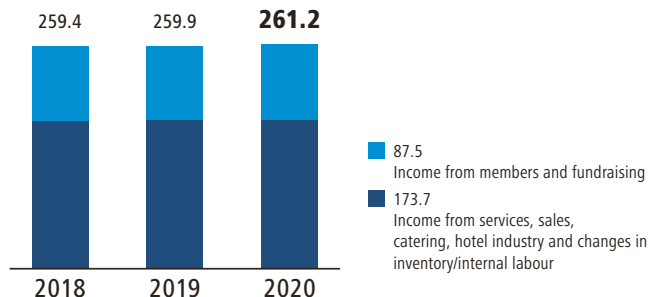
guests booked an overnight stay in one of the 150 hotel rooms
and in the accessible infrastructure.

Hotel Sempachersee

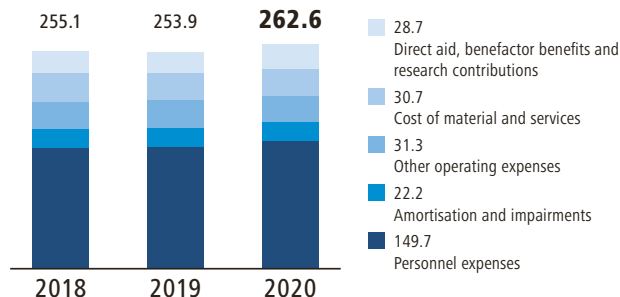
The Hotel Sempachersee strengthened its market position in the conference and events sector and increased the number of sporting events. The infrastructure on the Nottwil Campus provides unique preconditions for both segments. Conference clients appreciated the professional cooperation and many of them renewed their contracts. The Hotel Sempachersee's unique conference and event opportunities were acknowledged in the form of an internationally recognised award.

Key financial figures

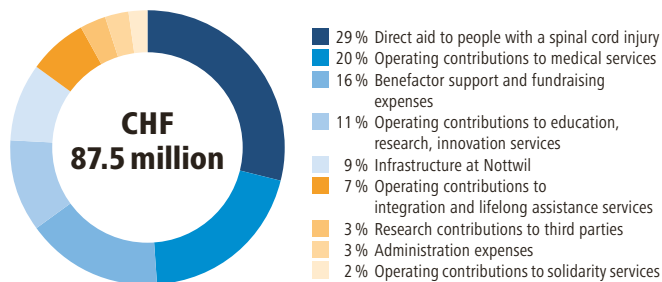
Operating profit (in CHF million)



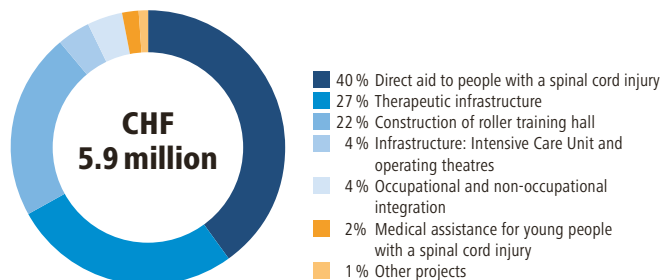
Operating expenses (in CHF million)



Membership fees and donations



Earmarked donations



Annual reports

The activities of the Swiss Paraplegic Foundation, its subsidiaries, and closely related organisations have been documented in detail in the Swiss Paraplegic Group's on-line annual report. The on-line annual report is published in French and German.

The German on-line version is legally binding. This printed short version provides a compact summary of the main information and figures from the reporting year.

[Comprehensive on-line annual report in German](#)



[Comprehensive on-line annual report in French](#)



Annual report of the Swiss Paraplegic Foundation,
its subsidiaries, and closely related organisations

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