swiss minor. sports culture & integration.
together for great goal
Oberer Quai 32A, 2503 Biel/Bienne, 079 888 78 16
www.swissminors.ch
HR Registration Nummer: CHE-185.758.904

Swiss Minors 2025 Annual Report

Executive Summary



In 2025, Swiss Minors continued to strengthen its role as a community-based organisation dedicated to improving the wellbeing, inclusion, participation, and development of children, young people, and migrant families in Biel/Bienne. Through a combination of educational, cultural, recreational, and sport-based initiatives, the organisation provided safe, accessible, and enriching opportunities that promoted learning, social inclusion, intercultural understanding, and personal development.

During the year, Swiss Minors successfully delivered a range of holiday and leisure activities designed to support children during school breaks while strengthening community participation. Through its participation in the Stadt Biel/Bienne Ferien Pass (Passeport vacances) programme, the organisation provided structured activities that enabled children to learn through play, culture, music, movement, and social interaction. African Week, delivered during the February Sports Week, engaged 13 children in activities that celebrated cultural diversity while promoting teamwork, creativity, confidence, and physical wellbeing. Summer holiday activities delivered between 7 July, and 15 August 2025 reached 83 participants and provided inclusive opportunities for children and young people to develop skills, build friendships, and engage positively within their communities.



Swiss Minors also strengthened its organisational capacity and long-term sustainability through active engagement with European networks, including ENAR, UNITED, FARE, and ENWAD. These partnerships enhanced learning, collaboration, and knowledge exchange while reinforcing the organisation's commitment to equality, anti-racism, youth participation, gender inclusion, and the protection of migrant children and families. Participation in these networks also created pathways for future European cooperation, partnership development, and funding opportunities.

A key feature of Swiss Minors' approach is the use of culture, games, education, and sport as practical tools for inclusion and community cohesion. Activities such as Oware/Awale, African cultural learning, and football-based participation programmes created opportunities for children

Project Collaborators

and young people from diverse backgrounds to interact, learn from one another, and develop a sense of belonging. These initiatives contributed to the organisation's broader mission of empowering young people, supporting families, and fostering stronger and more inclusive communities.

Throughout 2025, Swiss Minors continued to build strategic partnerships, pursue funding opportunities, and strengthen its foundations for future growth. Despite challenges relating to funding, facilities, and programme sustainability, the organisation demonstrated resilience, adaptability. The organisation remains committed to meeting the needs of children, young people, and migrant families

The achievements of 2025 demonstrate Swiss Minors' ability to translate community needs into meaningful action, build trusted relationships with children and families, and deliver impactful programmes with limited resources. With continued support from funders, partners, and community stakeholders, Swiss Minors is well positioned to expand its reach, deepen its impact, and create greater opportunities for children, young people, and migrant families in 2026 and beyond.

The Organisation

Swiss Minors is a community-based organisation committed to advancing the wellbeing, protection, participation and social inclusion of children, young people and families, with particular attention to those affected by migration, vulnerability or social exclusion. In 2025, Swiss Minors combined local child-focused programmes with strategic European networking to strengthen intercultural learning, anti-racism, youth participation, migrant family support and long-term organisational sustainability.

Expected Targets for 2025

- Increase access to structured holiday and leisure activities for children and young people.
- Promote inclusion, confidence, social participation and intercultural understanding among minors and families.
- Strengthen partnerships with local authorities, schools, community actors and European civil society networks.
- Improve organisational visibility through participation in international conferences and advocacy platforms.
- Identify and apply for funding opportunities to sustain and expand programmes in 2025 and beyond.

Activities Designed to Achieve our 2025 Targets

Local Programmes: Ferien Pass; Sports Week and Summer School Holidays

In 2025, Swiss Minors participated in Ferien Pass, also known as Passeport vacances, an offer from the Stadt Biel/Bienne school administration for organisations in Biel/Bienne. The programme supports supervised holiday activities for children during periods when parents or guardians are working. For Swiss Minors, Ferien Pass served both as a child-focused community programme and as a valuable fundraising opportunity to support wider activities for children, young people and migrant families.

During the Stadt Biel/Bienne “Ferienpass Sports Woche” from 10 to 14 February 2025, Swiss Minors delivered its African Week programme with 13 participating children. During the summer school holidays, from 7 July to 15 August 2025, Swiss Minors continued its holiday activities and reached 83 participants, with an average of approximately 21 children per week. Together, these programmes provided safe, inclusive and culturally enriching spaces where children could learn through play, music, movement and group interaction.

African Week introduced children to African games, music and dance, with AMPE as the central activity. AMPE encouraged rhythm, body control, coordination, concentration and practice. Additional activities, including Azonto and Jerusalem dance and music, string games, and Oware, provided variety while strengthening fine motoric skills, tactical, strategic thinking and intercultural understanding.

Oware was introduced as both a traditional African strategy game and an educational tool that promotes numeracy, concentration, problem-solving, and strategic thinking. Through counting, calculation, and planning, children developed cognitive skills while gaining an appreciation for African cultural heritage and learning traditions.

International Conferences and Networks

ENAR



ENAR is a pan-European anti-racism network that connects local and national anti-racist NGOs across Europe and brings their voices forward to support lasting change at European and national levels. As a strong and dynamic network of more than 140 NGOs working to combat racism across Europe, ENAR draws its strength from its member organisations, whose experience forms the bedrock of its expertise and reflects the voices of victims of racism and discrimination. https://www.enar-eu.org/members/

For Swiss Minors, linking with ENAR was part of a wider strategic approach to connect with organisations working against racism, discrimination and human rights abuses in Europe. Through this engagement, Swiss Minors strengthened its understanding of how migrants and migrant-led organisations can contribute positively to the communities in which they live, take responsibility for improving those communities, and participate in wider European efforts to promote equality, justice and human dignity.



Through ENAR, Swiss Minors also identified strategic opportunities to access European funding frameworks by working through partner organisations based within the European Union. This creates a pathway for Swiss Minors to contribute to European Commission funding applications as a project partner, particularly in areas connected to improving digital skills among migrants, complementary education pathways, and measures supporting Member States in the protection of children in migration, including age assessment. The Erasmus+ programme is especially relevant because it promotes international cooperation and partnerships across adult education, higher education, school education, vocational education and training, and youth. These opportunities strengthen Swiss Minors' capacity to attract funders, build credible cross-border partnerships and expand its work for our beneficiaries.

UNITED



We believe that racism can only be combated by unity. Since 1993, it has brought together more than 560 organisations from 46 European countries, ranging from local grassroots groups to national and international NGOs. UNITED coordinates campaigns, organizes conferences, participates in projects, produces publications and undertakes advocacy work to challenge discrimination and promote a diverse, inclusive and intercultural Europe. Its campaigns against racism, in support of refugees, and against fascism and antisemitism, demonstrate the importance of unity, solidarity and collective action across borders. For Swiss Minors, engagement with UNITED strengthened the organisation's belief that racism and discrimination can only be challenged through cooperation, intercultural understanding and the active involvement of young people in shaping the Europe they want to live in.



Swiss Minors' link with UNITED also offers a practical platform for connecting local action in Biel/Bienne with wider European campaigns. Through UNITED's campaign days against racism, in support of refugees, and against fascism and antisemitism, Swiss Minors can raise awareness among young people, migrant families and local communities while contributing to a broader European movement for dignity, equality and intercultural respect. This connection supports Swiss Minors' strategy of turning community education, youth participation and migrant voices into visible action against racism and discrimination.

FARE





Football Against Racism in Europe's commitment to tackle discrimination through football's inclusive power is based on the principle that the game, as the most popular sport in the world, belongs to us all and can propel social cohesion.

FARE combats all forms of discrimination, including racism, far-right nationalism, sexism, trans- and homophobia and discrimination against disabled people.

The strength of the network lies in the diversity of its members, including fan groups, NGO's and amateur clubs and grassroots groups, among others, who contribute with their expertise and act in a concerted effort to make discrimination in football a thing of the past.

Swiss Minors' connection with FARE supports its 2025 target of using sport as a practical tool for inclusion, belonging and anti-discrimination. Its football activities are all-inclusive, fun-based and accessible to refugee, asylum-seeking and migrant young people as well as the wider community. For Swiss Minors, football serves as a vehicle for inclusion, participation, confidence-building, and social cohesion. It creates safe spaces where children and young people can develop teamwork, communication skills, positive relationships, and a sense of belonging within their communities.

In line with FARE's European anti-discrimination vision, Swiss Minors uses football during the FARE weeks in October to raise awareness of racism, exclusion, gender equality, violence prevention and respect for diversity. This approach aligns with the organisation's 2025 priorities by strengthening youth participation, supporting physical and mental wellbeing, encouraging girls' participation and building partnerships beyond the football field.

Key challenges in delivering football activities included securing reliable access to suitable facilities, covering transport and equipment costs, coordinating with asylum centres and partner organisations, maintaining consistent participation despite changing personal circumstances among young people, and ensuring that activities remained safe, inclusive and culturally sensitive. These challenges underlined the need for stable funding, trained volunteers, strong partnerships and a dedicated football trainer.

To address these challenges, Swiss Minors will prioritise early booking of facilities, explore shared use agreements with schools, municipalities and sports clubs, and include transport, equipment, facility and trainer costs in future funding applications. The organisation will also strengthen cooperation with asylum centres, youth workers and community partners, while recruiting and training volunteers to support safeguarding, gender-sensitive participation and inclusive coaching. These measures will make

football activities more sustainable, better organised and more attractive to funders as part of Swiss Minors' inclusion strategy.

ENWAD

Participation in the European Network of Women of African Descent (ENWAD) strengthened Swiss Minors' links with a network of women of African descent working to combat racism, racial discrimination, intersectional inequality and gender injustice. ENWAD advocates for the protection of the rights of migrant families, women, children and young people, while empowering communities through education, awareness-raising and social inclusion. The network also promotes respect for diversity and creates space to highlight the cultures, experiences and contributions of women of African descent.



Through ENWAD, Swiss Minors gained deeper insight into the social and economic challenges facing women of African descent in Europe, including racial profiling, discrimination in employment, limited access to education, healthcare and decent work, and the risk of social exclusion. This engagement helped Swiss Minors connect its work with migrant families and young people to wider struggles for equality, dignity and human rights, while reinforcing the importance of tackling inequalities affecting women and children of African descent.



ENWAD directly supports Swiss Minors' 2025 goals by strengthening the organisation's focus on anti-racism, gender equality, intersectionality and the protection of migrant families, children and young people. Through this network, Swiss Minors is better positioned to empower women, children and youth of African descent through education, raise awareness of racial and gender-based discrimination, promote social inclusion, and build partnerships that can support advocacy, capacity-building and future funding opportunities.

In December 2025, Swiss Minors was represented by Ms Jennebah Reeves at ENWAD's two-day Empower session, which brought together members from seven European countries for capacity-building, networking, the General Assembly and knowledge exchange. The session addressed racism, discrimination and belonging, with discussions on systemic and academic racism, identity, resilience, youth empowerment and inclusion. It also created opportunities for members to explore collaboration, share country-level initiatives and strengthen community support, advocacy and cross-border solidarity.

The second day focused on EU funding processes, including available channels, application strategies and practical tools for developing stronger proposals. For Swiss Minors, this participation reinforced the organisation's mission to combat racism and discrimination, support young migrants, promote equality and intersectionality, and build the knowledge and partnerships needed to sustain and expand its local and European work to facilitate EU funding.

Oware / Awale Board Game

Festival of Games in La Tour-de-Peilz



The Swiss Museum of Games is located in the Château de La Tour-de-Peilz, on the shores of Lake Geneva. The museum celebrates board games as part of cultural heritage and shows how games can bring people together. Its annual Games Festival gives children, families and visitors the chance to discover games from different cultures in a welcoming and accessible setting. Swiss Minors takes part in the festival by introducing Oware/Awale, a traditional African strategy game. Through this activity, children learn by playing: they count, plan ahead, concentrate and interact with others. The participation of Swiss Minors helps make the festival more diverse and inclusive. It also shows how simple cultural activities can support learning, intercultural exchange and community participation even with Seniors.

International Games festival in Cannes, France.



The International Games Festival in Cannes, France, is one of the leading public and professional events dedicated to games in the French-speaking world. Organised each year at the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès, it brings together families, players, game creators, publishers, educators and professionals to discover traditional games, modern board games, role-playing games, card games, video games and new creative ideas. The festival has grown into a major cultural meeting point, with recent editions attracting more than 100,000 visitors and offering large exhibition spaces, demonstrations, tournaments and professional exchanges.



Looking ahead to 2026, the International Games Festival in Cannes offers an important reference point for Swiss Minors' cultural and educational goals. By linking its work with a recognised European games platform, Swiss Minors can further develop Oware/Awale and other African games as tools for learning, inclusion and intercultural exchange. This connection supports the organisation's 2026 priorities by helping to expand holiday and cultural programmes, deepen cooperation with schools, municipalities, museums and European partners, and improve the visibility of migrant-led cultural knowledge.

Key Outcomes in 2025

- Delivered **African Week** during the Biel/Bienne Sports Week, engaging **13 children** in cultural, educational, and recreational activities.
- Delivered summer holiday activities from **7 July to 15 August 2025**, reaching **83 participants** and providing safe, inclusive opportunities for learning, play, and social interaction.

- Promoted **intercultural understanding, inclusion, and community participation** through African games, music, dance, Oware/Awale, and group activities.
- Used **football and sport** as tools for inclusion, teamwork, confidence-building, and social cohesion among children and young people from diverse backgrounds.
- Strengthened organisational capacity through active participation in **ENAR, UNITED, FARE, and ENWAD**, creating new opportunities for learning, collaboration, advocacy, and future funding partnerships.
- Increased the visibility and credibility of Swiss Minors through local programmes, international conferences, and European networking activities.
- Built stronger foundations for future growth by developing partnerships, improving organisational learning, and identifying opportunities for sustainable programme development.

Challenges and Lessons Learned

The principal challenges faced during 2025 included securing sustainable funding, maintaining access to suitable facilities, coordinating activities during school holiday periods, and ensuring that programmes remained accessible to families with diverse needs. These challenges informed organisational learning and highlighted important priorities for future improvement and sustainability.

Financial Accountability Statement

Swiss Minors is committed to the highest standards of financial responsibility, transparency, and accountability. Throughout 2025, the organisation ensured that all financial resources were managed prudently and directed towards activities that advance its mission of supporting the wellbeing, inclusion, participation, and development of children, young people, and migrant families.

Income received during the year was used to deliver holiday programmes, educational and cultural activities, football-based inclusion initiatives, organisational administration, and essential operational costs required to maintain services for beneficiaries. Financial resources were allocated with careful consideration to maximise community benefit while ensuring the sustainable operation of the organisation.

Swiss Minors maintained appropriate financial records and oversight processes to ensure that funds were used for their intended purposes and in accordance with organisational objectives. The organisation recognises that strong financial governance is essential to maintaining the confidence of beneficiaries, donors, funders, partners, and stakeholders.

During 2025, Swiss Minors reported total income of CHF 14,794.80 and total expenditure of CHF 11,337.75, resulting in a year-end surplus of CHF 3,457.05. This positive result strengthens the

organisation's ability to sustain existing programmes, respond to emerging community needs, and invest in future development.

Looking ahead, Swiss Minors will continue to strengthen its financial management, diversify income sources, pursue multi-year funding opportunities, and improve monitoring and reporting systems to ensure that every contribution delivers measurable and lasting impact for children, young people, and migrant families.

Financial Report

Erfolgsrechnung
01. Januar - 31. December 2025

Einnahmen		
Stadt Biel – Ferien Pass Lohn	14,194.80	
Mitgliedsbeiträge	600.00	
Total Income		**14,794.80**
Ausgaben		
Website-Hosting	566.65	
Ferien Pass	8450.25	
ENAR, United & ENWAD Beiträge	143.40	
Reisen & Transport	719.83	
Office & Administration	911.63	
Telephone	410.80	
PostFinance-Gebühren	135.19	
Gesamtaufwand		11,337.75
Überschuss der Einnahmen über die Ausgaben		**3,457.05**

Bilanz

31. December 2025

Aktiven

Post Finance	10,068.16	
Erwirtschaftete Defizite (Ausgaben)	11,233.35	
Total		**21,301.51**

Finanziert durch:

Fremdkapital:

Kurzfristiges Fremdkapital		
Migros Engagement	10,000.00	
Local Search Billing Website	455.23	
Total Kurzfristiges Fremdkapital	10,455.23	
Langfristiges Fremdkapital – Adu usw.	6,364.93	
Total Fremdkapital		16,820.16
Anfangskapital	1,024.30	
Surplus 2025	3,457.05	
Eigenkapital		4,481.35
Total Kapital		**21,301.51**

Conclusion

In 2025, Swiss Minors strengthened its role as a local and European actor committed to child wellbeing, inclusion, anti-racism and migrant family support. Through holiday programmes, football-based inclusion activities and participation in European networks, the organisation created meaningful opportunities for children and young people while building partnerships that can support future growth. With stronger funding, trained volunteers, improved documentation and strategic cooperation, Swiss Minors is well positioned to expand its impact in 2026 and beyond.

Priorities for 2026

- Consolidate and expand holiday programmes, including Ferien Pass. We have not received of late participating invitations though; we are looking forward to it.
- Strengthen monitoring and reporting of participant numbers, feedback and programme outcomes.
- Deepen cooperation with schools, municipalities, community organisations and European networks.
- Pursue multi-year funding opportunities to improve programme stability.
- Continue advocating for the rights, inclusion and participation of children and young people.

Acknowledgements

Swiss Minors would like to express its sincere appreciation to all individuals, institutions, and organisations whose support, partnership, and trust contributed to the successful delivery of our programmes and activities during 2025. Our achievements throughout the year reflect the collective efforts of stakeholders who share our commitment to the wellbeing, inclusion, and development of children, young people, and migrant families.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the **City of Biel/Bienne** and the **School & Sport Administration of Biel/Bienne** for their continued collaboration and support, particularly through opportunities that enabled children and young people to participate in structured holiday and recreational programmes. Their commitment to creating inclusive opportunities for all children continues to make a meaningful difference within our community.

We also gratefully acknowledge the support of **Migros Engagement**, **Digital Inclusion**, **Mini-Grant**, and the **Reformed Church BJS**, whose financial, technical, and community support has strengthened our ability to deliver impactful programmes and respond to the needs of children, young people, and families from diverse backgrounds. Their investment in community wellbeing, inclusion, and participation has helped create opportunities for learning, cultural exchange, social connection, and personal development.

Our sincere thanks also go to our volunteers, facilitators, community organisations, schools, partner institutions, and families whose commitment, encouragement, and active participation continue to make our work possible. Their contributions of time, expertise, and goodwill have enriched every

programme delivered throughout the year and have helped create welcoming and supportive environments for our beneficiaries.

We further acknowledge our European partners and networks, including **ENAR**, **UNITED**, **FARE**, and **ENWAD**, whose collaboration has strengthened our organisational learning, expanded our perspectives, and created opportunities for partnership, advocacy, and future cooperation. Through these relationships, Swiss Minors has continued to connect local community action in Biel/Bienne with wider European efforts to promote equality, inclusion, human rights, and social cohesion.

To all our supporters, partners, donors, volunteers, and beneficiaries, we offer our deepest thanks. Your confidence in our work inspires us to continue building inclusive communities where children and young people can thrive, participate, and realise their full potential. We look forward to strengthening these partnerships and working together to achieve even greater impact in the years ahead.

Adu Adjei
Founder, CEO & Project Manager.