



International Geneva
Directory of Swiss Global Health Actors
FOSIT

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BACKGROUND AND MISSION

FOSIT is the federation of nearly 60 NGOs based in the Italian part of Switzerland, associations or foundations strictly non-profit. The Federation and its members do operate in development aid and cooperation. FOSIT has six overarching strategic priorities:

- to promote experience exchange and coordination among its members
- to raise public awareness on international development cooperation and humanitarian aid
- to provide training activities and strategic advices related to the mission of its members
- to promote quality of NGOs institutional conduct and operation
- to develop and strengthen public and private partnerships
- to promote financial sustainability of projects

It was founded in 1999 by 49 NGOs and is one of the 7 Federations operating in Switzerland. The members of FOSIT are based in Italian part of Switzerland and do operate in than 50 countries, with the mission to “sustain and promote international cooperation and sustainable development”. FOSIT network of engagement is ranging from public to private actors, on a regional scale as well as national.

AREAS OF INTEREST

- Water Access, Sanitation and Hygiene
- SDG3 and public health
- Social and environmental determinants of health
- Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights with maternal and newborn care
- Other areas such as: poverty reduction, education and training, infrastructures, agriculture, community development, etc.

HEALTH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

FOSIT promotes the Agends 2030 for Sustainable development in every activity where it is engaged. Strategic Goals for FOSIT are SDG1 (Zero poverty) and SDG17 (Partnership for the goals). 2019 will be devoted to SDG3 (Health and wellbeing). All the projects financed through FOSIT are listed on its website.

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF

FOSIT committee is composed of 7 members, elected every 4 years by the General Assembly, and their position is on a honorary basis. The current president is Paola Solcà,

while members are Manuela Cattaneo Chicus, Giampiero Gianella, Daria Lepori, Alessandra Mordasini, Oriano Pagani and Peter Schiesser. From the very beginning FOSIT also had a secretariat, to link and coordinate all the activities of the federation, the committee and of the technical commission. In particular, it organizes events, manages calls, organizes trainings and awareness activities, as well as consultancy services. Current secretary-general is Marianne Villaret (total staff: 3). The technical commission is composed by various domain experts, and its task is to advise the committee on projects' fundings. Current president of the commission is Paolo Ambrosetti.

FUNDING SOURCES AND BUDGET

In 2018 revenues have been rising, the institutional structure has strengthened and the projects' total size and quantity has raised from CHF 740'093 to CHF 847'720, consisting in consultancies, FOSIT calls and linking to funding calls of partner organizations. Globally, funding was 85% from public sources and 15% from private origin. Regarding the number of projects - by direct, indirect or joint partnership - 68 grants have been provided to support 46 development cooperation projects, in 23 different countries by 28 member NGOs. FOSIT is financed by membership annual tax (CHF 400), donors and legacies, public and private contributions, revenues from direct FOSIT income-generating activities, interest on capital.

PUBLICATIONS

Relevant documents and publications, both from FOSIT and partners, can be accessed at <https://www.fosit.ch>

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