

2009 Activity Report

Fondation Hironnelle





Foreword

Lasting commitment

Fondation Hironnelle's maturity is built on lessons learned from its experience over the years, and on a series of institutional reforms deemed necessary as our work and environment evolved. 2009 has been an important year in this respect. The supervisory function of the Board and the operational tasks of the CEO and his staff have been clearly separated. Management now has a wide margin of manoeuvre for bringing Fondation Hironnelle's specialist expertise, developed over the years and much needed in its field of activity, to the service of beneficiary populations and partners. For its part, the Board has its hands free to make sure that both the letter and the spirit of the Statutes are being respected, and that the high standards of quality required by the founders are being met at all levels of management. The Board can thus approve in all legitimacy the ethical and professional commitment that is ours.

Serge Chappatte

Chairman of the Fondation Hironnelle Board since 29.05.09

Keeping on, despite the crisis

The financial crisis has strained public funds, which are in demand to help plug deficits. Humanitarian and development aid could have suffered as a result in 2010 or 2011, once parliamentarians had had time to look at the accounts and to vote for austerity packages. In the US, Switzerland and other developed countries this has not been the case, or at least not yet. But mentalities have changed. Government aid agencies are more careful, less willing to take risks, and tend to be looking for a return on their investment, whether it be in terms of image, political profit or quite simply financial return. Such considerations are not new, but have become more prevalent. For public opinion is made up of citizens already paying the price for disastrous financial operations that they knew nothing about. They might well want to start calling decision-makers to account. In our field, it is our duty to be accountable. We must show our results, measure our audiences, gather feedback, demonstrate the enormous impact of non-partisan, national, civic-minded radio stations and convince people that it is worth taking the risks involved, both for us and for our donors.

Jean-Marie Etter, Chief Executive Officer since 29.05.09

Radio Okapi

A Radio for Peace in the Democratic Republic of Congo

Recurring Conflict

The conflict in the east of the Democratic Republic of Congo took an unexpected turn in 2009. In January, the governments of the DRC and Rwanda reached agreement on a joint military operation against the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) militia. In a further move, the National Congress for the Defence of the People (CNDP) militia was integrated into the DRC's national army. Laurent Nkunda, former head of the CNDP rebellion, was arrested and put under house arrest in Rwanda. In Kinshasa, the joint military operation caused strong opposition and provoked a political storm. Vital Kamerhe, the popular president of the National Assembly, was forced to resign. He has become one of the leading figures of the opposition to President Joseph Kabila.

In the east of the country, fighting between the Congolese army and the militias was accompanied by abuses against the civilian population. The situation also remained difficult for NGOs and journalists, who were subject to daily threats and arrests. In July, the Congolese government decided to cut off the FM broadcasts of Radio France Internationale (RFI) inside the DRC.



© Photo : Lâm Duc Hiên/Fondation Hironnelle



© Céleste Ipoli, presenter of the morning news bulletin. (Photo : Lâm Duc Hiên/Fondation Hironnelle)

Useful and Necessary for the People

"Radio Okapi is useful or indispensable". That is the opinion of 75% of people surveyed in Matadi, Bukavu and Lubumbashi, and 94% in Mbuji-Mayi. These figures come from an audience survey conducted in November by the IMMAR institute among representative samples of the population in these four Congolese cities. This answer shows that the role and mission of Radio Okapi remain more important than ever for the population. Created in 2002 under a partnership with the United Nations, Radio Okapi offers the whole population access to independent, credible, reliable news and information. Editorial control is exercised under the joint responsibility of the United Nations mission in the DRC (MONUC) and Fondation Hironnelle.

Interactivity

Radio Okapi continues to fulfil its role as a national radio station serving the cause of peace. New programmes were introduced in 2009 to enhance interactivity with listeners. When devising the new programme schedule, particular attention was paid to the practical issues that they face in everyday life. New musical imaging was also introduced on the air.

Professionalism and responsibility

Fondation Hironnelle's aim is to continue enhancing Radio Okapi as a model for the wider Congolese media sector. To this end, programme



© Daily editorial meeting in Kinshasa. (Photo: Lâm Duc Hiên/ Fondation Hironnelle)

monitoring was introduced under the responsibility of a Congolese manager specifically trained for this task. Meticulous, regular monitoring of all programmes as well as any editorial, technical or presentation problems that might arise allows Radio Okapi's executives to manage the radio station more efficiently. It is also part of the policy to enhance responsibility of Congolese managers, who must eventually be able to take over the daily management of the radio station.

Preparing the future

The development of Radio Okapi remains complex. Difficulties over the years in ensuring professional management of the radio led Fondation Hironnelle and MONUC to start talks on redefining the terms of the partnership under which the project operates. A detailed assessment of the radio's management was finally carried out jointly by Fondation Hironnelle and MONUC, leading to an internal reorganization of the station in early 2010.

As for Radio Okapi's future, the priority is to develop a lighter structured model whilst at the same time maintaining all the essential goals, so as to transform it into a radio that will last beyond MONUC's withdrawal from the Democratic Republic of Congo.

In 2009, Radio Okapi received financial support from:

- United Kingdom (DFID)
- Belgium
- Sweden (SIDA)
- Germany
- Switzerland (DDC)
- France

Listen to Radio Okapi's programmes live on its website or download as podcasts :

www.radiookapi.net

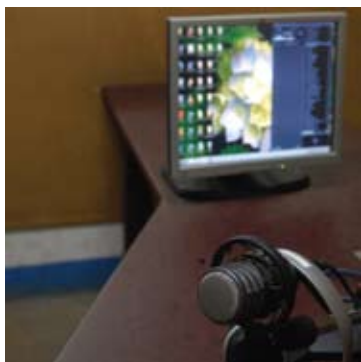
Radio Ndeke Luka

Radio for peace and development in the Central African Republic

Situation Deteriorates in CAR

The political and security situation deteriorated in the Central African Republic in the course of 2009. In the northwest of the country there were clashes between the army and rebel factions. In the northeast, the CAR army tried to contain the Union of Democratic Forces, a rebel movement linked directly to the conflict in Darfur. The UNHCR put the number of internally displaced people in the CAR at more than 300,000. In this context, the government in Bangui struggled to re-establish its administration, to stimulate the economy and to manage the stakes involved in the country's mining resources. In addition, the CAR is affected by regional conflicts in Chad, Darfur and the DRC, which have direct repercussions on the country.

Presidential and legislative elections which had been scheduled for May 16, 2010, were postponed indefinitely. The electoral calendar was criticized by all the opposition parties. The launch of a Demobilization and Reintegration programme for combatants was delayed. Meanwhile, former CAR president Ange Félix Patassé returned to Bangui at the end of October after six years in exile, and announced that he would be a candidate in the next presidential elections.



© Photo: Samuel Turpin/ Fondation Hironnelle



© Reading the news (Photo: Samuel Turpin/Fondation Hironnelle)

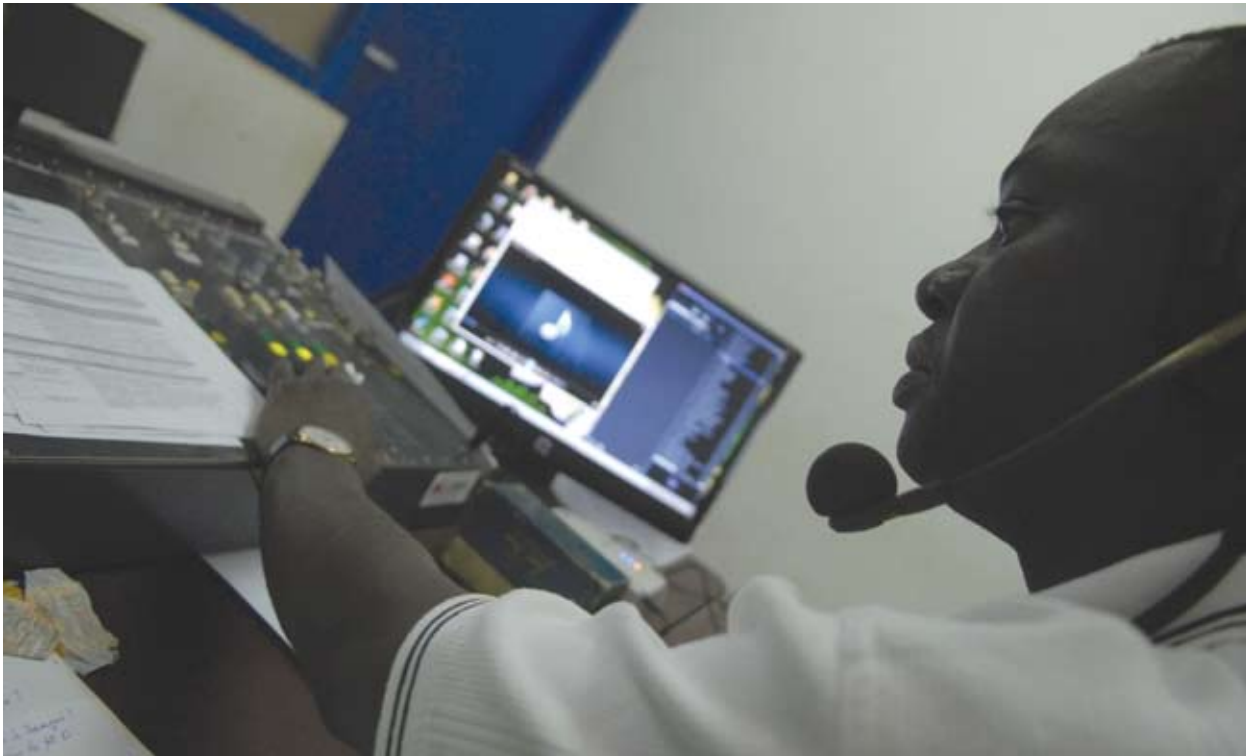
Preparing for Elections

In 2009, Radio Ndeke Luka strengthened its public service and general interest programming in the run-up to elections expected in 2010. In March, it launched a new programme schedule with enhanced proximity and interactivity with listeners. The programmes are organized around a new formula for news bulletins. They also include special programmes on the electoral process, debates on social issues, human rights and good governance, as well as programmes aimed at the most disadvantaged groups in the population. Radio Ndeke Luka covers the news in all provinces, including isolated areas, through a network of 12 correspondents. Along with the new programme schedule, Radio Ndeke Luka introduced new musical imaging which boosted the station's already strong image.

Radio Ndeke Luka adopted an Electoral Charter in 2009. This was presented to key civil society, political and media actors and co-signed by the CAR's High Communication Council, which used it as the linchpin to develop a code of conduct for all the nation's media.

Strengthening the ways of Broadcasting

Partnering with a mobile phone company whose presence in the country is among the strongest allowed the broadcast of Radio Ndeke Luka's



© Preparing the news. (Photo: Samuel Turpin/Fondation Hirondelle)

news programmes through this new technology. Meanwhile, development began in November on an upgrade of the website which would be intuitive and easy to access even on a low-speed Internet connection. The new site offers free RSS feeds, podcasts, live broadcasts via streaming as well as archives and other documents on the CAR.

Building Sustainability

Fondation Hirondelle continued the process begun two years ago of transferring responsibilities to the local staff. The station also signed an agreement with Bangui University's Information and Communication department to take four of its students just completing their course and give them hands-on training in the Radio Ndeke Luka newsroom.

Fondation Ndeke Luka, an NGO registered under CAR law in July 2008 which manages sustainability-enhancing activities for the radio station, set up an office and became operational following the appointment of its Board at the end of the year.

In 2009, Radio Ndeke Luka received financial support from:

- Cordaid
- Embassy of the USA in Bangui
- Embassy of France in Bangui
- Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (international organisation of francophone states, OIF)
- Switzerland (DDC)
- City of Geneva
- Migros aid fund
- National Endowment for Democracy
- BONUCA (United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in CAR)

Listen to Radio Ndeke Luka's programmes on its website:

www.radiondekeluka.org

Miraya FM

A source of independent information in Sudan

Instability

Five years on from the Comprehensive Peace Agreement which ended 21 years of war between the North and the South, Sudan remains unstable. Many cases of human rights abuse continue to be documented. The government twice postponed elections originally scheduled for 2009. Registering of the 15,778,154 eligible voters took place in a climate of suspicion. The SPLM, party of the ex-rebels in the South, challenged the validity of the 2008 census and thus the whole basis for the voter registration process. It claimed that the official figure of 8.2 million inhabitants in the South out of a total 39.1 million was too low. In December, the voting of major new laws, notably on security, was highly contentious.

Relations between Sudan and the international community have been strained since the International Criminal Court (ICC) indicted President Omar El-Bashir for war crimes and crimes against humanity. President Bashir has nevertheless travelled in the region, defying the ICC's arrest warrant against him. The African Union has indicated that it will not cooperate with the ICC to arrest him.



© Photo: Tim Mckulka/UN



© Aerial view of drought-stricken land in the Nuba mountains. (Photo: Tim Mckulka/UN)

Waiting for Elections

In the three and a half years since it started, Miraya FM has consolidated its reputation as a radio station providing independent, professional, credible coverage of events in Sudan and the region. Despite the fact that it has not been allowed to broadcast on FM in North Sudan, Miraya has nevertheless made a national impact through its broadcasts on shortwave and live around the clock on the Internet. The radio station, product of a partnership between Fondation Hironnelle and the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS), has promoted dialogue between different sectors of Sudanese society both in the North and the South. In 2009, Miraya FM also reported on significant events: the ICC's announcement of war crimes and crimes against humanity charges against President Bashir; violence in the southern state of Jonglei; a landmark decision by the Hague-based Permanent Court of Arbitration on border demarcation in the Abyei region; implementation of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement, including the adoption of laws on referenda in 2011 and on voter registration for the April 2010 elections. Some of the programmes were broadcast live from the regions.

Creating a new structure

In order to make Miraya FM more efficient in the run-up to elections, Fondation Hironnelle and UNMIS gave the station a structural overhaul.



© Displaced children following the attacks of the LRA in southern Sudan. (Photo: Tim Mckulka/UN)

“Miraya FM” became “Miraya”, a radio station closer to its listeners through its content and with wider reach through various means of broadcasting. A qualitative survey showed that Sudanese people want to know about political, economic and social developments on the national level and also about local events affecting their daily lives. Fondation Hirondelle also produced new musical imaging for Miraya FM, including jingles with voices and musical instruments from both the North and South of Sudan.

Election Training

Miraya FM gave priority to training for electoral coverage, in cooperation with the elections department of UNMIS. The station’s news and feature journalists, as well as its regional correspondents, were given training in English and Arabic to deepen their understanding of the electoral calendar, democratic principles, citizens’ rights, civic education and Sudanese electoral laws. Journalist security training was also conducted in Khartoum, Juba and for the Miraya team in Darfur. This was deemed all the more necessary given that several of the station’s journalists have suffered intimidation.

In 2009, Miraya FM received financial support from:

- Germany
- Switzerland (DDC)
- Sweden (SIDA)

Miraya programming is available round the clock on:

www.mirayafm.org

Cotton Tree News

A Training and Production Studio in Sierra Leone

Return to democracy

Democracy is gradually returning to Sierra Leone after 11 years of civil war that ended in 2002. The 2007 presidential elections took place for the first time under an independent electoral commission and passed off relatively calmly. They resulted in the election of the opposition candidate Ernest Bai Koroma as president. As he came to power, he promised to clamp down on corruption and on mismanagement of public resources.

In 2009, the UN-backed Special Court for Sierra Leone convicted three former leaders of the rebel Revolutionary United Front (RUF) for war crimes and crimes against humanity committed during the Sierra Leone civil war. This was the last case tried by the Special Court in Freetown. Its trial of former Liberian leader Charles Taylor continues in The Hague, Netherlands, for security reasons, and is its last one.



© Journalist Sarah Bomkapre Kamara in the CTN studios. (Photo: Sharon Bylenga/ Fondation Hirondelle)

A News Service for the whole of Sierra Leone

Cotton Tree News is a production and training studio within the Mass Communications department of Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone, which broadcasts live content through partner radio stations. It is located on the heights of the capital Freetown. CTN fulfils a dual mission: producing a daily news and information programme that is professional, independent and credible and sending it to partner radio stations; and providing quality, hands-on training to Sierra Leonean journalists and technicians. This training is provided primarily to University of Sierra Leone Mass Communications students and takes the form of an apprenticeship in a real-time radio production environment, in addition to their theoretical courses.

Production

In 2009, Cotton Tree News continued to produce 6 hours a day of news and information programming in several languages. CTN produces programmes dealing with justice, human rights, good governance, rural development, health, education and gender issues. Sierra Leone has a strong oral culture. A majority of the population are illiterate, and among women the illiteracy rate is as high as 75%. In this context radio remains



© CTN technician Brima Davies at work (Photo: Sharon Bylenga/ Fondation Hirondelle)



© Freetown, Sierra Leone. (Photo: Sharon Bylenga/ Fondation Hironnelle)

the most used communication tool and the most important source of information.

CTN's programmes are broadcast nationwide. They are broadcast on FM by Radio Mount Auriol, the station of the University of Sierra Leone; by a network of ten community radios; and by the United Nations radio station. They are also broadcast on shortwave (half an hour per day) and on the Internet.

Training

In addition to theoretical training, journalists, correspondents and students get hands-on training and mentoring in the CTN newsroom. The project also runs a two-week internship programme with STAR radio in neighbouring Liberia. In 2009, over 40 CTN staff and volunteers, as well as individuals from partner community radio stations, travelled to Liberia to train at STAR radio, an independent news and information radio station based in Monrovia. In 2009, Fondation Hironnelle also launched training at CTN in producing and selling radio advertising. This is part of a strategy to develop revenue generating services which can in the longer term cover part of CTN's operating costs.

In 2009, Cotton Tree News received financial support from:

- European Commission
- Germany
- Ireland (Irish Aid)

Listen to Cotton Tree news bulletins on its website:

www.cottontreeneews.org

Hirondelle News Agency

News Agency covering the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in Arusha, Tanzania

Fourteen years of the ICTR

The International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) is an ad hoc United Nations court set up in 1996 to bring to justice architects and perpetrators of the 1994 Rwandan genocide. In July, the UN Security Council extended the mandate of the ICTR to the end of 2010.

In fourteen years of existence, the ICTR has handed down 49 verdicts, including 9 acquittals. Twenty-six cases are still under way. Judgments handed down in 2009 included the former Interior Minister Callixte Kalimanzira who was sentenced to 30 years in prison.

In Rwanda, village courts known as gacaca continued trials of people accused of participating in the 1994 genocide. About one million people have already been tried by the 12,000 local juries. Over two thousand judgments are still expected in 2010.

Ever since the ICTR started in 1996, Hirondelle News Agency has been reporting on justice issues related to the 1994 genocide, both at the Tribunal and inside Rwanda. Today it remains the only news agency offering full coverage of the ICTR trials in four languages: English, French, Swahili and Kinyarwanda. In total it has produced about 16,000 dispatches which make up the archives of its work for justice and reconciliation.



© ICTR courtroom. (Photo ICTR)

Covering the News and Preserving History

In 2009, Hirondelle News Agency produced 1,649 dispatches in English, French, Swahili and Kinyarwanda. These dispatches were sent to 1,094 subscribers, who include journalists, lawyers, NGO members, diplomats and researchers on Rwanda and international justice.

Archives preserved on Internet

The entire production of the Hirondelle News Agency is available on its website. In 2009, the site received 201,306 visits. More than 2.5 million pages were visited. Users can search the archives by case, date, in chronological order, by keywords, language or by cross-cutting subject categories. All the dispatches are posted in English and French. They are also translated into Swahili and Kinyarwanda, depending on their importance. Fondation Hirondelle thus makes available to everyone, and in particular the people of the Great Lakes region, a flow of quality information allowing them to follow the activities of the ICTR, become more familiar with the national and international judicial mechanisms at work in the region and understand what is at stake.



© ICTR courtroom. (Photo ICTR)

The role of justice

At the same time as covering the news, the Agency's analysis pieces provide context and explain judicial decisions. Field reports and investigative pieces complement coverage of the trials, providing insight into situations and showing the vital role that justice plays in building local communities. Weekly audio summaries of 5 to 8 minutes in English, French and Swahili are also available online for use free of charge by regional and international radio stations.

Extension of activities

Responding to the extension of the ICTR's mandate, Fondation Hironnelle has reorganized the Agency so as to keep it operational and maintain quality despite limited funding prospects. This reorganization has entailed removing all expatriate posts in Arusha and strengthening the capacities of the local team. Thus in 2009 Hironnelle News Agency was headed by a Tanzanian coordinator who is also a journalist, and a Rwandan editor in chief. They were able to rely on a network of correspondents in Belgium, France, Rwanda and the Netherlands to cover a wide international spectrum of judicial proceedings linked to the Rwandan genocide.

In 2009, the Information, Documentation and Training Agency at the ICTR changed its name to the Hironnelle News Agency.

In 2009, the Hironnelle News Agency received financial support from:

- European Commission
- Belgium

The entire production of the Hironnelle News Agency is available on its website:

www.hirondellenews.org

STAR radio

An independent news radio in Liberia

A Vital Mission

STAR radio was created by Fondation Hironnelle in 1997. It was shut down by strongman Charles Taylor three years later, but reopened in 2005. It was thus able to renew its task of providing independent, professional news and information, broadcasting across the nation in all Liberia's main languages and helping to rebuild civic mindedness in a country emerging shattered from civil war. STAR radio's programmes cover all aspects of daily life in Liberia, providing a space for news, dialogue and debate and helping to hold the authorities accountable to their citizens.

STAR radio was entirely handed over to its Liberian team in 2008. In 2009, the radio covered 35% of its budget from its own revenue generating activities. External financial support remains necessary. Fondation Hironnelle maintains strong ties with STAR radio and supports its efforts.

In 2009, STAR radio received financial support from:

- Pro Victimis
- Humanity United
- NDI
- Global Giving

Listen to STAR radio's programmes on its website:

www.starradio.org.lr



© Photo Sharon Bylenga /Fondation Hironnelle

Support for STAR radio is Essential

STAR radio broadcasts independent news, which is vital for the stability of the country, especially in the context of upcoming political events. First, the UN radio station is to continue operating up to the 2011 elections but is unlikely to continue beyond that date, which will leave STAR radio as the only independent radio station with nationwide reach. Second, the way the elections are organized, particularly the drawing of electoral constituency boundaries, is already causing disputes and raising many questions. There is a real need for sustained independent, professional news and information about all aspects of these elections scheduled for 2011.

Allies of Charles Taylor's former regime are back in Liberia and control part of the broadcast media. The country's Truth and Reconciliation Commission has recommended prosecution of former warlords for crimes committed during the civil war. Meanwhile, the trial of former president Charles Taylor for war crimes and crimes against humanity is continuing in The Hague. In this context, STAR radio is more necessary than ever to help prevent further conflict. Support for freedom of the press in the country is therefore essential.

New Projects



© Bethlehem street scene. (Photo: Palden Jenkins)

Several Projects in search of Funding

Fondation Hironnelle has responded to several partnership requests and carried out several feasibility studies. It has drawn up a number of proposals for new projects which are ready and seeking funding. There is the Radio Al Amal project to create a new independent radio station in Palestine, in partnership with the Hope Flowers School, Bethlehem; a project to build an international justice news agency with a permanent correspondent at the International Criminal Court in The Hague; and a radio cooperative and training project in Somalia. Fondation Hironnelle has also responded to a call for proposals related to elections and democratic participation in Cambodia, in partnership with a local NGO. It also has proposals for projects in Madagascar, Haiti and Guatemala, following requests for professional support from journalists in those countries.

In September, Fondation Hironnelle decided on new project development goals. All its current activities are currently concentrated on the African continent. Fondation Hironnelle reaffirmed its aim to prioritize new projects in other regions, notably the Middle East, Asia and Latin America.

Fondation Hironnelle is working on new project development with the following operational partners:

- Hope Flowers School, Bethlehem
- No Peace Without Justice, Rome
- Radio Sahan, Mogadiscio
- People Center for Development and Peace (PDP-Center), Phnom Penh

Development of Fondation Hironnelle

A logistical Hub

Fondation Hironnelle ensures logistics for five media outlets in countries with different political and legal contexts, languages and sets of challenges, where crises are frequent and sometimes serious. It makes sure projects conform to the rules of different donors, maintains scrupulous accounting procedures in environments where general policing of rules is weak, and maintains financial rigour. Designing projects and implementing them in accordance with current rules and requirements, recruiting and managing high level international personnel capable of working in a specialized field in difficult conditions constitute further professional challenges. Fondation Hironnelle must also maintain high editorial quality in all its media, instil a systematic approach to sustainability and oversee scrupulous internal monitoring and evaluation in all its projects. These tasks are carried out in Lausanne by a team of fifteen people, which include the management as well as research and development staff.



© Photo : Lâm Duc Hiên/Fondation Hironnelle



© Radio Okapi newsroom (Photo : Lâm Duc Hiên/Fondation Hironnelle)

Consolidating Institutional Structures

Since 2009, Fondation Hironnelle has applied a clear distinction between the supervisory functions of the Board and the operational functions of management. At the beginning of the year the Swiss federal oversight authorities approved changes to the Foundation's Statutes approved by the Board on December 4, 2008. The post of Executive President, which combined the functions of Board chairman and operational director has been scrapped. The Board is no longer involved in operations. It thus has its hands free to oversee management - especially financial management - to adopt strategy, and to appoint the Chief Executive Officer. The institutional changes have also formalized the structure of the management team, which consists of the CEO, the Director of Operations and the Director of Administration and Finance.

Renewal of the board

On May 28, 2009, the Board co-opted Serge Chappatte, a former deputy director of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, as its chairman. Serge Chappatte has followed Fondation Hironnelle's work ever



© Photo : Lâm Duc Hiên/Fondation Hironnelle

since it started, and has been a Board member since 2007. During the same Board meeting Jean-Marie Etter, chairman of the Board since 1996 and Executive President, was appointed CEO of Fondation Hironnelle and left the Board. Eight members of the original Board of 1995 have now left over the years, and the Board will have been entirely renewed by the end of 2011.

Deepening Professional Ties and Looking Outward

It was also in 2009 that a group of American journalists and personalities launched a US foundation completely independent of Fondation Hironnelle but whose mandate is to help it obtain funding, support its project development and give it a higher profile. In the same year the French-Speaking Radio and Television International Council (CIRTEF), which groups all national or public service broadcasters in francophone countries, admitted Fondation Hironnelle as an associate member at its General Assembly in Hanoi. Fondation Hironnelle is also an active member of the Geneva Peace Building Platform, the Permanent Conference of the Mediterranean Audiovisual Operators (COPEAM) and the Bonn Network, which groups several organizations that support media in conflict zones.

For more information , visit
Fondation Hironnelle's website:
www.hirondelle.org

Administration and Finance

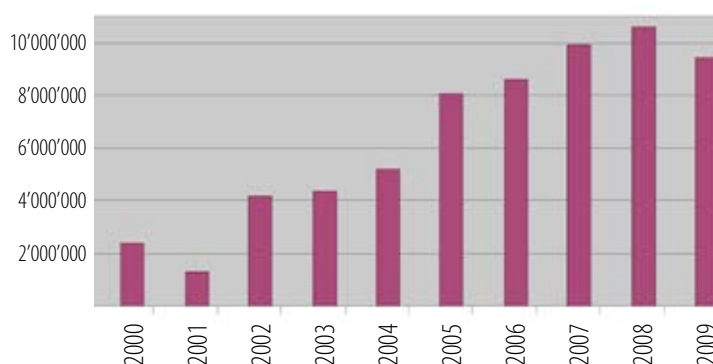
General financial situation

Funding difficulties sensed at the end of 2008 were confirmed, forcing Fondation Hironnelle to revise the budgets for its projects and headquarters in 2009. Global annual expenditure totalled CHF 9,406,431, down 11% on the previous year.

Procedures introduced in 2009 allowed us to limit the effects of exchange rate fluctuations between the various currencies used by donor countries and the Swiss franc, which is our currency of reference for accounting purposes. Certain headquarters expenditure was also frozen in 2009, to take account of budget restrictions. Thanks to these steps, the year ended with a financial surplus of CHF 128,017. This was allocated to the operating capital of Fondation Hironnelle, bringing it to CHF 397,867.

Cashflow improved during the year, but the fact of depending mainly on short term donor contracts implies constant pressure to seek new funding.

Development of overall expenditure since 2000 (in Swiss francs)



Human Resources

The total number of headquarters staff increased in 2009 owing to the recruitment of a person in charge of new projects. On December 31, there were 18 people filling the equivalent of 13.2 full time posts. The number of expatriates on long term contracts decreased again to 17 at the end of 2009. There were in addition 14 expatriates who carried out short term missions (2 weeks to 3 months, mostly for training and technical support) during the year, an increase on 2008.

The vast majority of Fondation Hironnelle's employees are nationals of the countries where we have our projects. In 2009, there were 175 local staff on long-term contracts as managers, journalists, presenters, technicians, drivers and in administrative or logistical support. In addition, about 30 people were employed during the year as trainees, correspondents or replacement staff.

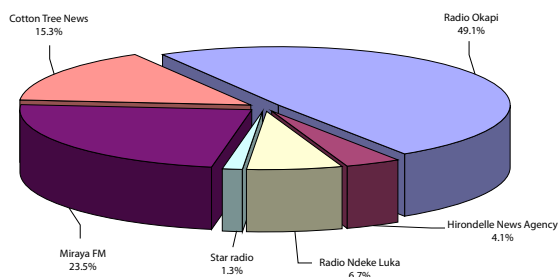
Project expenditure

Out of total expenditure of CHF 9,406,431, 8.81% went to headquarters operations and to cover exchange rate fluctuations. The remaining CHF 8,577,993 went to projects, with 64.8% spent on staff costs, 28.7% on operating costs and 6.5% on equipment.

Project	Country	Expenditure
Radio Okapi	DRC	4,209,688
Hironnelle News Agency	Tanzania	349,977
Radio Ndeke Luka	CAR	572,886
Miraya FM	Sudan	2,019,591
Cotton Tree News	Sierra Leone	1,311,176

Fondation Hironnelle also paid contributions of CHF 114,675 to STAR Radio in Liberia, in line with a partnership contract in force since 2008.

Percentage of 2009 Expenditure, by Project



Financial Resources

Fondation Hironnelle's total revenue was CHF 9,534,448 in 2009, coming from the following donors:

Type of revenue	Revenue in CHF	Revenue as % of total
Institutional donors		
Belgium	1,291,927	13.6%
European Commission	1,049,525	11.0%
France	424,499	4.5%
Germany	1,499,913	0.5%
Ireland	302,889	3.2%
Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)	90,787	1.0%
Sweden	1,876,600	19.7%
Switzerland	90,787	1.0%
United Kingdom	918,332	9.6%
United States of America	1,471,566	15.4%
UN Agencies	11,114	0.1%
Other donors		
Cordaid	181,484	1.9%
Migros aid fund	50,000	0.5%
Global Giving	834	0.01%
Humanity United	81,525	0.9%
National Endowment for Democracy (NED)	31,516	0.3%
City of Geneva	25,000	0.3%
Miscellaneous donations	58,089	0.6%
Other revenue		
Sales and advertising	123,516	1.3%
Financial products	1,988	0.02%

Summary of Fondation Hironnelle accounts

The accounts were audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers SA, which presented its audit report on May 4, 2010. This work involved a detailed audit of the accounts and allocation of precise sums to the different projects, as well as an audit of the internal control system. According to the audit report, "the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2009 comply with Swiss law and the foundation's deed and internal regulations". We summarize here the balance sheet and operating accounts for the year 2009. The full auditors' report can be obtained from Fondation Hironnelle upon request.

I. Balance sheet as at December 31st (in Swiss francs)	2009	2008
Assets		
Current assets		
Liquid assets, including restricted funds	2,733,380	1,247,475
Third party debtors and prepaid expenses	164,731	140,895
Advance on projects	379,974	462,304
Fixed assets		
Loan to Hironnelle USA	22,970	0
Guarantees	21,097	21,030
Equipment, vehicles and tools	8,007	9,201
Total assets	3,330,159	1,880,905
Liabilities		
Creditors and provisions		
Other creditors and prepaid income	402,006	239,936
Provisions	96,739	94,446
Balance of funds		
Amounts carried forward for projects	1,940,113	897,377
Other funds	443,434	329,296
Equity capital		
Foundation capital	50,000	50,000
Operating capital	397,867	269,850
Total liabilities	3,330,159	1,880,905
II. Operating account (in Swiss francs)		
Expenditure		
Sub-total staff	5,995,235	6,454,863
Sub-total operations	2,848,255	3,434,500
Sub-total depreciation	562,941	689,990
Total expenditures	9,406,431	10,579,353
Income		
Sub-total institutional donors	8,980,496	9,999,276
Sub-total sponsors	313,773	84,383
Sub-total other income	240,179	399,425
Total income	9,534,448	10,483,084
Surplus of income over expenditure (+) / Surplus of expenditure over income (-)	128,017	-96,269
Operating capital at the beginning of the year	269,850	366,119
Operating capital at the end of the year	397,867	269,850

Members of the board in 2009

Serge Chappatte	Chairman of the Board since 28.05.09. Former deputy director at the Swiss agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).
Jean-Marie Etter	Chief Executive Officer since 28.05.09. Formerly executive president (i.e. chairman of board and director).
Jean de Courten	Member of the International Committee of the Red Cross ICRC, former head of ICRC Special Fund for the Disabled.
Philippe Dahinden	Lawyer and broadcast journalist (radio and TV).
Jean-Pierre Husi	Agricultural engineer and development specialist, former director of Fondation Hirondelle.
Jean-Pierre Gontard	Former deputy director of the Institut Universitaire d'Etudes du Développement, Geneva
Romaine Jean	Journalist, producer and presenter on Radio Suisse Romande (Swiss francophone radio).
Patrick Pépin	Mediator at Radio France, former director of Lille journalism school.
Olivier Vodoz	Lawyer and former president of Geneva's regional State Council.

Fondation Hirondelle

Av. du Temple 19c
CH - 1012 Lausanne
Website: www.hirondelle.org
E-mail: info@hirondelle.org

To support us:

Postal account (in Switzerland):
10-16329-8
Bank account:
Crédit Suisse Lausanne
SWIFT: CRESCHZZ10C
Fondation Hirondelle
IBAN: CH16 0483 5041 8522 8100 1

The photographs on the first and last page of the report were taken by Lâm Duc Hiên during a documentary at Radio Okapi, DRC.



