



# SWIFT in action

## Our Corporate Social Responsibility engagement in APAC

**SWIFT works with and for financial communities across the globe. We know this is a privilege as well as a responsibility, and we are committed to making a positive impact wherever we can.**

We integrate social, environmental, ethical, and human rights concerns into our operational strategy, and strive to contribute to the **UN Sustainable Development Goals**. Our CSR programme covers several of them, and in particular SDG 1 No poverty, SDG 4 Quality Education and SDG 13 Climate Change.



SWIFT has been **sponsoring charities across the globe while organising events** since 2007, with a special focus on education and under-privileged children. In the Asia Pacific region specifically, the Changing Young Lives Foundation in **Hong Kong**, Save the Children **India** and SOS Children's Villages of Jakarta, **Indonesia** and Kaifeng, **China** have been among our beneficiaries at SWIFT events last year.

At Sibos 2018 in Sydney, we donated to the **Girls and Boys brigade**, helping children in need by providing education, recreation and activities that build life skills as a foundation for a brighter future. At this occasion, a donation was also made to the Australian Marine Conservation Society.

In line with Sustainable Development Goals 1 and 4, we believe that obtaining a **quality education** is the foundation to improving people's lives and sustainable development. Amongst many initiatives, we support projects of the Teach for All network in Argentina, Bangladesh, Belgium, Colombia, Ghana, Nigeria, and the Philippines aiming at reducing education inequities through the development of transformational leadership programmes. SWIFT also supports education through the Student Scholarship Programme in **South Africa** and Nairobits Trust in **Kenya**, training less privileged young people in web design, IT and creative multimedia, helping them to enhance their employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.

We also contribute to **financial education and inclusion initiatives** as they are close to our business. SWIFT partners with Fundación Capital, to finance the development and launch of tablet-based financial education apps aimed at supporting young people and women in Bolivia, Paraguay, Peru, Mozambique, Tanzania and Vietnam. Additionally, we support the Mann Deshi Foundation in India by financing a business school for rural women, helping them develop the skills to manage their own small business and gain access to finance.

At SWIFT we also focus on Sustainable Development Goal 13 by caring for the **environment**. We implement measures aimed at reducing our cooperative's carbon emissions, we focus on reducing waste in our offices; we use renewable energy wherever feasible and we compensate carbon emissions caused by work-related travel and events. Through our partnership with WeForest, we have planted 147,000 trees in countries such as Brazil, India and Tanzania. In 2019 we are planning to grow a SWIFT forest in Ethiopia in 2019. This NGO is devoted to reforestation of bio-diverse and indigenous forests in tropical countries while providing jobs for women and enabling them to send their children to school.

We also strive to respond to needs arising from humanitarian emergencies and natural disasters through corporate donations, voluntary work and donation-matching campaigns. Last year we supported the victims of the tsunami and earthquake in Indonesia by matching staff donations to the Red Cross, Doctors without Borders, Unicef USA and Mercy Malaysia. SWIFT also contributed to the fight against malaria in Congo by donating to Doctors without Borders. Our donation helped to heal over 17,000 children between 1 and 5 years old from malaria.

Employee engagement is one of our key priorities, with over 20% of staff actively engaged in various associations. In **Kuala Lumpur**, staff organised and participated to numerous voluntary initiatives including blood drives, food pack distribution to people in need, and tree planting at the Forest Research Institute of Malaysia. Staff was also involved in painting rooms in homes for the elderly, and building a home from scratch for an indigenous family. In the rest of the APAC region, staff was involved in voluntary work for the Red Cross in **China**, whilst others participated in fundraising initiatives for the homeless or terminally ill children in **Australia**. Staff in **Hong Kong** participated in "Kindness Walks" - delivering food, drinks, toiletries, and clothing to people in need while members of the **Singapore** office built a new school for a low income village in Vietnam.