



STMicroelectronics
Foundation

ANNUAL REPORT 2023
HELPING TO BRIDGE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

20 *Years*
ANNIVERSARY
ONE MILLION BENEFICIARIES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter from the President	3
Methodological evolution: marking two decades of impact.....	4
Glossary.....	5
1 Digital bridges	6
The ST Foundation's 20-year journey to connect a million lives	7
2 Who we are	10
Vision and values: education shaping the future.....	12
Governance of the ST Foundation	13
Risk analysis and responses for the ST Foundation	14
2023 focus: advancing policy implementation for enhanced protection and empowerment.....	15
Two decades of impact: celebrating our journey with stakeholders	16
A million stories of transformation: testimonies from the field	17
What these voices tell us.....	21
The power of communication over our first 20 years	22
The ST Foundation's external communication activities	22
The ST Foundation's internal communication activities.....	23
3 Bridging the digital divide	24
Confronting inequality in the digital age	26
The Digital Unify program.....	27
Standard courses.....	27
The society's digitalization activities	30
Effective collaboration: partnering with the ST Foundation.....	31
4 2023 by the numbers	32
Standard courses.....	34
ICB courses: making an impact.....	37
Best practices from the ST Foundation	38
Society's digitalization program: focus on France and Italy	41
Enhancing global reach: The ITU alliance and digital inclusion.....	44
Focus on the empowering Senegal's youth with digital skills project: testimonies from the field	45
The contribution of ST Foundation projects to the UN's 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.....	47
Commitments and vision for the future	48
5 Financial report.....	50
6 Contacts of ST Foundation	59

THIS REPORT HAS BEEN PREPARED BY:

Author:

Giovanna Bottani

Editorial Team:

Sarah Bracken

Clara Colombo

Salvo La Terra (AiBU)

Thanks to:

Claudia Angelini

Farah Arron

Leah Cruz

Kamal Deep Jain

Mohamed Dumbuya

Waly Faye

Sarah Laurie

René Munyembari

Xiaofeng Wang

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

January 2nd 2024

Dear Friends,

As we come together, I am profoundly grateful to reflect on the ST Foundation's journey, a path marked by commitment, innovation, and unwavering dedication to our mission. This year, we celebrate an extraordinary milestone: 20 years of impactful action and reaching over a million beneficiaries. These achievements are not just numbers; they are the evidence of the shared dreams and collective efforts which have powered our voyage.

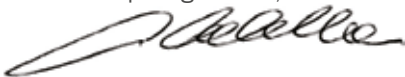
At the heart of our Foundation lies a clear vision: a world where access to digital knowledge is a universal right, transcending geographic and socio-economic boundaries. This is achieved with a mission that firmly believes in the synergy of global objectives with local and customized initiatives. By engaging closely with our communities, we ensure that our initiatives—ranging from basic computer skills to more specialized courses for the visually impaired—resonate deeply, making a tangible difference in their lives.

The post-COVID era has highlighted the crucial role of collaboration and partnership in surmounting global challenges. Through our collaboration with esteemed allies like the International Telecommunication Union, we have not only overcome previous limitations but also demonstrated the power of unity in pursuing a common goal. Looking ahead, I am filled with optimism. I envisage a future where the digital divide is bridged for all, where education and technology serve as tools which uplift and transform lives. This vision is the core of our mission, driven by the belief in the transformative power of knowledge and access.

Our journey has been significantly enriched by our partners, including STMicroelectronics and their dedicated volunteers. Their unwavering support has been more than instrumental; it has been the cornerstone of our progress.

They are not merely allies but integral members of our extended family. We are deeply grateful for their continued cooperation and commitment to our mission. As we mark this 20th anniversary, my heart is lifted by hope and excitement for what lies ahead. With each initiative and program we launch, we are not merely changing the world but crafting a new one – one bit at a time. This milestone is a moment to reflect, celebrate, and recommit to our mission with renewed energy. Thank you for walking this path with us. Your support, passion, and belief in our cause are the engines of our success. Together, we are setting the foundations for a future where digital empowerment and equality are realities for everyone, everywhere.

With deepest gratitude,



Pietro Palella, President

METHODOLOGICAL EVOLUTION: MARKING TWO DECADES OF IMPACT

At the ST Foundation, our steady dedication to setting standards in openness and responsibility shines brighter than ever. On our journey of continuous improvement, we intentionally extract valuable lessons from our history, ensuring our growth is strategic and significant. Our approach remains dynamic, and each challenge is met with a thorough evaluation to grasp our requirements better and tailor our responses precisely.

This year's report is not just a collection of achievements but a celebration of a significant milestone in our history. As we commemorate twenty years of impactful activities in 2023, we are thrilled to share not just one but two monumental achievements: reaching over a million beneficiaries and establishing a prestigious partnership with the International Telecommunication Union. These landmarks fuel our pride and emphasize our determination to maintain transparency and share these milestones, reinforcing our bond with our stakeholders.

Our narrative weaves through the collective endeavors of our devoted staff, beneficiaries, volunteers, and partners, echoing the essence of the bridges we have built for empowerment through technology. We unfold our story with renewed vigor and steadfast commitment, detailing our accomplishments and aspirations. Venturing beyond the realm of numbers, this report seeks to establish a heartfelt connection with our audience, recognizing the profound impact of our initiatives on everyone involved. It offers an intimate glimpse into our operations, the transformative shifts we aim to instigate, and our pledges for the days ahead. Through vivid stories, testimonials, and many initiatives, we depict a journey marked by resilience and progress in championing the rights of the underserved.

The true essence of our mission transcends quantitative analysis, coming alive in the experiences shared by our team, educators, and the communities we serve. Our communication is accurately crafted, blending simplicity in language with compelling visuals that mirror our methodological principles. This approach not only sheds light on our endeavors to narrow the Digital Divide but also opens up our world to you, revealing our continuous commitment to reply to the needs and aspirations of our beneficiaries.

As we celebrate this special year, we invite our community to engage with our accomplishments and join us in shaping what comes next. Your feedback is crucial to our journey, and we encourage open dialogue. For any insights or queries, please get in touch with us at info@stfoundation.org

Giovanna Bottani
Director of Operations

GLOSSARY

Accountability

Our commitment to transparency, ensuring actions and outcomes are communicated to stakeholders.

Coding

The process of using programming languages to create, implement, and manage software applications. It is a critical skill in today's digital world, fostering problem-solving, creativity, and logical thinking.

Digital Divide

A term encapsulating the socio-economic and geopolitical barriers hindering equal access to Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) for specific populations

Digital Unify Program

The cornerstone initiative of the ST Foundation, designed to bridge the Digital Divide by providing targeted educational opportunities to socioeconomically disadvantaged groups and promoting the global benefits of digital technology.

DU Center

A facility equipped to offer complimentary training, adhering to rigorous standards in terms of equipment and layout, fostering digital literacy.

ICB Course

A comprehensive 20-hour curriculum designed to impart foundational digital literacy, including an understanding of computers, Microsoft Office, social media, and internet navigation, to individuals with minimal or no prior digital knowledge.

Information Communication Technologies (ICTs)

An array of technological tools and systems for capturing, transmitting, and disseminating information through voice, text, and images.

ICB4VI

The Introduction to Computer Basics for Visually Impaired People is an ad hoc course aimed at empowering blind or visually impaired individuals with the skills to utilize computers.

Mission

The fundamental goals and purpose that set an organization apart, steering its actions and desired impacts.

Partners

Entities and individuals collaborating to achieve mutual goals, highlighted by formal co-operation agreements describing roles and responsibilities.

Partnership Agreement

A formal document delineating the collaborative framework and mutual commitments between parties aiming at a unified goal.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

A universal call to action consisting of 17 goals adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015, aimed at eradicating poverty, protecting the planet, and ensuring prosperity for all.

Social Impact

The substantial and positive changes addressing social inequalities and challenges achieved through strategic initiatives which significantly benefit communities.

Stakeholders

Individuals, groups, organizations, or systems that can influence or be influenced by the organization's decisions and actions.

Stakeholder Engagement

The process of involving stakeholders in a project's lifecycle, addressing their needs, expectations, and concerns through active participation and dialogue.

Tablet for Kids Course (T4K)

A tailored educational pathway for children aged 9 to 13, designed to introduce them to the digital world engagingly and enjoyably.

Tablet for Seniors Course (T4S)

A learning program designed to meet the growing demand among the elderly for IT tools and digital literacy, enhancing their integration into the digital age.

1 DIGITAL BRIDGES



THE ST FOUNDATION'S 20-YEAR JOURNEY TO CONNECT A MILLION LIVES

In 2023, the ST Foundation celebrates twenty years of commitment to reducing digital disparities, reaching the remarkable milestone of training one million people. Join us as we explore this incredible journey, marked by key milestones that have shaped our mission to bridge the digital divide and make digital skills accessible to all.





2001

Twenty-two years ago, a handshake between the former CEO of STMicroelectronics, Mr. Pasquale Pistorio, and then-UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan marked the birth of a vision that would traverse the globe to bridge the digital divide. This image was nurtured by Kofi Annan's belief, emphasizing the necessity of connecting the world to make education accessible. Following this dream, STMicroelectronics decided to give a concrete shape to the fight against digital disparities, founding the ST Foundation in 2001.



2003

Our journey began in 2003, laying the groundwork in countries where ST was already present. We touched hundreds of lives and expanded into underprivileged areas where our tools made a significant difference. The activities were launched in Italy and Morocco, where the first 949 beneficiaries were reached.



2005

By 2005, the Foundation's reach increased, notably expanding into the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the first non-ST country in which we had the opportunity to operate. That year, we transformed the lives of over 7,945 individuals through digital literacy in Italy, Morocco, and Congo DR.



2012

The Model Lab Approach, adopted in 2012, emphasized the importance of standardized methods in technology empowerment. It reached 8 countries and trained over 28,000 beneficiaries. This methodology demonstrated how adaptable frameworks can effectively meet diverse community needs, highlighting the value of scalability in maximizing impact and facilitating the democratization of knowledge.



2013

This methodology's scalability was evident as the number of beneficiaries rapidly increased annually from 42,257 in 2013 to a significant milestone of 100,000 by 2017.

Throughout the year, 11 countries were operational, namely: China, France, Germany, India, Italy, Morocco, the Philippines, Burundi, Congo DR, Senegal, and Sierra Leone.



2020

The COVID-19 pandemic marked another pivotal moment for us, highlighting the importance of being connected while exposing new forms of the digital divide. In response to these challenges, the Foundation launched targeted initiatives within the DU Program to address these emerging needs. By introducing what we called the Society Digitalization activities, we reinforced the commitment to making digital skills accessible to all, with a focus on the more at-risk subjects: schools and the elderly.



2023

In 2023, the ST Foundation celebrated two decades of commitment to reducing digital disparities, a journey that reached over one million beneficiaries. This landmark year also saw our organization forge a significant partnership with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), underlining our ongoing dedication to expanding digital literacy and connectivity. This collaboration will amplify our global impact and continue our mission of making digital skills accessible to all.

Our story demonstrates the values of will, credibility, empathy, humanity, tenacity, and collaboration shared by our staff, volunteers, partners, and supporters. As these values converge, they form the essence of the ST Foundation, embodied in our mission, digital equality, changing lives, and building a better future, a future we pledge to shape together.

«Uniting Hearts, Bridging Futures» – this powerful motto encapsulates our spirit as we look towards the future, inviting others to join our mission to make digital equality a reality for all. Every connection we make is a step towards a more inclusive world, where every heart touched by technology can lead to opportunities once unimaginable. Join us in this heartfelt journey as we continue to bridge futures and transform lives across the globe.

2 WHO WE ARE



TRACKING PROGRESSES

20 years of activities in at-risk communities

14 operational countries

1,095,530 beneficiaries reached since its inception

123,440 students attending our courses just in 2023 alone

47% of our students are female

Appointment of two new Board Members

Launch of the International Telecommunication (ITU) partnership

Created a brand new course on Coding and finalized the contents of the Coding & Learning path



VISION AND VALUES: EDUCATION SHAPING THE FUTURE

At the start of the new millennium, STMicroelectronics created the ST Foundation in Geneva, a non-profit organization dedicated to bridging the digital divide globally, setting the stage for a legacy of transformation and inclusivity. This global initiative aimed, and still aims, to empower underprivileged groups through digital inclusion and literacy in both developed and developing countries.

The catalyst for this transformative journey was the establishment of the UN ICT Task Force by Kofi Annan, then UN Secretary-General, over two decades ago, whose scope was to address the pervasive digital disparities that barred billions from the fruits of the digital revolution, thereby exacerbating global poverty. This groundbreaking initiative brought together a diverse coalition of stakeholders from government, the private sector, NGOs, foundations, and UN agencies to forge collective pathways towards digital equity. As an integral participant, STMicroelectronics committed to this vision by creating a specialized organization to champion this cause, maintaining unwavering support for its mission ever since.

Vision

The ST Foundation envisages a world where everyone enjoys equal access to digital knowledge regardless of where they come from or where they live. We aim to be a trusted advocate for digital equality, changing lives, and building a better future.

Mission

The ST Foundation aims to fight the global digital divide using modern science and advanced technologies. We focus on projects that foster the development of individuals in underprivileged communities, providing them with the essential tools and skills to participate actively in the digital world.

Embedded within this mission and vision are the Foundation's core principles, guiding every initiative and decision:

- **Collaboration** - Recognizing the magnitude of the digital divide, the Foundation actively seeks partnerships with diverse entities, including NGOs, governments, and the private sector, to orchestrate a collective response to this global issue.
- **Empowerment** - Central to its strategy is empowering communities, educators, and partners through the Digital Unify Program, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to spearhead initiatives and foster an environment of shared learning and growth.
- **Inclusion** - True to our belief that access to technology is a fundamental right, the Foundation strives to create inclusive e-communities where individuals, regardless of their background, have the opportunity to thrive and unleash their potential.
- **Innovation** - Embracing the relentless pace of technological advancement, the Foundation commits to fostering innovation as a catalyst for positive transformation, applying it to tackle some of the most pressing global challenges.
- **Integrity** - Fundamental to the Foundation's ethos, integrity ensures all actions and decisions are made with honesty, ethical commitment, and transparency, fostering trust and respect among all stakeholders involved in the mission.
- **Resilience** - This value highlights the Foundation's adaptability and perseverance in the face of challenges, ensuring that its initiatives to bridge the digital divide are sustainable and effective over the long term.
- **Sustainability** - The Foundation's vision extends to cultivating sustainable solutions that promise long-term benefits for communities, acknowledging that bridging the digital divide is a marathon, not a sprint, requiring ongoing commitment and innovation.

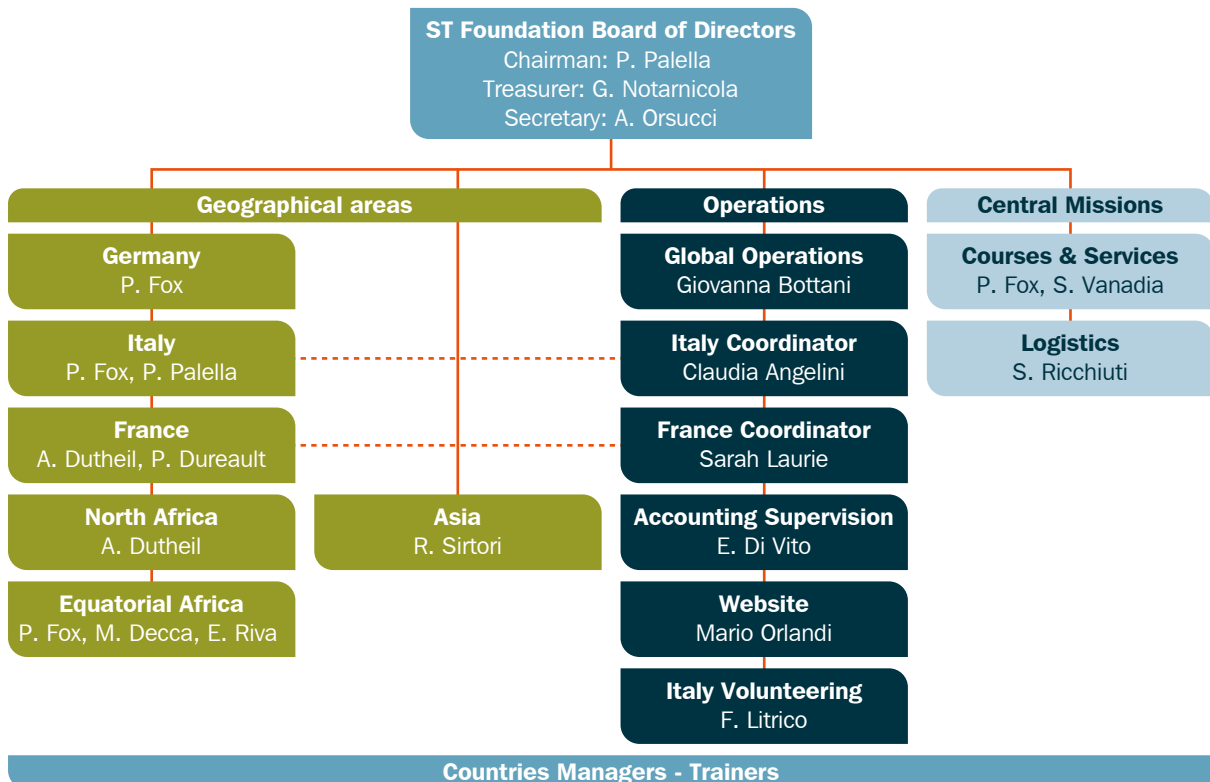
GOVERNANCE OF THE ST FOUNDATION

The ST Foundation operates under the guidance of its Board of Directors, which is comprised of current and former STMicroelectronics vice presidents, directors, and a Swiss lawyer. These dedicated board members contribute their time and expertise to set the Foundation's strategic directions. Their role involves providing insights, implementing recommendations, and improving the organization's activities. In a significant development in 2023, the ST Foundation announced the enrichment of its team by adding two distinguished industry leaders, Mr. Carlo Bozotti and Mr. Claude Dardanne. With Mr. Bozotti's unparalleled experience as the former President and CEO of STMicroelectronics, spanning over 40 years, and Mr. Dardanne's extensive semiconductor background at STMicroelectronics, we gain invaluable leadership insights and strategic vision. Together with the existing members, they fortify the scope of ensuring equitable access to education for all.

To support the Foundation's complex and dynamic initiatives, several key functions come into play:

- Geographical Areas Management:** board members and ST volunteers, appointed by the president, oversee specific geographical areas. Their responsibility is to monitor ongoing initiatives closely, ensuring alignment with the Foundation's mission and core values.
- Operations Oversight:** the director of operations, entrusted with managing and supervising operational activities, plays a central role in ensuring seamless execution. Since 2012, Giovanna Bottani has persistently served in this capacity, reporting directly to the president. Additionally, in 2021, the introduction of local country leaders further bolstered operational effectiveness within targeted regions. Sarah Laurie assumed the role of the first country leader for France in May 2021, followed by Claudia Angelini's appointment as the country leader for Italy in January 2022.
- Central Mission Activities:** this domain encompasses the crucial tasks of revising, updating, crafting training materials, and managing essential equipment used across various initiatives. ST volunteers' active involvement is instrumental in staying abreast of emerging trends and demands, ensuring the effective realization of the Foundation's mission.

Organizational Chart of the ST Foundation as of December 31, 2023



RISK ANALYSIS AND RESPONSES FOR THE ST FOUNDATION

At the Foundation, we are dedicated to identifying, comprehending, and mitigating risks to guarantee our programs' sustainable and effective operation despite our constantly changing landscapes. This section delineates the primary issues we encounter and the strategies we have implemented to mitigate them, thereby proactively protecting our mission.

- **Operational risks**

Especially in remote and underprivileged regions, operational risks encompass challenges such as logistical issues and difficulties in program implementation. We have developed robust partnerships to mitigate these situations that capitalize on local expertise and improve logistical support. Furthermore, to guarantee the continuity of our operations and prevent potential disruptions, we have implemented rigorous ad hoc strategies. Our staff, volunteers, and partners participating in consistent training sessions further enhance our response capabilities.

- **Risks to one's reputation**

Negative publicity, stakeholder dissatisfaction, and program delivery failures that could potentially damage the Foundation's reputation are all examples of reputational risks. To mitigate these dangers, we have implemented a proactive communication strategy that transparently engages stakeholders and manages public relations. Rigorous quality assurance procedures are implemented to guarantee the most stringent program delivery standards. We can maintain a strong reputation by regularly engaging with stakeholders to gather feedback, address concerns, and cultivate positive relationships.

- **Legal and compliance risks**

Compliance and legal risks encompass infractions of contracts, legal disputes, and noncompliance with local and international regulations. We mitigate these risks by conducting consistent legal evaluations to guarantee that our operations adhere to pertinent laws and regulations. Our operations are governed by comprehensive policies and procedures that ensure ethical behavior and compliance. Furthermore, we offer training to our volunteers and employees regarding organizational policies and legal obligations, fostering awareness and compliance with our standards.

- **Technological hazards**

Cyber threats, data breaches, and IT infrastructure malfunctions are among the technological risks that have the potential to compromise data security and disrupt operations. We have instituted cybersecurity measures to safeguard our data and IT systems to mitigate these risks. Our data protection policies are rigorous, guaranteeing the privacy and security of personal information. The seamless execution of our programs is facilitated by the regular updates and maintenance of our IT infrastructure, which prevent failures and ensure reliable operations.

2023 FOCUS: ADVANCING POLICY IMPLEMENTATION FOR ENHANCED PROTECTION AND EMPOWERMENT



In 2023, the ST Foundation continued strengthening the implementation of policies designed to empower and protect the rights of both minors and adults. Operating within underprivileged environments, we recognize the crucial importance of achieving positive social change while upholding a steadfast commitment to safeguarding the welfare of vulnerable groups. Through the deployment of comprehensive rules addressing child safety, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, and privacy issues, the Foundation has reinforced its dedication to these core principles.

Detailed advancements in our policy framework this year include:

1 Child Protection Policy

Targeting increasingly tech-oriented projects for children, we have consolidated our Child Protection Policy and the corresponding code of conduct, initially finalized in 2021 and adopted in March 2022. Developed in line with international standards and tailored to cultural specificities, these policies were further reinforced in 2023 to bolster the protection of minors within our initiatives, actively preventing all forms of violence and abuse. Dedicated training courses were organized for all country managers working in the different intervention areas.

2 Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Policy (PSEA)

Recognizing that sexual exploitation and abuse can occur in any setting, especially in fragile environments, the Foundation finalized and approved the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policy and code of conduct in July 2022. The standards set forth by these documents were more deeply integrated into our operations throughout 2023, enhancing our vigilance and preventive measures against potential abuses.

3 Privacy Policy

In line with our ongoing commitment to refine and implement robust policy frameworks, we have continued to review and enhance our privacy policies. This effort ensures that data collection, storage, and usage comply with applicable regulations and maintain the confidentiality and security of personal information, focusing on securing proper consent when engaging with minors.

Through these reinforced policies, the ST Foundation assures that the rights and well-being of minors and adults are vigorously protected as we continue to drive substantial and enduring positive impact, fostering hope and empowerment among those most in need.

TWO DECADES OF IMPACT: CELEBRATING OUR JOURNEY WITH STAKEHOLDERS



With the twentieth anniversary of the ST Foundation and the achievement of one million beneficiaries, it is more important than ever to maintain a broad range of stakeholder participation. We interact daily with groups ranging from local communities, government authorities, and civil society actors to private sector entities, UN agencies, and the academic community. Our strategy aims to create genuine cooperation rather than merely conversational engagement, making every participant a vital component of the dialogue and the resolution.

In line with this approach, our **core operational stakeholders**, which include direct beneficiaries, trainers, and ST volunteers, are directly involved in the day-to-day implementation of our mission. Their hands-on activities, training, and feedback are integral to the immediate success and impact of our initiatives, demonstrating the foundational role they play in operational execution. Our **strategic collaborative partners**, comprising local communities, partners, STMicroelectronics, and UN agencies, provide key support, knowledge sharing, and resources. Their involvement is crucial for our operations' scalability and long-term sustainability, helping us to expand our reach effectively. Furthermore, our **governance and advisory stakeholders**, such as ST Foundation members, government authorities, and the academic community, contribute through their consultative and governance roles. They influence policy, provide direction, and ensure compliance with ethical and legal standards, aligning our operations with the Foundation's long-term goals and external regulations.

At the heart of all these groups is the principle of «**together, transforming tomorrow**». This motto encapsulates our collective commitment to making a meaningful difference, guiding our efforts, and advancing our mission effectively. As we continue our journey, this concept remains central to our strategic engagements. In the following pages, we share testimonies from our core stakeholders, highlighting their perspectives and experiences.

Stakeholder Synergy: Intersecting Circles of Collaboration



A MILLION STORIES OF TRANSFORMATION: TESTIMONIES FROM THE FIELD

Voices of Change: Beneficiaries

Testimonies from those impacted by our activities are at the heart of our Foundation. These are the voices of some of the people who have benefited from education, technology, and empowerment, as well as people and communities whose lives have been changed. Every story exemplifies what happens when individuals can take control of their own lives. Their experiences serve not only as mirrors of their successes but also as sources of inspiration and hope for others.

Éric,
ICB Student, Burundi



I'm Éric, and my journey began by attending the ICB course at the Rutovu Center. This transformative experience introduced me to computing through Word, Excel, and Internet research, significantly boosting my academic and professional growth. These skills enabled me to excel in university projects and secure an internship through an online application. Crafting my internship report was straightforward, thanks to the foundation laid by this course. I urge my peers to embrace computing. It's essential in everyday life and unlocks countless opportunities in technology.

M2,
ICB Student, India



I'm M2. I was running a land distribution business when changes in tax regulations upended my life, leading to financial difficulties and legal charges that landed me in jail. Inside these walls, I found hope through a computer education program by the India Vision Foundation and ST Foundation. This program wasn't just about learning to use a computer; it was a gateway to personal growth and resilience. I'm grateful for this experience. As I count down the days to my freedom, I'm eager to embrace new opportunities.

Yohantraj,
ICB Student, Malaysia



Hi! I'm Yohantraj, and I'm 11 years old. I go to Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan Tamil (T) Jalan Khalidi. On the 26th and 27th of December last year, I joined a fantastic course where I learned all about surfing the Internet and the basics of computers. Since it's hard to get online where I live, I was excited to learn how to do it myself! I had so much fun making new friends and learning to use Microsoft Word and PowerPoint. The best part was creating animations in PowerPoint – it was awesome! I also made many Malay friends, and we learned new things daily. Thanks to everyone who made this possible!

Fatima,
ICB Student, Morocco



I am Fatima, a student at the Institut Spécialisé de Technologie Appliquée, specializing in Business Management. I chose this computer training to enhance my academic performance, and it has been transformative. Thanks to the Azrou Centre and the STMicroelectronics Foundation, I've gained essential skills in internet research and computer operation, which will ease my future job searches. This opportunity has broadened my technical abilities and significantly contributed to my personal and professional development. Thank you for opening new pathways to success!

Mariatu,
ICB Student, Sierra Leone



My name is Mariatu, and I am a student at Annie Walsh Memorial School. Before joining the ICB course in January 2023, I didn't even know how to turn a computer on or off. This opportunity was a dream come true, and I saw it as unique. Thanks to what I learned, I can confidently create documents, use the Internet, and even design invitations using Microsoft Office tools. This course has opened up new opportunities, and I'm applying what I've learned to help run my uncle's printing and cybercafé. I'm incredibly thankful to the ST Foundation and Bridge the Digital Divide Sierra Leone for this life-changing opportunity.

On the Ground: Trainers and Volunteers

Our trainers and volunteers are the backbone of our operations, bringing our mission to life through their dedication and hard work. These passionate individuals share their skills and time, fostering environments where learning and growth are at the forefront. Their testimonials provide a window into the rewarding experiences of teaching and the personal growth that comes from contributing to a more significant cause. Through their eyes, we see the real-time impact of our collective efforts.

Dieudonné,
ICB Teacher, Burundi



I'm Dieudonné, and as an ICB trainer, I've witnessed how our students and employees benefit from the training. The courses provide new career opportunities and support academic achievements. Students use their computing skills to boost their grades and engage with their projects, while employees become more productive by using programs like Word and Excel. The training also cultivates an understanding of technology's crucial role in our lives and the importance of digital literacy in navigating today's job market. Thank you, ST Foundation, for making it happen!

Bhavesh,
ST volunteer, India



I joined the ST Foundation a decade ago with the purpose of advancing education and uplifting underprivileged youth. Beginning as a Trainer and eventually progressing to a master trainer, I've valued every chance to engage with diverse communities. One significant challenge many face is access to computers, and witnessing our participants' joy and sense of achievement as they conquer this barrier has been rewarding. Seeing their eagerness to learn and the impact on their lives is gratifying. My role has also enabled me to form connections with people from various countries. These interactions have deepened my understanding of global educational challenges and supported my ST colleagues, who are keen to initiate the Foundation's programs in their regions. My journey has been a path of impact, shaping me into a more empathetic and skilled professional committed to tackling educational disparities. My experiences at the Foundation have strengthened my dedication to societal improvement and passionate engagement with the complex issues that people worldwide encounter.

Hidayat,
ST Volunteer and trainer, Malaysia



My name is Hidayat, and I am from the DIT Department. I have been an active volunteer of the ST Foundation since 2017, and this experience has been a transformative journey since then. I've observed firsthand the benefits our computer courses offer. They enhance students' understanding of computing, equipping them with essential skills in navigating tools like word processors, spreadsheets, and presentation software. However, the learning doesn't stop with the students; teachers, too, gain invaluable skills, making this a dynamic environment of mutual growth. I've had the pleasure of meeting several students post-course, and their feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. The ICB course empowers these young minds with the skills they need to succeed in a digital world. It goes beyond basic computer skills and lays a solid foundation for their future endeavors.

Btissam,
ICB teacher, Morocco



My name is Btissam, and since 2010, I have worked with the ST Foundation, where I have had the opportunity to develop my skills in a supportive environment. Thanks to the commitment of beneficiaries seeking quality training, I have gained enriching professional experience, especially during computer training sessions that had a significant impact. Throughout my journey, I have observed a strong interest in training, particularly in digital literacy and computer skills. This trend has grown stronger in recent years. Additionally, I have noticed a remarkable change in the habits of learners after participating in these trainings. They have acquired more professionalism and confidence in using computers, feeling comfortable in both professional and personal contexts. My experience with the Foundation remains one of the most rewarding in my life, as it helps facilitate access to and use of computers and the digital world for the beneficiaries.

Sheku,
ICB teacher, Sierra Leone



I'm Sheku, a teacher at the Methodist Secondary School, Kenema. Joining the ST Foundation's Digital Unify Program in 2017 transformed not just my professional life but also allowed me to make a significant impact in my community. Through it, I learned how to use the Internet and various software packages efficiently, enhancing my teaching and students' educational experience. I've been able to pass on this knowledge, helping many others in my community gain valuable computer skills. I'm deeply grateful for this opportunity and hope such courses can reach more schools across Sierra Leone.

In their words: Partner Testimonials

Our commitment to bridging the digital divide extends through strong collaborations with local partners across diverse regions. These partnerships are essential in implementing impactful programs, providing tailored digital education to underserved communities. Below are testimonials from a few of our dedicated partners, highlighting the transformative role of the Foundation's Digital Unify program in their communities. Their experiences offer a glimpse into how these initiatives are changing lives fostering new opportunities, and empowering individuals.

Elie,
director of the Rutovu center, Burundi



Our institution has been running the DU program since 2015, and it has been a game-changer for our students. Given the widespread poverty in Africa and specifically in our country, where there was no similar initiative, this initiative arrived just in time to address many challenges. It has opened new intellectual horizons for our students, providing a solid foundation in the digital world and opportunities to communicate. For our young learners, IT and the Internet are essential tools that stimulate critical thinking and reflective skills. Over the years, our collaboration with the ST Foundation has been excellent. We commend our partner for its support and look forward to the program's continued success for future students.

Samba,
director of Rufisque Cdeps, Senegal



We have been working with the ST Foundation since 2009. We collaborated with them because they meet the Ministry of Youth's requirements, enabling us to effectively train young people in various computer skills. The DU program is exceptionally well-suited for our youth, providing deep understanding through well-prepared trainers who foster a friendly and engaging learning environment. Since its inception, I haven't seen any similar initiatives in Senegal. The impact has been profound. Many young people in Rufisque have gained essential IT skills and found new opportunities for employment and further education. Our partnership with the ST Foundation is remarkable, providing necessary equipment and meeting the IT training needs of our young learners. This collaboration has transformed lives, bridging the digital divide and empowering our youth for a brighter future.

Kai,
Principal of Ahmadiyya Muslim Secondary School, Freetown



I am expressing my enthusiastic endorsement of the ST Foundation. As a partner, I have collaborated with this organization on various learning initiatives to bridge the digital divide into our community's children's lives. Their DU Program is well-suited for our students, offering innovative and impactful digital learning opportunities. The commitment of the Foundation team is truly inspiring, and their work has made a significant difference in the lives of the children and their families. Our collaboration has been characterized by professionalism, integrity, and a shared vision for a brighter future. The transformative impact of this organization's work is clear, and I fully support its mission. We look forward to continuing this fruitful collaboration.

Khadija,
President of the association Chourok



Our collaboration with the ST Foundation began in 2012 and aimed at enhancing the digital skills of the women supported by our association. The DU program's flexibility and locally adapted content have been particularly valuable. Although there are a few similar programs in Morocco, the DU program stands out for its practical approach and personalized modules. The impact on our community has been transformative. It has empowered many women by providing essential digital skills, helping them navigate the digital world, and opening new horizons. This collaboration has allowed us to offer crucial learning opportunities, making a difference in the lives of our beneficiaries. Our partnership with the Foundation has been marked by professionalism and a shared vision for a better future. The program effectively meets the emerging digital needs of our community, and we look forward to continuing the collaboration.

WHAT THESE VOICES TELL US

The testimonies presented in this report vividly illustrate the transformative impact of the ST Foundation's Digital Unify (DU) program. Each story, from Éric in Burundi to Fatima in Morocco, underlines the changes that digital literacy can bring to individuals and communities. These voices are not just testimonials but powerful narratives of empowerment and progress.

The DU program has equipped numerous beneficiaries with IT skills, opening doors to education, employment, and personal growth. This initiative has proven to be a game-changer, especially in regions with limited access to digital education. Our partners, such as Mr. Nshimirimana Elie in Burundi and Mrs. El Idrissi Khadija in Morocco, highlight the relevance of what we do to address local needs and foster development.

People like trainers and volunteers, like Dieudonné in Burundi and Bhavesh in India, are the backbone of our operations. Their dedication and passion have been crucial in spreading digital literacy and creating environments where learning can flourish. Their experiences reflect the program's success and ability to inspire and drive change.

In conclusion, the ST Foundation's DU program is a beacon of hope and progress. It bridges the digital divide, empowers individuals, and strengthens communities following 3 evident buzzwords: empowerment, inclusion, and transformation.

THE POWER OF COMMUNICATION OVER OUR FIRST 20 YEARS

Effective communication has always been the ST Foundation's objective. It enables us to share our successes and difficulties, engage with stakeholders, create transparency, and establish a strong community around our efforts. Our communication methods have changed over the past two decades to meet our stakeholders' needs. We ensure that our message reaches varied audiences and is known by using multiple platforms and approaches.



As a corporate foundation dedicated to social and technological innovation, internal and external communication are essential bridges to communicate with all of our friends about what we do and how they can interact with us. We rely on internal communication to build solid relationships and align our dedicated staff, volunteers, and partners with our goals. At the same time, we value external communication and interaction with communities, governments, and other NGOs. Strategic communication helps us raise awareness of crucial issues and communicate the transformative power of our programs. By listening to stakeholders, we build strong relationships and collaborate for sustainable change.

THE ST FOUNDATION'S EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES

22

Among the different communication activities, we can mention the writing of the 2022 ST Foundation Annual Report, which was done as usual in collaboration with the ST Corporate External Communication team.

We also attended several events and conferences, among which we can mention:

- The Global Digital Transformation Centers Workshop organized by the ITU, Cisco, and the Philippine Department of Information and Communication Technology (DICT) from May 9th to 11 in Cebu City. Giovanna Bottani presented the organization's mission and activities during the event, exchanging experiences and best practices while encouraging new collaboration.
- Profit4NonProfit promoted by Manager Italia on May 4th as part of Civil Week to map the responsible commitment of Italian companies and showcase exemplary stories. On this occasion, Claudia Angelini presented the case history of the collaboration between the STMicroelectronics Foundation and ACRA.



Furthermore, ST Foundation hosted the eighth edition of the Energy Run, held at Aldo Moro Park in Agrate Brianza on September 16th, 2023. Thanks to the incredible support of ST's Italian volunteers, who helped organize the run, the Foundation was able to generate extra funds and enhance its project visibility. Over **750** athletes joined the event, making it a day filled with mud and enjoyment. Participants crossed the finish line brimming with enthusiasm, cherishing the memorable experience.

Last but not least, on November 12th, the first Padel tournament in support of the ST Foundation was organized by Bridge the Digital Divide Italia in Catania. Over **150** participants, including colleagues, ST volunteers, family members, and friends, gathered on a beautiful sunny day to compete, play, and have fun while supporting the organization's charitable projects.

THE ST FOUNDATION'S INTERNAL COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES



Internal communication activities are essential for us as they significantly promote teamwork among our volunteers and acknowledge the exceptional support we receive from colleagues worldwide. In 2023, with the invaluable support of ST, we were able to express our gratitude to our Italian volunteers for their outstanding contributions throughout the year at the following events:

- Social Responsibility day in Catania, on April 22nd, the Foundation and its volunteers were invited to attend this important recognition ceremony to recognize the significant contribution of 14 volunteers from Catania. Our president, Pietro Palella, underlined the importance of their dedication to social responsibility during the occasion.
- Sustainability Recognition day in Castelletto: on December 11th, 16 volunteers from Lombardy were awarded at the ST auditorium. The event was attended by Claudia Sterlini, Agrate & Castelletto Site Director, and Lucio Colombo, ST Italy General Manager. Pietro Palella also participated, expressing his gratitude to the volunteers for their support and participation in the different initiatives.

Additionally, we have regularly updated our ST colleagues on our activities through the ST intranet and various internal communication channels, fostering a sense of unity and shared purpose across the organization. These efforts are instrumental in helping us build a true community, encouraging a collaborative environment where everyone feels valued and motivated to contribute to our mission.

3 BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE





CONFRONTING INEQUALITY IN THE DIGITAL AGE

The digital divide is a deeply rooted issue that is still plaguing our global society. This separate and unequal barrier divides communities into those who use the power of technology and those who continue to be entrapped in a net of digital exclusion. Furthermore, this divide allows and accelerates the separation between the wealthy and the disadvantaged, providing a scaffold for future generational divides unseen in human history.

Recent data from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) illuminate the current landscape: about 5.4 billion people, or 67% of the world's population, now use the Internet. This marks a heartening increase, a jump of 45% since 2018, welcoming an estimated 1.7 billion new users into the digital fold. Yet, amidst this progress, the spectre of the digital divide looms large, with around 2.6 billion individuals still stranded in the shadows, disconnected from the digital world¹.



The consequences of this difference are far-reaching, getting to the crux of what it means to live and flourish in the twenty-first century. Life is a succession of closed doors for individuals trapped on the disconnected side of this divide: limited access to crucial services, reduced career chances, and educational options that appear as far away as the stars. The consequences are especially severe in developing regions. Communities and their children lack the skills and information required to succeed in an increasingly interconnected global economy, leaving them floundering in the wake of development that moves forward without them.

These discrepancies do not exist only in developing countries. Even in the wealthiest industrialized nations, there are areas of exclusion where technology remains an unattainable luxury. These underserved groups of society find themselves on the margins of the digital ecosystem, unable to benefit from the opportunities that have become cornerstones of modern living.

The digital divide widens economic and educational inequities and sows the seeds of social and emotional conflict. It isolates people, creating walls that prevent them from connecting with others and participating in society. This isolation can lead to a crippling sense of inadequacy and despair as people struggle with the false narrative of their presumed inability in the face of technological developments.

When confronted with the complex issues created by the digital divide, the answer must be subtle and thorough. Strategies for bridging this gap range from increasing technology access and digital literacy to promoting affordable internet services and upgrading educational resources. Addressing this challenge requires a collaborative effort from all sectors of society, governments, corporations, and non-profit organisations, with everyone contributing their knowledge and resources to create a digital landscape that is inclusive, egalitarian, and accessible to everyone.

Addressing the digital divide demands a concerted effort to guarantee that technology catalyzes inclusion and equality. Together, we can transform the digital landscape into a place where everyone can flourish, breaking down the barriers that separate us and establishing bridges to a more connected, equal world.

NOTE

1: For further details, please visit: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/stat/default.aspx>

THE DIGITAL UNIFY PROGRAM



The ST Foundation is committed to using technology to enhance lives, especially for those most affected by the digital divide. Our strategy tackles immediate and long-term issues, such as access to devices, connectivity, digital literacy, and integrating technology into daily life and work. We believe digital empowerment unlocks economic opportunities, boosts educational outcomes, and enables full participation in the digital era. Our vision extends

beyond providing equipment or internet access. We aim for long-term development through digital education and skill-building. Our scope is to create a more egalitarian digital world by providing underserved communities with the technology they need to bridge the digital divide, fostering digital literacy through instructional programs, actively collaborating with the communities we serve, customizing our initiatives to local needs and situations, while working with governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), partners, and other stakeholders to create environments conducive to digital inclusivity.

At the core of this mission is the **Digital Unify program**, a global initiative designed to bridge the digital divide by delivering crucial technical tools and knowledge to vulnerable communities. Its primary goal is to implement educational programs that can contribute to eliminating digital poverty in underprivileged areas. It forms the foundation of our educational efforts, organizing all courses into two main categories: **standard courses and society digitalization activities**.

STANDARD COURSES

These courses are designed to help participants of all ages learn basic to intermediate computer skills through various mediums such as computers and tablets. They are the organization's first step into educational offerings aiming to provide beneficiaries with the skills required for work, academic pursuits, social media interaction, or pleasure.

Introduction to Computer Basic Course (ICB)

Since its creation in 2003, the ICB course has played an essential role in the Foundation's educational outreach, enrolling no more than 20 students per session to ensure equal access to learning resources.

This 20-hour course, which is available in seven languages (i.e., Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish) with flexibility for additional languages as needed, is designed to help beginners overcome tech apprehensions while learning essential computer skills.

After completion, students should be able to use Microsoft Office competently, browse the Internet safely, manage email communications, engage responsibly on social media, and use various online platforms such as Google Meet. The course ends with an online exam to assess the skills gained and the program's effectiveness, with certificates granted to those who attend at least 80% of the sessions. This recognition improves employability across a variety of countries. Moreover, the ICB course is offered in DU training centers, which use the **model lab approach** to provide global standardization in lab design and equipment requirements.



Tablet for Kids Course (T4K)



Research highlighting the educational benefits of touchscreen technology for youngsters encouraged the launch of the T4K course in 2015. Developed in collaboration with the Swiss NGO seed, this initiative was pilot-tested in India to combat e-illiteracy among children aged 9 to 13, aiming to integrate them into the information society. The Foundation and its partner crafted content encompassing fundamental digital skills and more advanced competencies. By the end of the course, children will have developed essential abilities such as taking pictures, shooting videos, drawing, and creating music, along with more complex skills like Internet searching, writing, calculating, and presenting sophisticated topics to their classmates. This comprehensive approach ensures a meaningful and engaging introduction to the digital world for young learners.

28

Advanced Courses

The ST Foundation, with the support of volunteers from the Greater Noida ST plant in India, introduced a new series of advanced courses. Initially launched in 2018, they were designed to enhance the IT skills schools and employers increasingly seek. The 60-hour program provides extensive training in Microsoft Office, divided into four modules:

- 1 Microsoft Word - 14 hours;
- 2 PowerPoint - 14 hours;
- 3 Excel - 28 hours;
- 4 Outlook - 4 hours.

These advanced courses also require students to undertake a comprehensive test to evaluate their skills at the conclusion of their training. The contents were significantly updated between 2020 and 2021 and are available in English, Italian and French. Plans for future versions include the ability to customize the curriculum to meet specific, identified educational needs.



Tablet for Senior Course (T4S)

In today's digital-centric world, staying connected can pose significant challenges for senior citizens. Recognizing this, together with our partner seed, we created the Tablet for Senior course in 2019, tailored specifically for older people. This path is centered on the unique needs of Europe's



aging demographic, who are increasingly required to engage with new technologies that influence various aspects of their social lives. The course is structured in two distinct formats:

- A face-to-face version, which includes ten two-hour modules. These sessions are flexible and offered in comprehensive or abbreviated lengths to suit the varying needs of learners. Participants are equipped with foundational skills such as internet navigation, photo taking, and video recording, alongside more complex abilities like trip planning and using customized apps for daily management.
- A virtual learning pathway comprising ten instructional videos. This format supports senior citizens in mastering basic tablet functions necessary for communication. It was specifically developed to assist those in nursing and retirement homes during the periods of isolation caused by the pandemic, helping them keep in touch with the external world and their family and friends.

The Introduction to Computer Basics for Visually Impaired People (ICB4VI)

Originally developed to address the needs of Sierra Leone, our ICB4VI course has since become a pivotal educational tool for the visually impaired community. With the expertise of Dr. Bernareggi from the State University of Milan, this tailored path was initiated to make digital skills accessible to visually impaired learners. Launched in October 2019, the course is structured into 24 lessons totaling 48 hours. The curriculum is divided into six comprehensive modules designed to enhance digital literacy comprehensively. These include:

- Basic computer navigation using keyboard shortcuts, which provides a foundational understanding of PC operation without relying on visual cues.
- Document creation and management in Microsoft Word, focusing on accessible features and techniques suitable for visually impaired users.
- Data organization and calculation tasks in Microsoft Excel, tailored to be user-friendly for those with visual impairments.
- Email setup and management, teaching students how to communicate using standard email tools and applications effectively.
- Internet navigation skills, enabling safe and efficient browsing adapted to the needs of these particular beneficiaries.
- Customizable modules are adjusted based on individual or group needs, ensuring relevance and practicality in various contexts.



Following its successful implementation, the ICB4VI course is ready for expansion into additional regions. It has also been established as a core initiative in collaboration with the ITU, focusing on enhancing the digital literacy of this particular target group. The goal is to integrate them into the e-society we all live in, ensuring they acquire the necessary skills to thrive in a digitally driven world.

THE SOCIETY'S DIGITALIZATION ACTIVITIES

In continuity with the past years, we are continuing our Society Digitalisation activities, conceived initially during the pandemic, to address emerging needs that remain relevant today. In 2023, the importance of digital technology in shaping our societal structures continued to be a major focus. At the ST Foundation, we understand that digital tools and connectivity are crucial for personal and professional development across all segments of society. As a result, our commitment to digital inclusion has remained steadfast, aiming to ensure that everyone, regardless of their socio-economic background, has access to the opportunities provided by digital technologies. In this direction, we devoted our efforts to enhancing our initiatives that bridge the digital divide among contexts that have been underserved or overlooked in the digital landscape. By providing tools, training, and support, we strive to create a more equitable digital future for all.

Our key activities this year included:

- **Donation of equipment:** we have continued to equip those in need with the tools essential for accessing digital content and services, ensuring that these resources reach the hands of those who need them most.
- **Promotion of digital careers:** with the job market increasingly favoring digital literacy, we have strongly emphasized introducing teenagers to potential technological careers, opening new pathways to future success.
- **Coding course for children:** to foster a foundational understanding of technology from a young age, we introduced coding courses that encourage critical thinking and creativity among children.

Further details regarding the impact of these initiatives are presented in dedicated sections of this report.



EFFECTIVE COLLABORATION: PARTNERING WITH THE ST FOUNDATION



31

At the Foundation, we recognize the crucial role of local community cooperation and openness in successfully implementing our programs. Achieving our goal to bridge the digital divide relies heavily on forging collaborations with regional partners in order to customize our initiatives to meet the specific needs of each community. Our approach is grounded in a firm commitment to maintaining high standards of integrity while fostering relationships with NGOs, educational institutions, associations, and other local entities. We employ a stringent selection process to identify organizations with our commitment and vision for their regions. The steps involved include:

- 1 Conducting a comprehensive audit to assess the prospective partner's practices and financial health and ensure alignment with our objectives.
- 2 Requesting a detailed project proposal that outlines the partner's strategy and objectives.
- 3 Obtaining approval from the ST Foundation board of directors for the proposed initiative.
- 4 Drafting a Memorandum of Understanding to define the parameters of our collaboration following board approval.
- 5 Initiating activities and establishing DU Labs.
- 6 Organizing Train the Trainer sessions to enable the local partner to deliver the ST Foundation's courses independently.
- 7 Coordinating the launch of our initial classes in partnership with the selected organization.

4 2023 BY THE NUMBERS





STANDARD COURSES

In 2023, the ST Foundation continued its pioneering efforts to fight digital inequity, a long-standing issue that has gained increased importance in recent years. As the globe moves past the urgent problems created by the pandemic, our focus has switched to addressing the long-term implications of digital exclusion. This year's energies were focused on improving digital access and literacy, recognizing that these skills are more important than ever in our increasingly connected world.

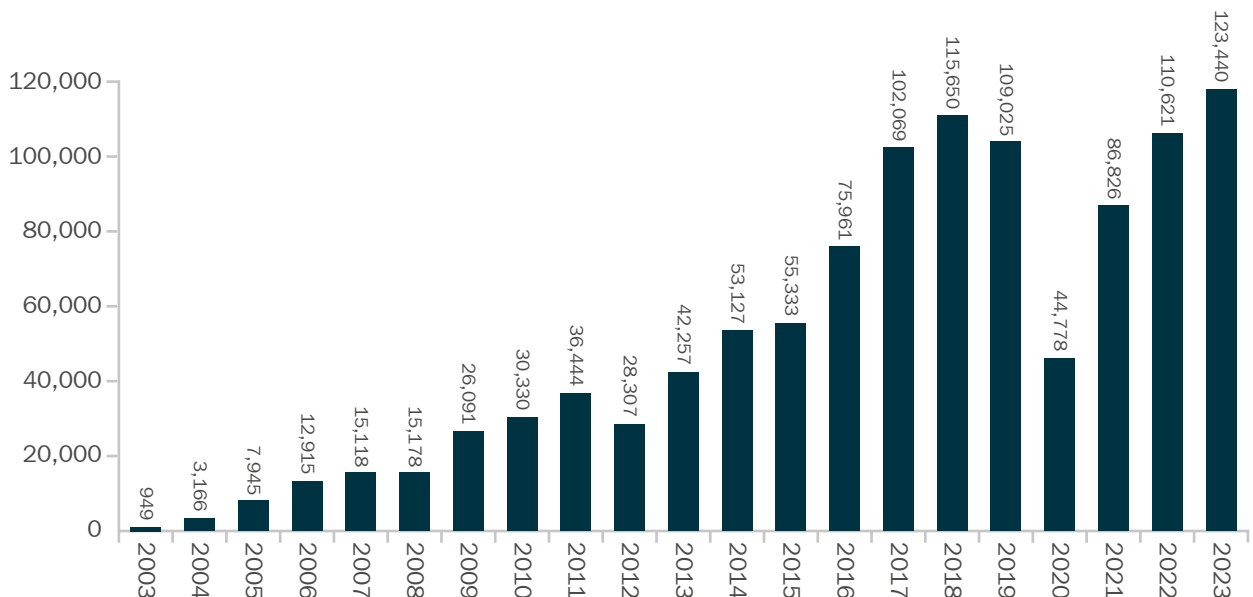


Our commitment to bridging the digital divide remains strong, not simply in response to previous obstacles but also as a proactive step toward empowering at-risk communities in the future. The Foundation actively participated in various activities, tailoring our strategies to meet the changing requirements of our beneficiaries worldwide. Three key goals have directed our efforts:

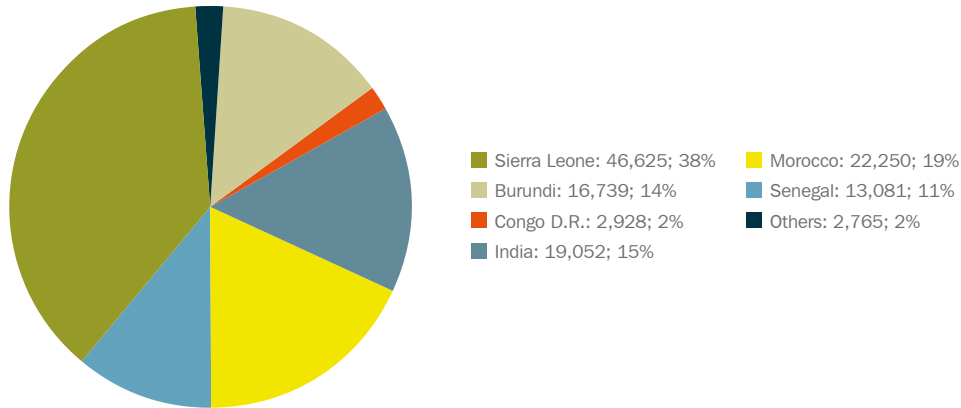
- 1 Strengthened and expanded our standard Digital Unify (DU) courses. Various educational paths were extended to new countries and communities, demonstrating our dedication to making digital skills accessible to a broader audience.
- 2 Dedicated support for vulnerable groups. We've implemented our initiatives to help those most affected by recent global issues, particularly the elderly, adapt more smoothly to the digital world.
- 3 Built new strategic partnerships. Among others, the organization signed an agreement with the ITU that will empower the ST Foundation to advance its mission on a more global scale.

Throughout 2023, our operational presence grew, positively influencing more lives. We were operational in 14 countries, namely: Brazil, Burundi, China, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, France, Germany, Ghana, India, Italy, Malaysia, Morocco, the Philippines, Senegal, and Sierra Leone. With our educational offerings, which include the ICB, ICB4VI, and advanced courses together with the T4K course and the T4S (in its in-presence version), as we closed out 2023, we reached **1,095,530** trainees since the inception, as well as **58,709** courses. In 2023 alone, **123,440** students participated in our classes, and **7,771** successfully organized courses.

Evolution of the DU Program since its inception



In 2023, the trainee breakdown by country is shown below:

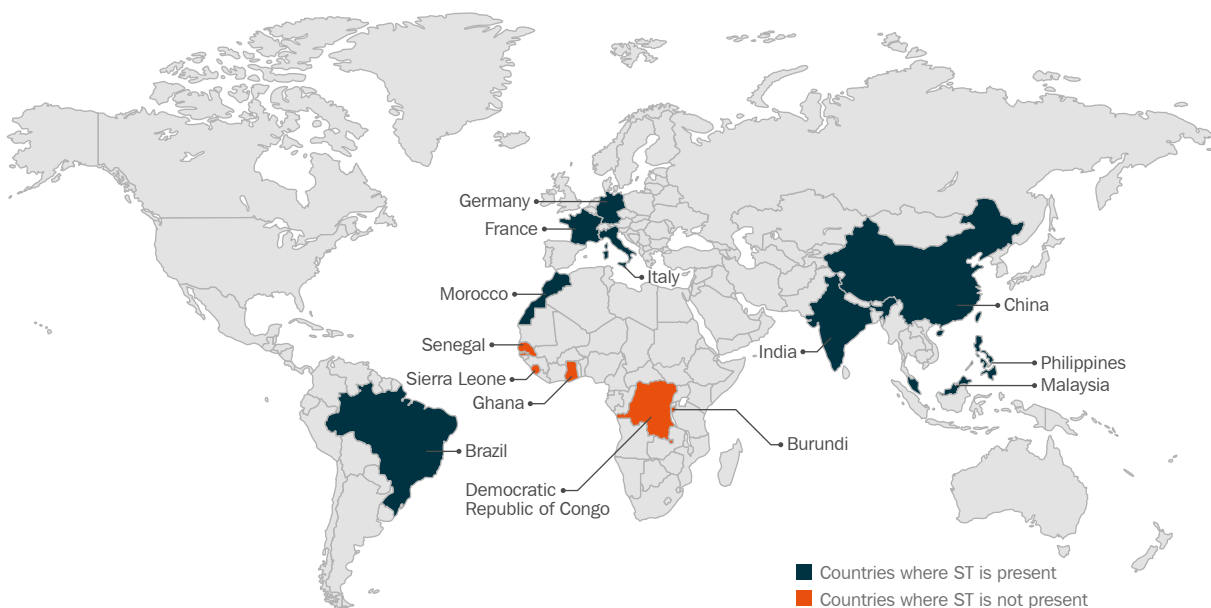


Throughout 2023, the Foundation continued expanding its presence in ST countries, leveraging its extensive network of collaborators and adhering to the strategies the board of directors confirmed. From an operational perspective, the countries where the organization is active are categorized into two main groups:

- **STMicroelectronics countries** include developing and developed regions where the company has a physical presence, enabling substantial infrastructural and volunteer support to the Foundation.
- **Non-STMicroelectronics countries** include developing regions where ST is not present, which typically face significant hardships by all standards of life and urgently require infrastructure and skills development

The Foundation established ad hoc local entities to broaden our programs’ impact in selected ST countries. Currently, we can count on three organizations, namely: the ST Foundation India, ST Foundation Morocco, and a local ST Foundation Philippines. The first two are independent legal entities, while the latter functions as a local branch.

The Foundation’s key indicators highlight an increasing focus on ST countries, evidenced by growing investments (reaching **78%** of the global expenditures), while activities in non-ST countries are sustained and strengthened without adding new frontiers in line with central directives.



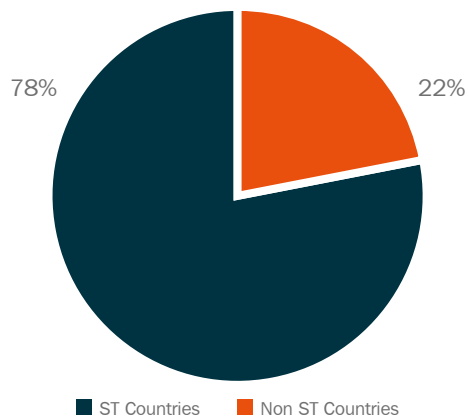
ST countries' key indicators in 2023 for standard activities

ST Countries	Years of activity	Active DU Labs	Cities reached by the Program	Teachers working for the Foundation	Beneficiaries	Organized courses
Brazil	2	1	1	1	15	2
China	10	3	3	18	943	78
France	14	2	2	-	53	9
India	20	50	18	40	19,052	1,224
Italy	20	17	8	-	646	69
Malaysia	8	1	1	2	42	3
Morocco	20	37	14	38	22,250	1,855
The Philippines	11	7	2	35	1,036	54
Total		118	49	134	44,037	3,294

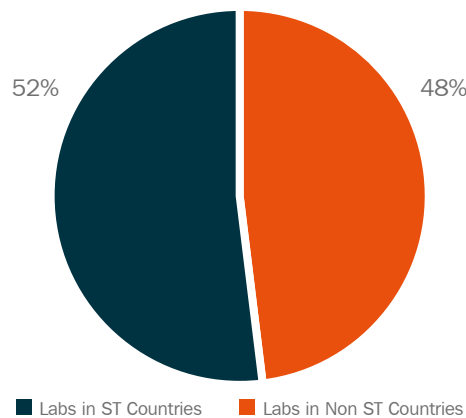
Non-ST countries' key indicators in 2023 for standard activities

Non-ST Countries	Years of activity	Active DU Labs	Cities reached by the Program	Teachers working for the Foundation	Beneficiaries	Organized courses
Burundi	14	13	8	18	16,739	1,013
Congo DR	18	5	3	5	2,928	176
Ghana	1	1	1	-	30	2
Senegal	15	46	11	12	13,081	911
Sierra Leone	14	44	10	99	46,625	2,375
Total		109	33	134	79,403	4,477

% of investment in ST countries vs Non-ST countries



% of DU Labs in ST countries vs Non-ST countries



ICB COURSES: MAKING AN IMPACT

It is crucial to highlight the impact of the ICB course, which represents 92% of our initiatives. Through the Foundation's online reporting system, which already tracks all our activities in real-time, we can also evaluate the impact of the ICB courses. It provides insights into beneficiary profiles, needs, and the impact of our activities. By tracking quantitative and qualitative data, we can observe changes in student behavior after completing the course. Specifically for 2023, the results are as follows:

- Knowledge sharing - **93%** of students express their willingness to share their newfound knowledge with family and friends, extending the course's influence beyond the classroom.
- Recommendation - **91%** of students endorse the course, highlighting its value and relevance.
- Digital proficiency - following course completion, **78%** of students report significantly increasing their familiarity with personal computers, marking a milestone in their e-literacy path.

Furthermore, previously digitally marginalized individuals now show a renewed eagerness to leverage their acquired skills for various purposes:

- Internet navigation - **82%** aspire to confidently navigate online, expanding their access to information and opportunities.
- Social connectivity - **80%** desire to engage with friends and communities through social media platforms, promoting social inclusion and connectivity.
- Functional skills - **76%** are now proficient in performing basic digital tasks such as calculations and email management, enhancing efficiency and productivity.
- Moreover, the ICB course catalyzes socio-economic empowerment, with **66%** of students actively utilizing their newfound skills to pursue employment opportunities.

Replies to the question « Do you currently use the computer for?»

Showing the overview of the ICB course impact.

	Not at all	Little	Moderate	Very much	Total
Downloading articles	15%	19%	40%	27%	100%
Looking for a job	16%	18%	38%	28%	100%
Reading e-journals	13%	19%	40%	28%	100%
Writing a resume/C.V.	13%	17%	38%	32%	100%
Writing a document	9%	17%	35%	39%	100%
Reading emails	9%	16%	33%	42%	100%
Communicating/chatting with friends/social media	6%	13%	35%	45%	100%
Easy Calculations	9%	15%	35%	42%	100%
The Internet	6%	12%	35%	47%	100%

Level of agreement with the indicated statements

	Not at all	Little	Moderate	Very much	Total
I hesitate to use computers for fear of making mistakes that I cannot correct	23%	20%	26%	30%	100%
I feel comfortable using computers	7%	15%	36%	42%	100%

If we complement the quantitative data with the analysis of qualitative feedback provided by the students using the open questions in the online system, we can confirm the transformative impact of the ICB course. Not only do students acquire technical skills, but they also develop the confidence to apply these skills in their daily and professional lives. Their willingness to share the knowledge gained and to use the new skills to enhance their socio-economic opportunities reflects the effectiveness of our program. This qualitative data reinforces our commitment to promoting digital inclusion and empowerment through education, underlining the fundamental role of the ICB course as a catalyst for positive change for individuals and communities.

BEST PRACTICES FROM THE ST FOUNDATION

The Tablet for Kids on Wheels - Transforming Education in India

The ST Foundation India is leading the country's attempts to close the digital divide. It is a vital component of the global STMicroelectronics Foundation, focusing on using digital education to empower communities needing access to technology and literacy throughout the country. Among others, we would like to mention the **T4K on Wheels initiative**. Carried out in collaboration with Navjyoti India Foundation, the project wanted to make education available for underprivileged children. Launched in October 2021, this initiative aimed at bringing mobile, accessible learning to isolated communities using tablets filled with engaging digital content. When the pandemic led to the closure of educational institutions in India, millions of young people were left without access to education. Although digital content became essential for distance learning, ensuring it reached those most in need was a significant challenge. The T4K on Wheels lab addressed this by allowing students to continue their education despite school closures, using tablets to explore a vast array of knowledge. The program proved highly successful throughout 2021 and 2022, prompting the ST Foundation to extend it for another year. The results from 2023 were promising, with over 600 students trained. One of the students, Aryan, a 10-year-old from a small village, shared his experience:

“ I have never experienced anything like this before. The ST Foundation India brought this amazing course called 'Tablet for Kids on Wheels' to our school, and it was like magic! We didn't have fancy schools or access to computers or tablets like kids in the big cities. We discovered these fantastic tablets with the new course and learned how to use them. The teachers were very patient and showed us all the different activities like drawing, reading, and even learning maths in a fun way. I made new friends from my village who were just as excited as me. It felt like a new world had opened up, and we couldn't get enough of it. Now, I feel like a little tech expert, and even helped my grandparents learn how to use the tablet. Thank you, ST Foundation.

”



The Summer Camps of Morocco

The ST Foundation Morocco is always on the front line to help people gain access to a good quality education. In this direction, we would like to underline the importance of the summer camps initiative. Through it, we reached **9,502** beneficiaries in our **29** summer camps in 2023. This activity is one of our most famous because of the enormous improvement it brings. These camps are, in fact, essential in offering free educational programs to children from low-income families.

They play a crucial role in the development of children. They provide a safe and supportive environment where students can learn and grow during the summer months, preventing the «summer slide» where students lose some knowledge gained during the school year. These camps also allow children to explore new interests, build confidence, and develop social skills.

Key highlights of the 2023 summer camps include:

- The impressive enrollment of over **9,500** participants is a clear indicator of the success of our educational approach and the positive influence of our collaborative efforts with the concerned stakeholders.
- The dedication of **45** teachers from the ST Foundation, who played a pivotal role in extending the reach of our initiative across **15** cities, was instrumental in the program's widespread impact.
- The social significance of summer camps was highlighted by their ability to bring together children from underprivileged backgrounds, fostering a sense of unity and engagement while providing a platform for personal and social development, facilitated by the ST Foundation Morocco through an interactive and enjoyable learning environment.

One of our trainers, Ilham Touri, shared her insights on the importance of summer camps:

“ As a trainer with the ST Foundation, I have seen firsthand how these summer camps can transform lives. We set up computer labs, bringing digital education to children without access to such resources. The children not only learn valuable computer skills but also gain confidence and a sense of achievement. These camps are vital in bridging the digital divide and opening up new opportunities for personal and professional growth for these young learners. ”



The Tablet for Kids in Burundi

In July 2023, the Tablets for Kids (T4K) course was launched in Burundi. It marked a significant step in breaking barriers, empowering young minds with essential ICT skills, integrating them into the information society, and fostering their overall development.

The children had the chance to familiarize themselves with technology, have fun, and accomplish different «missions» that taught them about photography, videography, drawing, music creation, internet research, writing, mathematics, and much more. This diverse range of activities not only enhances their technical abilities but also promotes creativity and critical thinking. The enthusiastic enrollment of over **350 students** reflects the success of our educational approach and the positive impact of our collaborative efforts with all stakeholders at the CUBWENGE DU lab.

One of the students, Amina, a 12-year-old participant, shared her experience:

“*Joining the T4K course has been amazing for me. Before this, I had never used a tablet before. Now, I can take photos, make videos, write, draw pictures, and even use my tablet to study. The teachers are very nice and help us a lot. Learning is so much fun, and I feel happy and excited to use these skills. Thank you, ST Foundation, for bringing this to us*”



We demonstrated our commitment to bridging the digital divide through the initiative, empowering the next generation in high-risk contexts where we are often the only alternative. By providing these essential tools and skills, we pave the way for a brighter future where every child can succeed in today’s digital world.

SOCIETY'S DIGITALIZATION PROGRAM: FOCUS ON FRANCE AND ITALY

The Society Digitalization Program entered the fourth year of activity, maintaining its focus on France and Italy.

France



In 2023, France made significant strides in addressing digital poverty. Thanks to a strong partnership between the Foundation and ST sites in France, nearly 1,000 computers were donated to various associations and organizations across the country. Over 50% of those donations went towards helping children and students who are affected by digital poverty, a growing issue in today's society.

These donations have significantly impacted, with an estimated 9,000 indirect beneficiaries touched during the year. These donations were only made possible through the strong partnership that has been developed between the Foundation and ST sites in France. The partnership allowed for a coordinated effort to address digital poverty and provide access to technology for those who need it most.

In addition to the donations, agreements were signed with several organizations, including UGA (Univesité Grenoble Alpes), la Fondation Apprentis d'Auteuil, Emmaus Connect, and the Red Cross Paris 18e. These agreements have helped and will continue to help expand the reach of the Foundation's efforts and provide even more resources to those in need.

The efforts to promote digital literacy extended beyond the DU labs as well. Two workshops were conducted in Grenoble to introduce children to coding, an important skill in today's digital age. These workshops provided a fun and engaging way for children to learn about coding and technology.

Overall, 2023 was a year of progress in France's efforts to combat digital poverty and promote digital literacy. The partnership between the Foundation and ST sites in France, along with the agreements with various organizations, helped to expand the reach of these efforts and provide access to technology for those who need it most.

The key milestones of the Foundation in France in 2023:

- Donation of nearly **1000 computers** to various associations and organizations across the country,
- An estimated impact of **9,000 indirect beneficiaries'** lives touched by donations in 2023
- Agreements were signed with several major organizations, including UGA (Univesité Grenoble Alpes), la Fondation Apprentis d'Auteuil, Emmaus Connect, and the Red Cross Paris 18e.
- Two coding workshops for children carried out in Grenoble
- A strong support network has been established, with over **30 ST employees** or retirees involved in supporting and volunteering for the Foundation.

Italy

In 2023, the ST Foundation extended its collaboration with the ACRA Foundation to address digital educational poverty and school dropout through three major axes of intervention:

- 1 Promoting coding as an Interdisciplinary Approach:** The Foundation strengthened STEM and digital citizenship abilities by incorporating coding into formal schooling. Within the framework of Civic Education, this strategy aimed to equip students with problem-solving skills while promoting digital citizenship.
- 2 Guiding Towards Digital Careers:** The organization encouraged students to explore digital professions, motivated them to pursue further studies, broke gender stereotypes, and created an inclusive educational environment.
- 3 Training ST Volunteers:** The Foundation trained ST volunteers in civic education, global citizenship topics, and coding as a pedagogical tool. This workshop gave volunteers the knowledge and techniques to engage with students effectively.

Volunteers were significantly involved across all three areas of work. This included collaborating in creating training materials, promoting coding in schools, co-leading classroom workshops, and sharing work experiences for activities focused on career and digital profession guidance.

The Coding & Learning



a. Development phase

In comparison to the coding activities conducted in 2022 under the guidance of the Research Center on Media Education, Innovation, and Technology (CREMIT) at the Catholic University, several key developments were implemented in 2023. The core idea was to consolidate and disseminate coding workshops to create a practical course adaptable to any class or subject using various tools, including unplugged methods, generic robots, and Minecraft. In this direction, ST volunteers from Milan and Catania and ACRA's colleagues codesigned an educational kit to present coding activities applied to global citizenship education that teachers could use to promote the use of computational thinking to support younger generations in better collaborating, develop problem-solving skills, encouraging sustainability, and combating digital educational poverty and school dispersion. The improved kit was presented internally, and in spring 2023, new coding courses were ready to be started.

b. Cascading of the coding course

ST Lombardy volunteers actively participated in schools during «coding day» in the spring of 2023 (school year 2022/23). «Coding Day» is a light approach to present coding activities that may be included in classroom programming even after the year has begun. Instead, starting with the 2023–2024 academic year, Lombardy will offer coding courses in the classroom, which call for advanced scheduling with the schools.

Key results of the coding activities:

- Finalization of the pedagogical material;
- **Two coding days** were organized in Lombardy involving **155 students and 7 teachers** in 4 primary and 4 secondary schools;
- **Three coding training sessions** were conducted in Lombardy and Sicily for schoolteachers, engaging **18 teachers** in Lombardy, **63 teachers** for the online course, and **36** for the in-presence one in Sicily. We estimate that there are approximately **1,500 indirect beneficiaries**, taking into account the students who will benefit from the teachers' newly acquired skills as they integrate Coding into their teaching methods. The overall evaluation of the training sessions has consistently ranged between **8 and 9 on a scale of 10**.
- Four coding workshops were successfully held at the Gianni Rodari Institute of Nova Milanese, with the initiative benefiting **86 students**. These workshops aimed to prioritize inclusion and reduce inequality by identifying barriers and exploring potential solutions. We utilized the Alphabot robot and Scratch programming to achieve this goal, providing the students with an engaging and interactive learning experience.
- **42 volunteers** contributed to the success of the initiative.

Promotion of digital carers

This year, one of the main priorities was to promote digital professions. As part of this project, ACRA hosted in-person orientation sessions for secondary school students who indicated an interest in the digital sector. These workshops emphasized the value of soft skills necessary for succeeding in any career while introducing students to lesser-known jobs in the digital age. To provide speakers, we recruited volunteers, including members of the ST Foundation, who discussed their personal and professional paths from school to the workplace and their day-to-day job experiences. The main goal was to spark young people's interest and curiosity and help them make well-informed professional decisions. ACRA colleagues held online briefing sessions to ensure these testimonials were successful, aiming at the common goal of lowering school dropout rates by highlighting resilience as an inspiring and motivating characteristic. We paid close attention to breaking down gender stereotypes in the workplace and advocating for gender equality. To challenge conventional gender biases and encourage young people to pursue STEM and digital careers, we encouraged female experts from ST to participate in the initiative.

Key results of the promotion of digital careers activities:

- **11 workshops** were organized in different schools in Milan and Monza, reaching **169 students**. We were operational in the Vespucci, Galvani, and Torricelli Institutes. The main focus was on using the firsthand experiences of our volunteers to portray the world of digital careers.
- **11 ST volunteers** supported the initiatives, attending the different workshops.

Training of the ST Volunteers

Throughout the year, our focus was also dedicated to providing our ST volunteers with specialized training to enhance their competencies on particular subjects like the importance of civic education, global citizenship, and the application of coding as an innovative educational tool. These tailored courses aimed to empower our volunteers with a deep understanding of those contents that could help them further cascade the coding courses at school. By investing in the training and development of our volunteers, our goal was to create a dedicated and informed team capable of passing on these vital competencies to the communities we work with.

Key results of the training

- **One online training** session was organized for Sicily, and it reached **16 volunteers**.
- **Two in-presence courses** were organized for Lombardy, engaging **10 volunteers**.

ENHANCING GLOBAL REACH: THE ITU ALLIANCE AND DIGITAL INCLUSION

In 2023, the ST Foundation formally partnered with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), marking the beginning of a significant cooperation. This historic partnership was presented at the Global Digital Transformation Centers (DTC) Workshop in Cebu City, the Philippines. The event was distinguished by a unique fusion of modern strategies and global ideas. The workshop, jointly organized by ITU, Cisco, and the Department of Information and Communication Technology of the Philippines, provided an ideal forum for sharing experiences, discussing implementation strategies, and looking at creative approaches to digital transformation. Giovanna Bottani spoke with distinction, clearly presenting the vision of the organization and the possible future ways of collaboration.

This partnership represents an important step towards crafting a more inclusive digital environment, leveraging technology to empower communities facing challenging circumstances worldwide. Moving forward, the ST Foundation and ITU are committed to intensifying their cooperation to enhance the Digital Transformation Centers initiative², with a strong focus on expanding global digital inclusion.

Under this new partnership, we have started two major projects:

1 **Bringing the ICBVI to Ghana:** the ST

Foundation orchestrated a three-week train-the-trainer course on the Introduction to Computer Basics for Visually Impaired People (ICB4VI). With ITU's backing and collaboration with the local partner GIFEC, Prof. Cristian Bernareggi and the master teacher Sada Kane facilitated the first session for 20 teachers from 16 different regions at the University of Ghana on November 13th. The primary aim was to equip teachers with the skills necessary to broaden digital literacy across marginalized and underserved communities nationwide. Concurrently, this initiative also enabled the training of the first group of visually impaired students, offering them an unprecedented opportunity to engage with computers. This strategic



NOTE

2: The Digital Transformation Centres (DTC) Initiative was launched in September 2019 by ITU in partnership with Cisco with the objective of supporting countries to strengthen digital capacities of citizens, particularly in the underserved communities

collaboration significantly amplified the reach and impact of our initiatives, contributing to the broader global effort to bridge digital divides. By addressing the needs of a highly marginalized group, the visually impaired, this project promoted inclusivity and equity in digital education, empowering the beneficiaries with essential skills for personal and professional development and fostering more significant participation in the economy and society, which is a fundamental aspect of sustainable development.

2 Empowering Senegal's Youth with Digital

Skills: supported by the ITU and the United Nations Federal Credit Union (UNFCU), this 4 month initiative was launched on November 20th, aiming to provide young people in Senegal with enhanced opportunities through crucial digital and coding skills vital for thriving in today's technology-driven landscape.



The project's primary goals included improving digital inclusion with a focus on access for girls, fostering youth creativity and readiness for the digital age, and promoting gender equality in ICT. This endeavor has involved selecting four schools in rural or peri-urban areas, engaging 400 female students first with the ICB course, and then developing a tailored coding curriculum using the VittaScience starter kits for the top-performing female students with the support of Professor Barthelemy Lukere from DRC. The project's initial phase was completed between November and December, with the coding classes scheduled to commence in January 2024.

FOCUS ON THE EMPOWERING SENEGAL'S YOUTH WITH DIGITAL SKILLS PROJECT: TESTIMONIES FROM THE FIELD

We now focus on the educational initiatives we developed in Senegal, illustrated through the voices of our students and teachers. This project aimed to equip young minds with essential digital skills, which were gateways to new possibilities in a world driven by technology. Many participants started our courses without any prior exposure to computers. Their journeys were transformative, showcasing growth in technical skills, confidence, and life aspirations. The culmination of our courses in tangible, hands-on projects that challenged students to apply their new skills to solve real problems highlighted the impact of our training. The following testimonials offer a window into our efforts, sharing stories of empowerment, educational opportunities, and career aspirations expanded thanks to the skills acquired.

Oumou,
ICB teacher, Guinguineo center



Teaching basic computer skills isn't just about technology; it's about opening doors to new possibilities. Our goal was simple yet profound: to help students, many of whom had never touched a computer, navigate and master essential digital tools. From writing documents in Word to managing data in Excel and creating presentations in PowerPoint, we equipped them with the skills necessary for modern communication and problem-solving. The impact of this knowledge was clear in their final tests, where high pass rates affirmed the value of our instruction.

It's encouraging to see the confidence blooming in our students as they move from curiosity to competence. High school students, college attendees, and local entrepreneurs have transformed from passive learners to active creators, eager to apply their new skills in diverse settings. Parents in the community have expressed immense gratitude for the opportunities these courses provide, often free of charge, which is crucial in a place like Guinguineo.



Rama,
coding teacher, Guinguineo center



Our coding courses are designed to lay a solid foundation in programming by introducing students to essential languages such as Python, JavaScript, Java, and C++. These languages were chosen to align with our curriculum and to equip learners with the skills necessary for effective programming. The creativity of our students was demonstrated in projects where they engineered a multi-colored blinking LED display, utilized buzzers to generate sound effects, and programmed text displays on an LCD screen.

These projects showed them their technical skills and ability to apply their knowledge. Throughout the courses, we've seen a remarkable improvement in students' problem-solving capabilities and logical thinking. This progress contributes to their confidence and competence in tackling complex challenges. The courses have impacted the students' motivation and career aspirations, particularly in computer science. The opportunity to master coding, a rare skill in our region, positions them advantageously for future academic pursuits and professional careers in technology.

Yacine,
ICB and coding student, Rufisque center



I am Yacine Ndao, a cyber-security student at the Virtual University of Senegal. Participating in the ICB and coding courses at the CDEPS Rufisque center was transformative. We jumped into computer basics like Windows, Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. These skills have proven invaluable, enabling me to assist my father with his digital correspondence and enhancing my academic projects with professional-looking presentations and documents. A standout experience was our coding course, where we brought abstract concepts to life by programming

devices to perform tasks like lighting lamps and displaying messages. One memorable project involved creating a 'smart bin' that underlined the practical impact of coding in solving real-world issues. These courses didn't just enhance my technical skills; they expanded my vision of my future in cybersecurity. They've inspired me to pursue innovation in technology, proving that coding is a powerful tool for empowerment and problem-solving, especially for girls in my community. To anyone intrigued by computer science, I'd say dive into the world of coding, it is vast and offers endless opportunities to create and innovate.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF ST FOUNDATION PROJECTS TO THE UN'S 2030 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

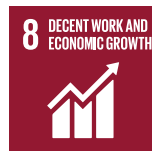
The Global Goals, often referred to as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), were unanimously adopted by United Nations Member States in 2015. By 2030, these ambitious targets are intended to end poverty, protect the environment, and ensure prosperity and peace for all. The objectives tackle the pressing need to involve all stakeholders in the transition to sustainable development, focusing on the negative social and environmental effects that are most common in the Global North.

Our dedication to these global goals is anchored by the ST Foundation's DU Program, which has made significant progress in areas essential for sustainable advancement:

Our dedication to these global goals is anchored by the ST Foundation's DU Program, which has made significant progress in areas essential for sustainable advancement:



Our efforts focus on underprivileged areas in developed and developing nations. We provide free access to necessary resources and educational opportunities, enabling people to succeed both personally and professionally. The qualifications granted to our alumni/students upon completion of the course are essential in improving their employment prospects, especially in the African countries where we operate.



Our initiatives are designed to promote economic growth. The digital skills developed through our programs empower our beneficiaries to have access to better jobs and advance their careers with digital tools and platforms. By equipping individuals with these competencies, we are fostering a workforce ready to meet the challenges of today's economy.



The DU Program strives to enhance access to learning while elevating standards through technology. Our learning pathways foster intellectual development by providing students with essential knowledge and skills. Additionally, our Train the Trainer programs help educators refine their teaching methodologies and soft skills, thereby boosting their instructional impact in the classroom.



The DU Program gives different groups the tools and resources to complete projects successfully. Our steadfast commitment guarantees that no one is left behind, allowing all recipients to use IT resources efficiently and enjoy their advantages.



We are committed to expanding access to high-quality education for women across Africa, Asia, and Europe, reflecting our dedication to diversity. Our programs demonstrate a nearly balanced gender participation, with women constituting 47% of the attendees. This aligns with our focus on fostering gender parity within the educational system.



Recognizing the importance of cooperation and unity, we have intensified our commitment to teamwork and innovative thinking across all initiatives. This renewed focus is exemplified by our goal to create even more strategic partnerships like the one with the International Telecommunication Union to extend the reach and impact of our initiatives. These collaborations are pivotal in advancing our shared objectives and driving sustainable impact.

By integrating these components, the DU Program effectively advances the worldwide agenda for sustainable development, resulting in significant and long-lasting transformation.

COMMITMENTS AND VISION FOR THE FUTURE

As we mark two decades of impactful initiatives and assess our achievements, the ST Foundation reaffirms its unwavering commitment to expanding our influence and fortifying our impact. Our future vision is firmly rooted in inclusivity, empowerment, and sustainable development, in alignment with global goals to narrow the digital gap and promote digital literacy across diverse communities. We unequivocally outline our core commitments and future vision to steer our continued endeavors:

- Promoting gender equality and empowerment: building on our success in advocating for gender equality, we will implement ad hoc initiatives to empower women through technology. Our programs will prioritize providing quality educational resources for preparing women for new career paths in the technology sector.
- Enhancing economic opportunities through advanced digital education: to equip our beneficiaries with high-demand skills, we will continue to enrich our curriculum with new and updated content essential for the current and future job markets. This effort aims to increase employability and potential for career advancement, contributing to economic growth and individual empowerment.
- Ensuring inclusive access to our programs: our commitment to inclusivity remains solid. We will develop measures to guarantee comprehensive access to our programs, principally for remote and marginalized communities. This includes improving accessibility for individuals with disabilities, ensuring that all members of society can benefit from digital education.
- Strengthening international collaborations: building on our fruitful partnership with the ITU, we aim to establish further alliances to enhance our impact. These partnerships will focus on exchanging information, resources, and technologies to address global issues more efficiently and sustainably.
- Improving transparency and impact assessment: to maintain accountability and efficacy, we will enhance our monitoring and evaluation procedures. This includes transparent reporting and rigorous impact assessments to ensure our initiatives meet their objectives and deliver tangible benefits to our beneficiaries.

- Fostering community engagement and support: we recognize the crucial role of local community cooperation in the success of our programs. Our approach involves forging strong partnerships with regional entities, ensuring that our initiatives are tailored to meet specific local needs. This collaborative effort will enhance the sustainability and scalability of our projects.

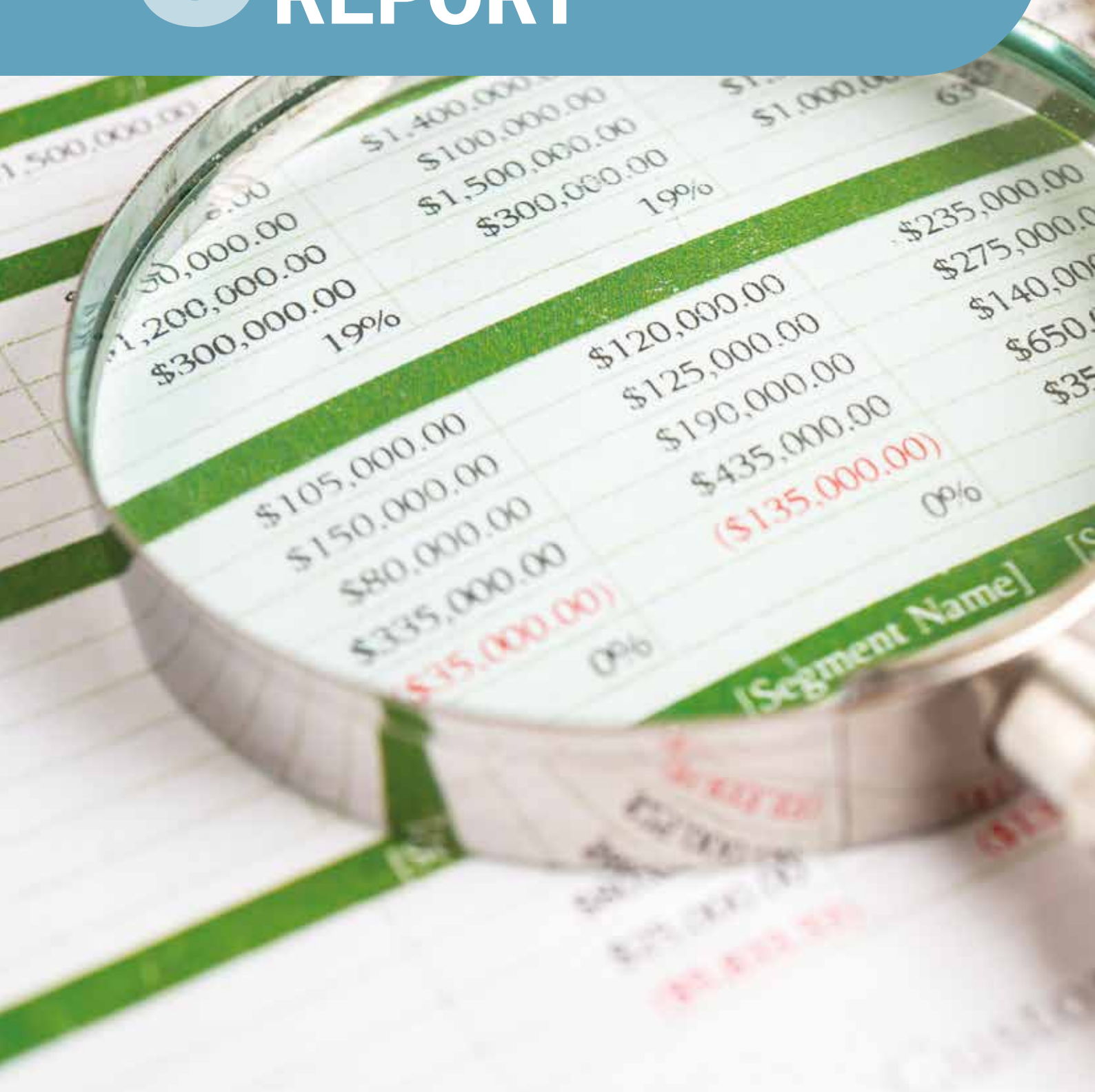
What's next?

Our vision for the future is a world where digital literacy and technology are accessible to all, bridging socio-economic gaps and fostering sustainable development. We are dedicated to transforming lives through education and technology, driving progress, and creating opportunities for personal and professional growth. By expanding our reach and deepening our impact, we aim to build a future where every individual can participate fully in the digital age. Together with our network of partners, donors, and supporters, we invite everyone to join us in this vital journey. Let's expand the horizons of what we can achieve and make a lasting impact that bridges the digital divide, laying the foundation for enduring global development.

Uniting Hearts, Bridging Futures! This powerful motto encapsulates our spirit and commitment as we look toward the future, inviting others to join our mission of making digital equality a reality for all. Every connection we make is a step towards a more inclusive world where technology empowers every heart and mind it touches. Let's bridge the digital divide together.



5 FINANCIAL REPORT



\$1,200,000.00	\$300,000.00	19%	\$1,400,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$1,500,000.00	\$300,000.00	19%
\$105,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$335,000.00	0%	(\$135,000.00)	0%	0%
\$120,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$190,000.00	\$435,000.00	(\$135,000.00)	0%	0%	0%
\$235,000.00	\$275,000.00	\$140,000.00	\$650,000.00	\$35,000.00			



[Item 3]



Returns	Total Income
3	2
	1



The financial statements are prepared in accordance with Swiss legal provisions. The ST Foundation is dedicated to enhancing its operational efficiency to ensure quality and transparency in its financial reporting. In 2023, the total amount of grants reached USD 1,253,920. This financial data corresponds to specific donations funding the Digital Unify Program, which operates in the following countries: Brazil, Burundi, China, Democratic Republic of Congo, France, Germany, India, Italy, Malaysia, Morocco, the Philippines, Senegal, and Sierra Leone.

STMicroelectronics Foundation

Geneva

Review Report to the
Foundation Board on the

Consolidated financial statements
as of 31 December 2023

Report on the Review

of Consolidated financial statements to the Foundation Board of STMicroelectronics Foundation

Geneva

According to your request, we have reviewed the consolidated financial statements (balance sheet, operating statement and notes) of STMicroelectronics Foundation for the period ended 31 December 2023.

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Management. Our responsibility is to issue a report on these consolidated financial statements based on our review.

Our review was conducted in accordance with the Swiss Auditing Standard 910, which requires that a review be planned and performed to obtain limited assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement. A review is limited primarily to inquiries of company personnel and analytical procedures applied to financial data and thus provides less assurance than an audit. We have not performed an audit and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the consolidated financial statements are not in accordance with Swiss law.

PricewaterhouseCoopers SA



Patrick Wagner



Alexandre Lemonnier

Geneva, 08 May 2024

Enclosure:

- Consolidated financial statements (balance sheet, operating statement and notes)

PricewaterhouseCoopers SA, avenue Giuseppe-Motta 50, case postale, 1211 Genève 2, Switzerland
Téléphone: +41 58 792 91 00, www.pwc.ch

PricewaterhouseCoopers SA is a member of the global PricewaterhouseCoopers network of firms, each of which is a separate and independent legal entity.



Consolidated Financial Statements

Company	STMicroelectronics Foundation
Financial year	2023
Closing date	31.12.2023

Consolidated Balance sheet as at 31 December

Assets	Note	USD		CHF	
		2023	2022	2023	2022
Current assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	5	752 155	885 497	629 930	816 428
Marketable securities	6	11 781 586	10 480 852	9 867 078	9 663 346
Other Receivables	7	29 280	10 223	24 505	9 426
Total current assets		12 563 001	11 376 572	10 521 513	10 489 199
Total assets		12 563 001	11 376 572	10 521 513	10 489 199

Liabilities	Note	USD		CHF	
		2023	2022	2023	2022
Current liabilities					
Payables and accruals	8	335 389	282 213	280 888	260 200
Total current liabilities		335 389	282 213	280 888	260 200
Equity					
Donated Capital		11 273 495	11 273 495	11 000 000	11 000 000
Specific reserve funds		750 000	750 000	662 400	662 400
Profit brought forward	9	-929 136	1 267 471	-1 433 401	461 619
Result for the year		1 133 253	-2 196 607	11 626	-1 895 020
Total Equity		12 227 612	11 094 359	10 240 625	10 228 999
Total liabilities		12 563 001	11 376 572	10 521 513	10 489 199

STMicroelectronics Foundation

Consolidated Operating statement for the financial year ended 31 December

Note	USD		CHF		
	2023	2022	2023	2022	
Income					
Donations	10	1 341 740	1 271 774	1 212 128	1 208 864
Expenses					
Project-associated expenses	11	-1 253 920	-1 208 170	-1 132 791	-1 148 406
Operating expenses	12	-214 047	-244 146	-193 370	-232 069
Earnings before financial result		-126 227	-180 542	-114 033	-171 611
Financial result :					
Gain/ (Loss) on marketable securities		1 285 665	-1 987 003	1 161 470	-1 888 713
Interest - Other Income		50 992	50 965	46 066	48 444
Bank fees and commissions		-77 177	-80 027	-69 722	-76 068
Currency translation adjustment				-1 012 155	192 928
Result for the year		1 133 253	-2 196 607	11 626	-1 895 020

Notes to the consolidated financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December

1. Presentation

STMicroelectronics Foundation (STF) is a Foundation incorporated in Switzerland, registered in the Swiss Trade Register on October, 12 2001 and with registered office in rue du Rhône 65, c/o Me Guy-Philippe Rubeli, attorney.

The Foundation's scope is to develop and support, in Geneva as well as in Switzerland and internationally, the research, spearheading and awareness of the knowledge of modern sciences, especially for what concerns high technology, in a social, human and environmental perspective, as well as the protection of the environment and the research in the field of ecology. The Foundation is committed to the promotion of the Digital Unify program, aiming at spearheading the benefits of digital technology by offering free of cost the access and training to people who have no knowledge of computer technologies and internet. Throughout 2023, active operations have been implemented in the following countries: Brazil, Burundi, China, Democratic Republic of Congo, France, Germany, Ghana ITU, India, Italy, Malaysia, Morocco, the Philippines, Senegal, Senegal ITU and Sierra Leone.

Since 2019, STF is operating in India and Philippines through separate legal entities while under the control and supervision of the Board of Directors overseeing global STF and in consequence the financial statements of 2019 were prepared on a consolidated basis. In 2020, Fondation ST pour le Maroc, a separate legal entity under the control and supervision of the Board of Directors became fully operational.

The entities consolidated are:

- STMicroelectronics Foundation, Switzerland
- STMicroelectronics Foundation, India
- STMicroelectronics Foundation Branch, Philippines
- Fondation ST pour le Maroc, Morocco

2. Organization

- a) Board members :
- Palella Pietro - President
 - Notarnicola Giuseppe - Treasurer
 - Bozotti Carlo
 - Champseix Jean-Louis
 - Dardanne Claude
 - Decca Mauro
 - Duréault Patrick
 - Duthell Alain
 - Fox Pietro
 - Rubeli Guy-Philippe
 - Sirtori Silvio

- b) Board secretary :
- Orsucci Alessandro

The board members are not remunerated.

- c) Fiscal situation :

The Foundation is exonerated of tax on its benefits and its capital according to article 9, alinea 1, letter f of the LIPM.

- d) Audit

The statutory auditor is PricewaterhouseCoopers SA, avenue Giuseppe-Motta 50, 1211 Geneva.

- e) Capital of the foundation

The initial capital of the foundation is CHF 3'000'000.

3. Significant consolidation accounting policies

The foundation's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the statutes of February 17, 2011 and the applicable provisions of the Swiss Code of Obligations (art. 957 to 963b) effective since January 1, 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared using historical cost principles and are presented in US dollars since 01.01.2018. Except for marketable securities that are carried out at their stock market value at the end of each reporting year.

Income from financing contracts signed between donors and the foundation is recognized once they are received.

Since the first of January 2018, the financial statements are presented in US dollars. The resulting exchange differences are recognized in the operating statement on the line "Currency translation adjustment". Conversion rates used for comparative figures in CHF in these financial statements are :

Notes to the consolidated financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December

Balance Sheet

2023	2022
USD	USD
0.8375	0.922

Operating Statement

2023	2022
USD	USD
0.9034	0.9505

4. Employees

The foundation has no employees and therefore has no debts to a pension fund.

5. Cash & cash equivalents

	USD		CHF	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Bank accounts	752 155	885 497	629 930	816 428
	752 155	885 497	629 930	816 428

6. Marketable securities

The Foundation's funds are primarily invested in marketable securities. The investments are split in two portfolios, one with main exposure in USD, another one with main exposure in EUR. The securities are recorded in the books at their purchase value, with the exchange rate of the day of purchase. At the end of each accounting year, they are reevaluated at their stock market value, allowing to estimate the capital gain or loss (unrealized) on the stock market rate and exchange rate.

7. Receivables

	USD		CHF	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Loan	7 200	-	6 030	-
Other Receivable	22 060	10 223	18 475	9 426
	29 260	10 223	24 505	9 426

8. Payables and accruals

	USD		CHF	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Auditing fees	17 194	16 291	14 400	15 020
Accruals for bookkeeping fees	1 887	1 380	1 581	1 272
Other payables	316 307	264 542	264 907	243 908
	335 389	282 213	280 888	260 200

9. Profit brought forward

	USD		CHF	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Profit brought forward	-929 136	1 267 471	-1 433 401	461 619
Result for the year	1 133 253	-2 196 607	11 626	-1 895 020
	204 117	-929 136	-1 421 775	-1 433 401

Since 2019, STF consolidates the entities STF India and STF Philippines and since 2020 the entity Fondation ST pour le Maroc. The impact on the profit brought forward 2023 is :

	USD	CHF
Retained Earnings STF	-972 423	-1 433 401
Retained Earnings STF India	21 001	
Retained Earnings STF Philippines	9 384	
Retained Earnings Fondation ST pour le Maroc	12 902	
Total	-929 136	-1 433 401

Notes to the consolidated financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December

10. Donations

	USD		CHF	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
STMicroelectronics Int. N.V.	915 144	896 351	826 741	852 012
STMicroelectronics, India	115 622	114 869	104 453	109 187
STMicroelectronics, Morocco	293 500	254 698	265 148	242 099
STMicroelectronics, Italy	7 457	5 353	6 737	5 088
STMicroelectronics, France	17	3	15	3
Donation from third parties	10 000	500	9 034	475
	1 341 740	1 271 774	1 212 128	1 208 864

Donations and grants are recognized when they are received

11. Project-associated expenses

	USD		CHF	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Brazil	555	2 408	501	2 289
Burundi	52 197	54 603	47 155	51 902
China	8 888	17 646	8 029	16 773
Congo D.R.	5 712	12 235	5 160	11 630
France	187 704	150 801	169 572	143 341
Guinea	-	651	-	619
Germany	9 089	-	8 211	-
India	119 140	107 968	107 631	102 627
Italy	283 376	297 246	256 002	282 542
Malaysia	3 357	8 892	3 033	8 452
Morocco	297 872	257 523	269 098	244 784
Philippines	14 234	14 881	12 859	14 145
Senegal	111 460	122 118	100 693	116 077
Sierra Leone	110 359	108 016	99 698	102 673
Switzerland	49 977	53 182	45 149	50 551
	1 253 920	1 208 170	1 132 791	1 148 406

The foundation supports all the running costs of the different projects, paying for the equipment, the internet and electricity costs together with the trainers that deploy the courses, the technicians who do the maintenance and the local coordinators that work for the different local partners.

12. Operating expenses

	USD		CHF	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Consultancy fees	115 937	146 178	104 737	138 947
Audit fees	18 232	16 161	16 471	15 362
Accounting fees	3 925	5 725	3 546	5 442
Travel expenses	19 430	2 375	17 553	2 258
Other expenses	11 446	11 035	10 340	10 489
Taxes (mainly VAT)	45 077	62 672	40 723	59 572
	214 047	244 146	193 370	232 069

6 CONTACTS OF ST FOUNDATION

CONTACT

STMicroelectronics Foundation

39, Chemin du Champ des Filles
CH 1228 Plan Les Ouates - Geneva
Switzerland

Phone: +41(22)9302629

www.stfoundation.org

Email: info@stfoundation.org

BANK ACCOUNT

UBS SA CH-1211 Genève 2
IBAN CH52 0024 0240 4766 0610 J
BIC UBSWCHZH80A
STMicroelectronics Foundation



HELPING TO BRIDGE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

