

Annual
report
2020



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Founders' foreword

The year 2020 will be forever etched in all of our memories as the year of the pandemic, bringing lockdowns, social distance, and isolation to people all over the world.

Although we at Same Skies were well equipped and well versed in remote teamwork, we faced the challenge of negotiating months of restricted movement and the lack of a social life. Looking after each other as team members, and staying mentally healthy as the pandemic dragged on, was a challenge we are sure our readers can relate to.

At the beginning of the year, we had just opened Same Skies' new social enterprise, Kneading Peace, which we had founded with considerable personal investment, and for which we had already recruited refugee trainees. In addition, Same Skies was fielding increased requests from vulnerable community members not only within Malaysia and Indonesia, but also from countries further afield, where people were now unable to flee due to the closed borders, with no recourse to safety.

The situation for Julia became progressively more stressful, leading to her feeling overwhelmed and helpless, and culminating in physical and emotional burnout. For the sake of her mental health, but also to strengthen our network and connection with stakeholders in Switzerland, we decided to spend a few months in Europe, leaving the day-to-day operations in the capable hands of Linde and the team in Melaka.

While in Europe, we held successful events, and our midyear fundraising campaign met our target despite the ongoing pandemic-related difficulties. Julia had a number of meetings with stakeholders in the refugee protection field in Switzerland and Greece, and we also took time to enjoy the beauty of nature.

It was incredible for us to see the level of support that we continued to receive during this pandemic. We were wondering whether it might be more difficult to raise funds at this time, but this proved to be an unfounded fear, as the generosity and compassion of our supporters exceeded our expectations. For this, we are profoundly grateful.

In short, 2020 highlighted some of the challenges of humanitarian work, particularly the importance of focusing on happiness and well-being for oneself, but also for the team, and finding ways of establishing and maintaining boundaries, and preventing emotional burnout and vicarious trauma.



Bradley Short



Julia Frei

The year 2020: reflections on goals and progress

Goal 1:

Enhancing governance, human resource and people management practices

- Working in line with our new organisational structure highlighted that flexibility and agility involves an ongoing process of negotiating and adjusting roles, responsibilities and collaboration between teams.
- Like the rest of the world, our team was faced with the challenges of working from home during lockdowns. Fortunately, a large part of our work had always been conducted remotely, and we already had the necessary technology in place. To maintain morale and understanding in the team, we had a short online catch-up every morning, and invested much more time in checking-in with each other.

Goal 2:

Strengthening branches & operations in Malaysia & Indonesia

- We initiated a network of refugee-led organisations because we realised that very often, the groups with whom we work face similar challenges, and acknowledge the benefits of sharing experiences and advice with each other. Monthly sessions are led by a member of one of the groups.
- Kneading Peace Social Enterprise opened its doors in January 2020. This space allows us to enhance our financial independence, increase our visibility, and raise awareness of the plight of refugees in Southeast Asia.
- With Shaffira and Alldo's help, we were able to add Ayu, Daya, Sahnaz, Tia and Yohan to the Indonesian board, replacing some of our inactive members. The new board is already contributing to raising local awareness and expanding our networks.

Goal 3:

Scaling-up Refugee-Led Action

- Despite the pandemic and continuous adjustments, we were able to complete another round of Transformative Leadership in Action in September, which resulted in Jakarta Bersatu Project.
- Due to travel restrictions, it was decided that we would not commence training and mentoring with Jakarta Refugee Network this year.
- Continued efforts invested into our communications strategy have led to more clarity, and enhanced our visibility and reach (we are now on Instagram with comics and more, by our own in-house artist, Brad!).
- Due to the pandemic, the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) did not grant us funding to support Youth Learning Center. Instead, we decided to make Pekanbaru the location of Transformative Leadership in Action 2021.

Goal 4:

Conducting assessments for further expansion into other regions

- During their time in Europe, Brad and Julia established new connections to local stakeholders in Switzerland and Greece in an effort for future plans in the region.



Transformative Leadership in Action Design Camp, Jakarta

Highlights



Awareness & fundraising activities

- Linde and Khalil (participant of Transformative Leadership in Action 2020) spoke at the virtual conference on “Displacement and Dialogue”, organised by Deutsche Welle Akademie.
- The Swiss board organised a lovely get-together in Winterthur in September. The team prepared Kneading Peace delicacies for the guests, and sold the new merchandise.
- Thanks to our community of supporters, we were able to successfully complete fundraising campaigns in January and August.

Team developments

- In January, Dan joined our team as Community Trainer, after some time on the Malaysian board.
- In March, Brad officially started working with Same Skies as Training & Development Manager for two days per week, after years of volunteering his time.
- Joané started working as Product & Training Development Consultant in Melaka in July. She went back to South Africa in November, but continues to volunteer her time.
- Our Community Trainer, Farid, left the team in July to move back to Kuala Lumpur.
- After visiting the shop as a customer in July, Callista started volunteering at Kneading Peace every Sunday.
- For three months, 15-year old student Eva spent Saturday mornings volunteering at Kneading Peace, supporting preparations in the kitchen and helping customers in the cafe. In conclusion of her volunteer assignment, she prepared a presentation about Same Skies to hold for her peers once schools re-open.

Projects



Jakarta Bersatu Project | Jakarta, Indonesia

Jakarta Bersatu Project was designed and initiated by the dynamic group of participants of our Transformative Leadership in Action programme 2020. The text that follows is their account of the project.

Jakarta Bersatu Project is a livelihood opportunity FOR refugees BY refugees.

Our goal is to assist refugees to at least cover the cost of their basic living needs and live in dignity in Indonesia. Being refugees ourselves, we really understand the challenges faced by refugees. We believe in refugee empowerment and we have therefore co-designed a sustainable livelihood opportunity for adult refugees from all backgrounds based in Jakarta, Indonesia. Within the first year, we aim to provide this opportunity to 25 individuals.

At Jakarta Bersatu Project we provide online handicraft training and Bahasa Indonesia classes. Within a six-month programme, we train a group of refugees to make their own handicraft products through jewellery making, embroidery, and sewing classes. Masks and recyclable shopping bags, for example, have been identified as products we would like to produce through our activities as it would support the current Covid-19 crisis and ongoing environmental issues. Jakarta Bersatu Project then assists the participants in selling their products

online and/or in Indonesian markets, and facilitates the marketing of the products. Once one group completes their training, another group can start.

We want refugees to look at their creativity as an asset to invest in. Through our artistic products, we want to indicate the beauty and uniqueness of diversity in various refugee and local cultures, and bring people closer. The purpose of our project is to not only assist refugees, but also to create collaborations between refugees and the local community through establishing partnerships with local organisations, NGOs, and companies. This will hopefully contribute towards strengthening communication, and narrowing cultural gaps that currently exist between refugees and locals as a better understanding of refugees' plight might be fostered.

[instagram.com/jkt.bersatu](https://www.instagram.com/jkt.bersatu)

[facebook.com/Jakarta-Bersatu-Project-104861791347209](https://www.facebook.com/Jakarta-Bersatu-Project-104861791347209)



Refugee Network Center | Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

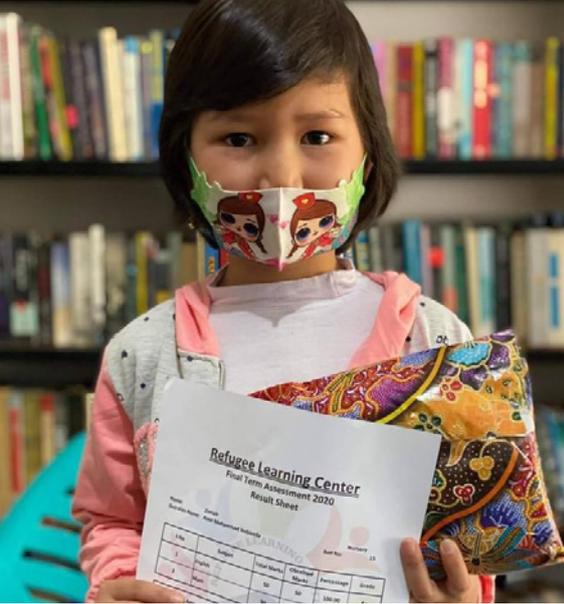
Refugee Network Center was established in 2018/19 through the first round of Transformative Leadership in Action, and the text below is written by the refugee team that runs it.

While most refugee community centres in Malaysia focus on people from a certain community group, Refugee Network Center is unique in its form as it welcomes refugees from all different sorts of backgrounds and cultures. We offer English and Bahasa Malay classes and various livelihood workshops. An example is the recycled bag project, where participants were taught during multiple workshops how to upcycle plastic banners into sustainable bags. This project was funded through UNHCR Malaysia. Furthermore, Refugee Network Center has taken up the role of a networking platform where it links refugees to local bazaars for selling their products. Through these bazaars and other connections via the Refugee Network Center they start making an income.

Now, with the COVID-19 crisis, the demand for a trusted network is even higher, and the need for language skills even more important. We have adapted very well to this need and the current situation. Thanks to grants from

several organisations and a new partnership, we were able to continue providing workshops and language classes by moving everything online. Even more so, we are improving our virtual surroundings so we can enlarge our outreach. In that way we can reach participants who were previously not able to come to the centre as they lived too far away, as well as other people stuck at home due to the COVID-restrictions. This has allowed us to showcase and share the skills of our team members not only with refugees, but also local Malaysians and others all over the world.

[instagram.com/refugeenetworkcenter](https://www.instagram.com/refugeenetworkcenter)
[facebook.com/RNCMalaysia](https://www.facebook.com/RNCMalaysia)



Refugee Learning Center | Bogor, Indonesia

Same Skies has been working together with Refugee Learning Center since 2014. The below contribution is written by the refugee team.

From March 2020 until the end of the year, the centre offered distance education instead of on-center classes because of concerns about the coronavirus pandemic. Before we started these online classes, our teachers received an online teaching workshop from an Australian teacher. At the start, our teachers and students faced many challenges because we didn't have a proper platform to conduct online classes and we didn't have a proper internet connection. Our teachers did their best to manage the classes properly. We used different platforms for different age groups of classes, Starter to Grade 2 had a WhatsApp group, and their teacher recorded the video lessons and sent it to the group for students. Grade 3 to Grade 4 used the non-premium Zoom, and Grade-6 to Grade-8 studied on Skype.

Despite all the challenges and struggles, we managed to successfully complete the year. Our grade 8 students graduated with really good marks.

Likewise, for the afternoon-shift language classes, the teachers taught their classes online with zoom accounts. We had to cancel a few adult classes because the students were unable to continue with online classes due to not being able to use applications such as Zoom or Skype. Beside the educational activities during the pandemic, Refugee Learning Center distributed groceries and hygiene kits among more than 500 families and individual refugees. We would like to say thanks to our generous donors for their generosity and help they provided us to continue our mission during the tough time.

Website: refugeelearningcenter.com
instagram.com/[refugeelearningcenter](https://www.instagram.com/refugeelearningcenter)
facebook.com/[RefugeeLearningCenter](https://www.facebook.com/RefugeeLearningCenter)



Refugee Learning Nest | Bogor, Indonesia

Refugee Learning Nest was the first project initiated by Same Skies, and we have been partnering with them since 2014. Following is an update on their year written by the Same Skies team.

Since the start of the COVID-19 outbreak, schools have, for the most part, had to remain closed. The team at Refugee Learning Nest did not give up, and shifted their classes online. They managed to continue with all the morning classes for children, as well as the adult English classes in the afternoon. Furthermore, they took on the responsibility to raise awareness amongst all students to be more careful with their health. At the learning centre, students were obliged to use hand sanitiser and masks. With the help of a grant, they were able to distribute 100 food supply packages to refugees in the area to support them in their daily needs.

On November 30th, the final term exams started for all classes. Throughout this tough year, with all the challenges of online education, the students still put in the effort to explore and learn, and this was proven by their great results. An event was organised to celebrate their success, and to thank the teachers for their hard work. Special acknowledgement was given to the Refugee Learning Nest female futsal team for their continued determination.

Website: refugeelearningnest.com
instagram.com [/refugeelearningnest](https://www.instagram.com/refugeelearningnest)
facebook.com [/RefugeeLearningNest](https://www.facebook.com/RefugeeLearningNest)



Kneading Peace

A bakery, shop, art gallery, and community space with the aim of:

- Training refugees and other marginalised community members in baking, crafting and enterprise management, and helping them develop plans to increase their livelihoods (long-term from home).
- Providing free accommodation and a living allowance during the first six months, a starter-kit of equipment upon completion of the training, and ongoing mentoring to support the business plans.
- Selling products, and raising awareness of the plight of refugees and other marginalised communities.
- Donating profits to Same Skies.

Did you know:

That we now produce our very own Same Skies merchandise, and also sell lovely handcraft made by our Kneading Peace trainees and other refugee artisans? Great as gifts for others, and to help us promote our work to your networks.

Submit your order through our online shop and we will be in touch to discuss shipping options:
sameskies.org/online-shop

See page 16 for some of our beautiful products.

Meet our first trainee: Zahra



I am Zahra Rezaei, from Afghanistan. I have been a refugee for all 27 years of my life because I was born and grew up as a refugee in Iran. Three years ago we moved to Malaysia.

Being a refugee is like a competition that you didn't want to participate in but you have no choice but to accept. So your mission is to survive and try much harder than other people to surpass the limitations, and live a normal life as a human being.

What I have enjoyed most at Kneading Peace is firstly their mission, which is a step to helping refugees' livelihood. Secondly, the team and their efforts in teaching us. They have created a very friendly environment and relationships between the team members.



Espresso Brownies For 16 cookies

100g dark chocolate
50g butter
1 egg
80g sugar
1 1/2 tbsp vanilla sugar
25ml freshly brewed espresso (cold)
100g plain flour
1 1/2 tbsp cocoa powder
1 pinch salt
30g icing sugar for rolling



For this recipe you will need to have a high quality dark chocolate to have wonderful cookies at the end.

First, brew your espresso, and let it cool down. Coarsely chop half of the chocolate, and finely chop the other half. Whisk the egg, sugar and vanilla sugar until light and creamy. Melt butter in a small saucepan, and add the coarsely chopped chocolate to slowly melt it. Let it cool down a little and add to the egg mixture together with the espresso.

Now add the flour, cocoa powder, baking powder, and salt, and mix carefully. Fold in the finely chopped chocolate. Put your butter in a small bowl, and refrigerate for at least two hours, until it is firm enough to shape into balls.

Preheat your oven, and line a tray with baking paper. Sift the icing sugar into a bowl. Cut the dough into 10g pieces, and shape into balls. Roll them in icing sugar, and place them on the baking tray, leaving some space between them because they will rise a bit.

Its time for baking - bake them at 180°C for 6-8min. They may seem a little soft, but will firm up as they cool.

Enjoy!

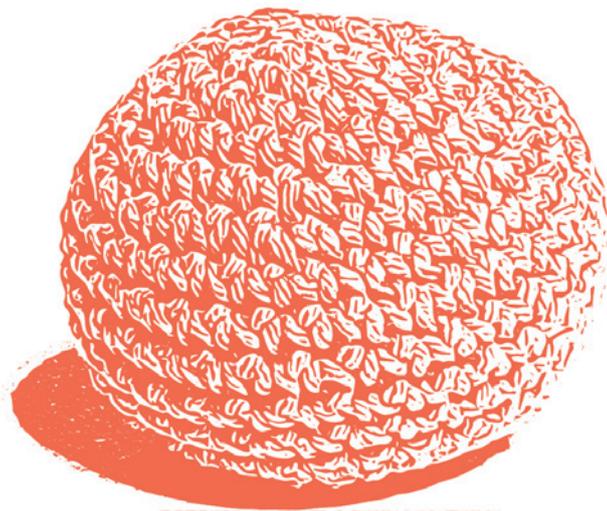
Happiness hack

It was a year of uncertainty for many – a time when a lot of us were struggling to fathom what the future might bring. So when we had the chance for a little team getaway for a few days, everyone was excited and energised! It gave us something to look forward to, and when the time arrived, we all had a good time playing together, but also working on building our teamwork and resilience.

One of our activities was a group session of hacky sack, where Brad used it as a metaphor for how teams can be more effective, united, and supportive. Dan took the motto of “hacky first, injury later” to a literal level, putting his body on the line in an attempt to keep the hacky sack in the air, and ending up akimbo in the rose bushes, with impressive thorn scratches to show for his efforts!

Hacky sack philosophy

The hacky sack experience is a team-building activity, a full-body workout, a fun social game, and perhaps eventually, an exhibition of outrageous skill and athleticism that involves a group of people that transforms into a team through the shared experience. The objective is to keep the sack from making contact with the ground, through a collaborative process that is refined and consistently improved through practice, shared laughter, and encouragement. There is no opposition, only team members, and there is no place for condemnation, disparagement, or humiliation, but rather a focused unit is responding and reacting as a finely-tuned team.



Objective

For all players to touch the sack at least once – this is known as one ‘hack’. One player may touch it 23 times, and another player only one, but everyone must contribute at least one touch to a hack. Once the team has managed one hack, the objective becomes two hacks, when another complete hack follows the first. Then the objective becomes three, four, and so on. There is no end number, as the target is always adjusted to better the previous level of achievement.

Rules

- 1. No self-service** – A hack begins with one player gently passing the sack to the foot or the chest of another. Whenever the sack hits the ground, it is the responsibility of the nearest person to retrieve it, and then to serve to another player. Life hack: give others the chance to lead. Everyone will get a turn.
- 2. No ‘sorries’** – No apologies necessary when the sack hits the ground, or when one player kicks another. Everyone is trying their best. Life hack: sometimes we reflexively apologise when we have done nothing wrong. Be secure and confident, and take responsibility for your actions. Be supportive and encouraging of the rest of the team.
- 3. No hands** – You can use any part of your body, but nothing below the shoulder of your arm. Life hack: Don’t overuse one tool. We use our hands for so many of our tasks. Let the rest of the body have its chance to develop agility. Develop creativity and flexibility in your ability to respond and react.

At Same Skies, happiness is the moments shared, the friendships forged, the common purpose that unites us all, regardless of where our journeys began – it is the hope that together, we can make a difference.



The team



Julia Frei

Founder & International Director



Claire Bellmann

Leadership Coach



Stephen Jinks

Teacher Mentor



Sharon O'Malley

Teacher Mentor



Linde Lamboo

Southeast Asia Manager



Danial Bin Ali Bakri

Community Trainer



Joané le Roux

Product & Training
Development Consultant



Shirley Briggs

Teacher Mentor



Bradley Short

Co-Founder & Training &
Development Manager



Enia Andriot

Teacher Mentor



Karen Benson

Teacher Mentor



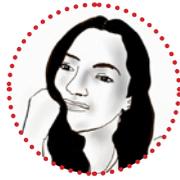
Urs Walterlin

Communications Consultant



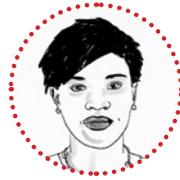
André Picot

Lecturer



Eva Degen

Community Awareness
Volunteer



**Nana Akyaa
Aforo-Banuah**

Public Relations Officer



Edith Favoreu

President (CH)



Anne Lodge

Teacher Mentor



Farid Bin Rahman

Community Trainer



Philippe Ruscassier

Leadership Coach & Lecturer



Alex Doebeli

Vice-President (CH)



Annina Hunziker

Project & Programme
Development Officer



**Izam Zamzuri Bin
Yaacob**

Branch Development Officer



Rufus James

Teacher Mentor



Monika Frei

Co-Founder & Secretary (CH)



Callista Candinas

Café Duty Officer



Jen Vlassis

Graphic Designer



Sharon Low

Health Consultant



Claudio Tiziani

Treasurer (CH)



Abbas Hussaini
President (AU)



Tom Brown
President (ID)



Hertiana Putri
Committee Member (ID)



Halim Bin Hassan
Committee Member (MY)



Liaquat Changezi
Vice-President (AU)



Anna Robertson
Vice-President (ID)



Sahnaz Melasandy
Committee Member (ID)



Noremy Bin Samat
Committee Member (MY)



Alyssa Gijbers
Secretary (AU)



Dhany Soehatomo
Secretary (ID)



Vanessa Smith
President (MY)



Tan Zheng Wei
Committee Member (MY)



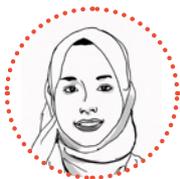
Casey Homann
Treasurer (AU)



Shaffira Gayatri
Co-Founder & Treasurer (ID)



Timothy Laurentius
Vice-President (MY)



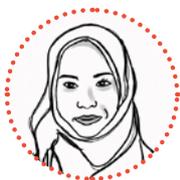
Madiha Ali
Committee Member (AU)



Alldo Januarydy
Supervisor (ID)



Harjinder Kaur
Secretary (MY)



Maleeha Ali
Committee Member (AU)



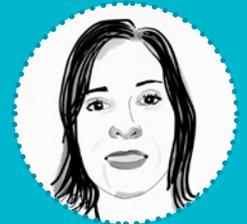
Janne Siregar
Co-Founder &
Committee Member (ID)



Zulaikha Binti Zulkifle
Treasurer (MY)

● Operations ● Board – Switzerland ● Board – Australia ● Board – Indonesia ● Board – Malaysia

Team member profile: Joané le Roux



When I met Brad and Julia a few years ago, I knew very little about refugees. A lot of my knowledge, in fact, was nothing but folklore.

I have spent a good deal of my adult life in Malaysia, working as a teacher mostly. For a while I stayed in this wonderful traditional Malay kampung (village) house in Melaka. My housemate invited Julia and Brad over for a barbecue one evening; she said I needed to meet these people.

So, I met “these people” and I was struck by their unassuming nature whilst talking about Same Skies. At the time, Brad and Julia had no other staff working for Same Skies. Their home was their office and besides a handful of volunteers, they “did” most of Same Skies themselves.

Sitting here on the stoep of the family farm in South Africa, I reflect on the past two and a half years’ involvement with Same Skies. Same Skies has expanded enormously in terms of organisational size and impact created within a very short period of time. This, I know from my experience with them, has nothing to do with chance, and everything to do with a stubborn belief that nothing is impossible.

Given my limited and eschewed awareness of the refugee topic, I felt greatly honoured to be asked in 2018 to be a Teacher Mentor for Same Skies’ supported refugee-led centres in Indonesia.

In January 2020, I found myself enrolled as a participant of Same Skies’ Transformative Leadership in Action programme, and early-pandemic saw me working at Kneading Peace. By the end of the year, I had had opportunities to fulfil roles and carry out tasks, most of which I had never before exercised or had “the papers” for.

When I was very young, I imagined myself being a bushman, a member of the indigenous hunter-gatherer people of southern Africa. As I grew a bit older, the best alternative I could think of was to become a nun one day. What these dreams all had in common was an escape from society at large.

The opportunities Same Skies has given me, have not only equipped me with the tools to face society, but to also recognise that I am a valuable and integral part of it.

I am excited for Same Skies and its future. And I am grateful and proud to be able to share in its vision of a better world.

Joané le Roux

Meet our supporters: The Aemis

“Time and money spent in helping men to do more for themselves is far better than mere giving.” – Henry Ford

We all have come into contact with Same Skies at different opportunities, be it during the conception of the idea and its name, or during evenings filled with stories and experiences in the Coalmine Café in Winterthur or even during a stay in Malaysia to help support the work of Same Skies on-site. What we all share with an eager enthusiasm is observing the development of the work done by the Same Skies team, year after year.

Helping others help themselves – or as Henry Ford has so elegantly put it – is an approach that we believe to not only be beneficial for all participants but also sustainable in creating solutions. Having heard of but also having experienced first-hand the gratitude and dedicated

commitment of the whole Same Skies team but also the people participating in the projects, has reassured us of the efficacy and also necessity of the work done time after time. This is why we are happy to support Same Skies and their work in the different ways that we can and know how.

But helping others can also have an effect on oneself. It does allow for moments of pause and reflection in otherwise busy lives. Pauses to appreciate what we have, and are able to give. Reflections on what has already been achieved. And also mindfulness of the work that is yet to be done. Step by step.



Jonas, Vera, Urs & Andrea Amissegger (from left to right)



Another way to support

Handicraft made by our Kneading Peace trainees and refugee artisans. Check out our products at: sameskies.org/online-shop

Tote-bags
\$15



Earrings
\$20



Home-made natural soap
\$6



A5 Recycled paper notepads
\$6



Macrame bags
\$25



What the future brings

Goals for 2021

Strategic priority 1:

Enhancing governance, human resource & people management practices

- Further improve our organisational structure, including the goals and responsibilities of different teams and collaborations between them.
- Clarify the roles and accountabilities of individual team members and help them improve their efficiency, independence, and professional development.
- Continue to work with the national boards to co-develop their purpose, activities, and strengthen their identities in line with the overall mission and vision of Same Skies.

Strategic priority 2:

Strengthening branches & operations in Malaysia & Indonesia

- Hire a Coordinator, and review and improve the activities at Kneading Peace to create independent revenue, and enhance our visibility.
- Consider widening the aim of projects and activities to a more holistic focus on societal and environmental challenges. This could help mobilise a larger and stronger regional supporter base.

Strategic priority 3:

Scaling-up Refugee-Led Action

- Replicate Transformative Leadership in Action in Pekanbaru, Sumatra Indonesia, and establish a refugee-led project to enhance refugee children's access to education.
- Support Jakarta Bersatu Project with training and mentoring, and extend our mentoring support to Refugee Learning Nest, Refugee Learning Center and Refugee Network Center for another year. Review and strengthen the support offers.

Strategic priority 4:

Conducting assessments for further expansion into other regions

- Review and enhance networks, and try to find new partners, including from other sectors through corporate social responsibility for example.
- Further identify potential involvement opportunities in Greece and Switzerland.

Transformative Leadership in Action

After completing two successful rounds of the programme in 2018 and 2020, we are getting ready for the third edition, starting in February 2021.

Due to travel restrictions, we will conduct the programme completely online this time. The new refugee-led project will be established in Pekanbaru, Sumatra, and aim to enhance refugee children's access to education.

How Transformative Leadership in Action offers solutions



Promoting global citizenship

We all share an ethical responsibility to care for each other, the next generations, and the planet – as individuals, non-profits, businesses and governments.



Fostering collaboration & social cohesion

Actors from different sectors are connected, combining diverse knowledge, experiences and resources.



Creating positive impact

Participants become stronger (social) leaders by learning how to co-create solutions together with affected communities.

What makes the programme innovative?



Blended learning

In this seven-month action-based learning programme, participants study online, and co-create a refugee-led project to put new knowledge into practice.



Refugee participation

The team includes seven refugees who take on long-term responsibility for the management of the project with continued mentoring support from Same Skies.



Transformational change

The diverse team of participants is challenged to leave their comfort zones and strengthen their skills, despite and through their differences.



Want to create social impact with us? Get involved in Transformative Leadership in Action!

We are looking for companies, foundations and organisations that want to support the programme. Consider creating social impact with us as part of your corporate social responsibility by becoming an official partner of the programme, or sponsor one of our refugee or low-income participants.

Get in touch with us through the website at sameskies.org/leadership if you are interested in learning more.



Participants become stronger leaders and socially responsible global citizens.



Employers foster leadership and social responsibility by supporting their team members to participate.



Sponsors provide scholarships to refugee and low-income participants.



Refugee teams take on responsibility, benefiting from support and funding to realise their solutions.

**Transformative
Leadership
in Action**

Financial report

The financial statements reflect the consolidated financial performance of Same Skies Switzerland, Same Skies Australia Inc., Same Skies Charitable Organisation Malaysia (Pertubuhan Kebajikan Satu Langit), and Yayasan Same Skies Indonesia from January 1 until December 31, 2020.

Income statement for the year 2020 (2019)

In CHF	Notes	2020	2019
Income			
Donations	1	87,335	59,794
Training programmes	2	2,673	-
Fundraising events		217	444
Restricted donations	3	-	-
Other income		10	16
Total income		90,235	60,254
Expenses	4		
Direct cost	5	88,724	63,751
- Personnel cost		80,282	60,001
- Operational cost		7,073	3,613
- Other Direct cost		1,369	137
Indirect Cost	6	5,609	15,120
- Personnel cost		-	794
- Marketing cost		2,620	3,481
- Financial expenses		1,383	9,229
- Other indirect cost		1,606	1,616
Total expenses		94,333	78,871
Deficit		-4,098	-18,617

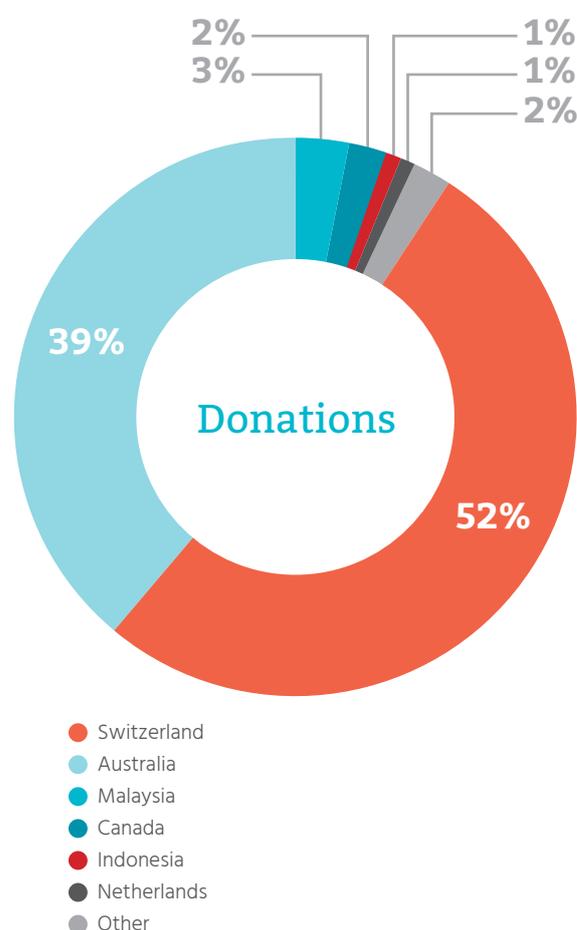
Balance sheet as at December 31, 2020 (2019)

In CHF	Notes	2020	2019
Assets			
Cash & cash equivalents		29,378	29,410
Receivables & prepayments		1,784	2,462
Fixed assets		1,239	1,848
Total assets		32,401	33,720
Liabilities, funds & resources			
Liabilities		7,486	1,320
Appropriated resources		-	-
Unrestricted fund reserve	7	29,013	51,018
Total liabilities, funds & resources		36,499	52,337
Deficit		-4,098	-18,617
Total liabilities and reserve		32,401	33,720

Notes

1 Donations

- We received 208 unrestricted donations totaling CHF 87,335 (+46% vs 2019), of which 80% (vs. 75% in 2019) were contributed by private donors and 20% by institutional donors (vs. 25% in 2018).
- We continued increasing the number of donors in our database to 539 (+ 7.4% vs. 2019). Although the number of active donors declined to 149 (-6.9% vs. 2019), and the average count of donations per active donor by 7.3%, the average amount per donation increased significantly by 65.5%.
- 52% of all donations originated from Switzerland, followed by 39% in Australia. The remaining 9% came from donors located in 10 additional countries.
- Two major crowd funding campaigns in late summer and winter 2020 significantly contributed to the collection of donations.



2 Training programmes

- Due to the pandemic, the Transformative Leadership in Action training programme scheduled for 2021 was altered to be delivered fully online, and led to a slightly lower income in 2020.

3 Restricted donations

- There were no restrictions connected with any of the donations received in 2020.

4 Expenses

- Direct costs account for 94% of our total expenses (vs. 81 % in 2019).
- It is Same Skies' ideology to help refugee groups to run and manage projects independently, hence provide intensive set-up support in the beginning, then phase out support over the years. In line with that, allocation of funds was weighted towards new projects in Indonesia and Malaysia (75%), while the remaining 25% were allocated to ongoing projects in the same countries (Refugee Learning Center, Refugee Learning Nest and Refugee Network Center). Jakarta Bersatu Project was our new project in 2020, designed through Transformative Leadership in Action. Setting up Kneading Peace Social Enterprise was another priority in 2020, on our way to generating independent revenue in the future.

5 Direct cost

- Direct cost has increased according to the operational plan, with the additional headcount requirement for the Kneading Peace project, totaling to 5.4 FTE working directly on the various projects.

6 Indirect cost

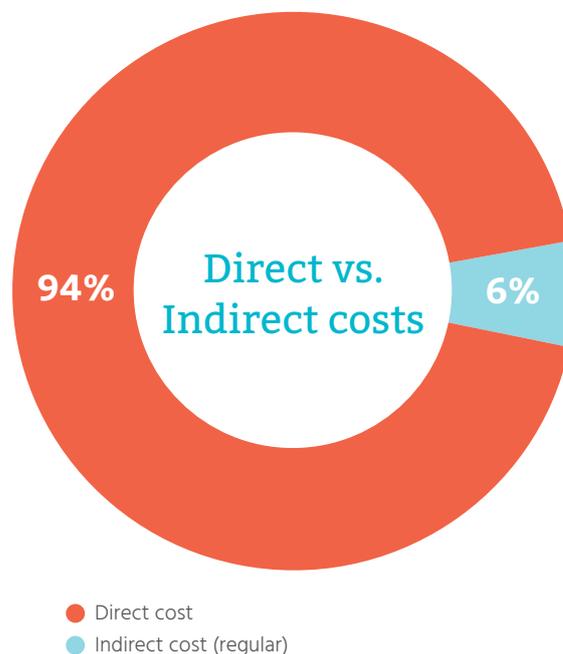
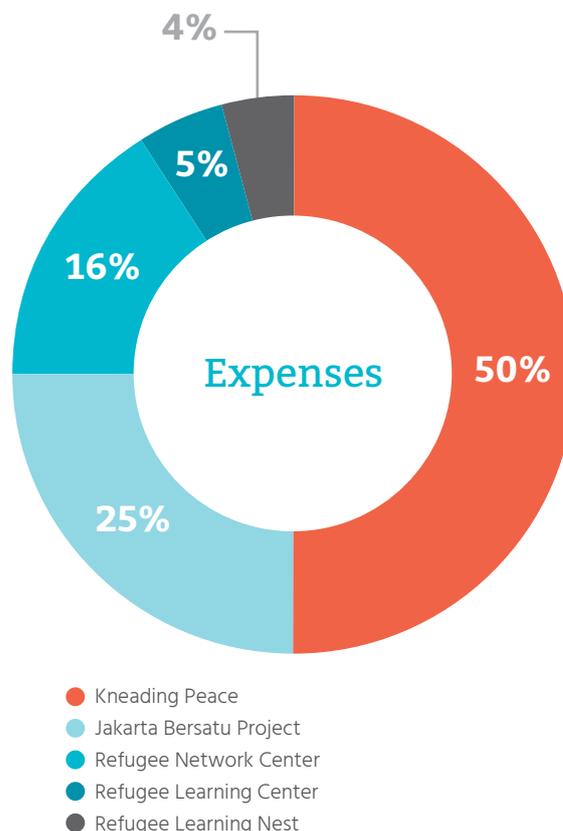
- The regular indirect cost normalised in 2020.

7 Unrestricted fund reserve

- The unrestricted fund reserve was reduced by the 2019 deficit through capitalisation.

8 Accounting principles

- Same Skies consolidates all entities in full, as they are closely interlinked by its statutes even without cross equity participation. Same Skies consolidates all entities under Same Skies International entity.
- Each entity uses its country currency, but Same Skies applies CHF as consolidation currency.
- Internal transactions have been eliminated.
- As only one person in the executive committee receives remuneration, it is not disclosed in this report.



Audit report

As auditor, I have audited the financial statements of Same Skies, which comprise the balance sheet, income & expenses statement and the underlying transaction details and documents for the period of January 1st – December 31st, 2020.

Management's responsibility

The management is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of Swiss laws and the association's statutes. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining an internal control system ensuring financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The management is further responsible for selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's responsibility

The auditor's responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on the audit. The audit was conducted in accordance with Swiss laws and auditing standards. The standards require that the auditor plans and performs the audit in order to obtain reasonable

assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers the internal control system relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control system. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements for the period of January 1st – December 31st, 2020 comply with relevant laws and the association's statutes. I recommend the financial statements for 2020 to be approved.



Drs. Jan P. Lamboo

Auditor

March 26, 2021

Letter to the team

Dearest team,

I am forever grateful for the friendship and support that you have all extended not just to me, but also to each other, and to the people with whom we work, during a particularly tough year. For that and for so much more, I owe you my heartfelt gratitude.

Linde, for holding the fort whenever I can't! For working tirelessly with a commitment and passion that is beyond anything I could wish for. For putting your heart once again into Transformative Leadership in Action, and for making sure everyone is okay and cared for. You are incredible, and I'm so lucky that Tessa and I met on that fateful day in the Pacific...

Allido & Shaffira, for so capably and inspiringly pushing the Indonesian board along.

André, for conducting half of the leadership programme, and for being such a fun, hilarious, and positive person.

Annina, for still being there after so many years! For all your patience and humour in frustrating meetings, and for all your valuable feedback on various topics.

Callista, for dedicating half of every weekend to us, and for providing constructive criticism on Swiss recipes.

Casey, for doing the uncomfortable things despite it all.

Claudio, for incalculable hours of accounting and meetings, and for being a friend for two decades and counting.

Dan, for your wonderful work on social media and behind the lens, and for your many ideas.

Edith, for sharing your expert advice and feedback on countless occasions from day one, but more than anything for being by my side as a close friend and mentor through all these years.

Enia, Rani & Vanessa, for filling shifts at the café.

Jen, I think comparing this annual report to the one of 2014 says it all! Words cannot describe how much value you add to our work, and I hope you know that!

Joané, for being you. For being honest and true, for challenging me, for putting so much thought into everything. For keeping an open mind and listening, and for never stopping your own learning and self-improvement..

Karen, for your tireless efforts to promote Transformative Leadership in Action, and for bringing your sparkling warmth to the team.

Monika, for doing everything no one else wants to do, for promoting our work with all your heart since the beginning, and for being the best mother and friend one could hope for.

Philippe, for being a coach not only to the participants of our leadership programme, but also to me personally. For getting me back on track. And for speaking one sentence that has forever changed my life!

Sharon L., for continuously impressing me with your extensive connections and networks.

Zam, for so many things you have done for Brad, for me, and for Same Skies over the last five years! But most of all, for being the most amazing friend, and making us laugh every day!

And also **Abbas, Alex, Alyssa, Annie, Claire, David, Eva, Farid, Ika, Jinks, Liaquat, Maham, Mary, Rufus, Sahnaz, Sharon O., Shirley, Tia, Tim, Urs**, there are simply so many things you all do to make our work happen!

And last and the opposite of least:

Brad, my incredible husband, I don't know how you deal with me half of the time, but I know for sure that I wouldn't have made it through this year without you! I love you with all my heart!



Julia



Thank you

When we founded Same Skies in 2014, we imagined an organisation that would work in a different way, working hand-in-hand with refugee partners in strengthening communities. We imagined an organisation that would grow sustainably, gathering momentum as like-minded individuals joined us in trying to make a positive difference in the world. Six years later and counting, we are humbled by the loyalty, generosity, and faith of our friends and supporters, who have made this vision a reality. We are especially grateful that in times like these, you still answer the call, and continue to believe in our work. Thank you for carrying us on your shoulders, and thank you for caring so much! Thank you to our refugee partners, who continue to inspire us with your courage, dedication, resilience, and resourcefulness. Same Skies would not exist without you. We would also like to offer a special thank you to **Sandrine Delattre** for supporting us with her expert advice since the foundation, to **Jan Lamboo** for undertaking our annual audit, to **Carsten Ruebsaamen** for providing guidance on Transformative Leadership in Action, and to all programme collaborators who give of their time and energy so generously.

Bank details

Switzerland

Name: Same Skies
Handelsregister: CHE-250.476.392
Bank: PostFinance
Account: 89-506036-1
IBAN: CH76 0900 0000 8950 6036 1

Australia

Name: Same Skies Australia Inc.
ABN: 76583840547
Bank: Westpac
Account: 218623
BSB: 033608

Malaysia

Name: Pertubuhan Kebajikan Satu Langit
Registration: PPM-030-04-08062017
Bank: Public Bank
Account: 3205570020

Donate through TWINT:





sameskies.org

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neutral, not-for-profit**

**Same Skies
International**

Switzerland (2014)
Australia (2016)
Malaysia (2017)
Indonesia (2017)

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connect@sameskies.org

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-  instagram.com/kneadingpeace.melaka