



WORLD **DIABETES** FOUNDATION

BACKGROUNDER

World Diabetes Foundation

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The World Diabetes Foundation was established in 2002 through a commitment of 1.225 Billion Danish kroner (USD 255 Million) to be allocated over the period; 2002-2017 by Novo Nordisk A/S. The Foundation is registered as an independent trust and governed by a board of six experts in the field of diabetes, access to health, and development assistance.

The Foundation is presently chaired by Prof. Pierre Lefèbvre (IDF president 2003-2006). Other members of the Board include Dr. Ida Nicolaisen, Prof. Ib Bygbjerg, Dr. Kaushik Ramaiya, Mr .Lars Rebien Sørensen and Mr. Leif Fenger Jensen.

Mandate and objectives

The aim of WDF is to alleviate human suffering related to diabetes and its complications among those least able to withstand the burden of disease.

The Foundation operates with a strong poverty focus, meaning that support can only be granted to developing countries. In effect this means that only countries listed on the OECD/DAC list of aid recipient countries are eligible for WDF support.

Potential areas of support include:

- Awareness about diabetes
- Prevention of diabetes and its complications
- Education and training for people with diabetes and healthcare professionals
- Detection, treatment and monitoring of diabetes

In addition to efforts to improve care, the Foundation focuses on diabetes prevention, paying special attention to supporting initiatives that otherwise receive little attention. These include the prevention of blindness and limb amputations due to diabetes, as they have disastrous psychosocial and economic consequences.

An additional area of focus is on mothers and children with diabetes. Significant emphasis is placed on long term sustainability of project activities. To achieve this, focus is on strong local ownership, presence of a local champion to drive the project process, ensuring that a project builds on already established structures and that local authorities assume responsibility for all costs associated with the continued implementation of activities after project completion.

Achievements to date

During its 6 years of existence, WDF has established project-related partnerships and collaboration with prominent organisations such as the World Health Organisation (WHO) and its regional and country offices, the International Diabetes Federation (IDF), the World Bank and the Danish International Development Assistance Agency (Danida); Global Alliance for Women's Health; various non-governmental organisations (NGO's)



including DanChurchAid, the Insulin Foundation and the Spanish foundation, Fundacion para la Diabetes. In addition WDF partners with Ministries of Health in the developing countries as well as with local diabetes associations, local NGOs, key opinion leaders, policy makers and global media.

Global awareness and advocacy

As part of the global awareness initiatives the World Diabetes Foundation initiated the Global Diabetes Walk on World Diabetes Day 2004. In 2007, more than 207,000 people joined the walk to create global advocacy and awareness about diabetes in more than 72 different countries. Please visit; www.globaldiabeteswalk.net

Approach

The World Diabetes Foundation seeks to act as a catalyst to help others do more. Out of a total project portfolio of USD 170.6 million, only USD 54.7 million have been granted by WDF. The remaining balance constitutes co-funding either cash or in-kind by project partners. Thereby it is possible to make a much greater impact than the Foundation's size would suggest.

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Projects may have a global, regional or local focus. Examples of each category include:

Global

Diabetes Action Now seeking to raise global awareness of diabetes, implemented by WHO and IDF and the Diabetes Atlas in collaboration with IDF.

The "Unite for Diabetes" campaign led by the International Diabetes Federation, with the aim to secure a United Nations Resolution on Diabetes.

Regional

Diabetes Practice Guidelines for Africa aiming at establishing standard treatment guidelines for the region. Implemented by IDF-Africa.

Local

Access to diabetes care in Tanzania which has established 23 regional diabetes clinics; thereby bringing diabetes care to all areas of the country. Implemented by Tanzania Diabetes Association with Ministry of Health.

Follow-up on projects

World Diabetes Foundation has developed a number of general procedures for monitoring and evaluating projects. These procedures aim to maximise the impact and lessons learnt and to minimise the risk of project failure.

Upon Board approval of support to a project, a contract is signed with the project partner.



The contract stipulates specific milestones to be achieved for the entire duration of the project and all payments to the project are directly linked to the achievement of these tangible results. Typically, a project has 6-10 such milestones to be met during project implementation. No funds are released unless agreed results are delivered.

Project partners are required to submit on a semi-annual basis a narrative report describing progress in terms of achieving expected results as well as a financial report detailing expenditure on the agreed budget. Annual audited accounts and final audited accounts also form part of this process. All payments to a project are subject to submission of satisfactory reports.

In addition to written reports, WDF funded projects are visited by the WDF Secretariat on an annual basis. The purpose of the visits at field level is to obtain a first hand impression of project achievements in relation to the project plan and to have a close dialogue with the partner on project progress and obstacles. Focus is on learning best practices, sharing experience and finding solutions in collaboration.

Application form and more information on WDF and its operations are available on www.worlddiabetesfoundation.org

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The World Diabetes Foundation

World Diabetes Foundation is dedicated to supporting prevention and treatment of diabetes in the developing world through funding of sustainable projects. The World Diabetes Foundation creates partnerships and acts as a catalyst to help others do more. The Foundation strives to educate and advocate globally in an effort to create awareness, care and relief to those impacted by diabetes.

The World Diabetes Foundation has funded 164 projects to date in 80 countries with a total portfolio of USD 170.6 million of which USD 54.7 million are donated by the Foundation. The projects funded by the WDF will in the coming 3-4 years potentially influence the diabetes treatment, prevention and awareness efforts of 64.8 million people directly in the developing countries.

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