

Clowns Without Borders International

# Annual Report 2018



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

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CWBI in Brief	2
Activities in 2018	3
• CWBI Project History and Map	3
• Joint Projects	4
• Strengthening our Partnership with UNESCO	5
Associative Life and Management	6
Financial Report	7

# CWBI in Brief

Clowns Without Borders International (CWBI) is an international, non-governmental, independent, and non-profit association, without any affiliations to religious or political organizations.

Founded in 2012, Clowns Without Borders International (CWBI) aims to facilitate communication and cooperation between Clowns Without Borders chapters around the world as well as to protect and support the common identity and the quality of the work of existing and future Clowns Without Borders chapters through accountability and governance.

Clowns Without Borders (CWB) gathers professional performing artists (clowns, musicians, magicians, dancers, acrobats, puppeteers, etc.) who offer their skills on a voluntary basis to bring laughter, dreams and poetry to populations around the world who live in areas of crisis including refugee camps and territories in situations of emergency.

CWBI chapters share a common mission: to offer joy and laughter to relieve the suffering of all persons, especially children, who live in areas of crisis including refugee camps, conflict zones and territories in situations of emergency.

**Clowns Without Borders International is comprised of 15 national chapters :**

Australia	Finland	Spain
Austria	France	Sweden
Belgium	Germany	Switzerland
Brazil	Ireland	UK
Canada	South Africa	USA

## 2018 in numbers



**101** Projects have been carried out during the year



**52** Different countries were visited



**1283** Shows were offered



**283 680** Children and adults attended CWB shows



**945** Workshops were conducted



**21 351** People participated in workshops

## Activities in 2018

The year 2018 marked an exciting time of transition for CWBI. After several busy years of ongoing recognition and development of successful collaborations between the national chapters and with external organizations, the international network decided to take some time to reflect on the long-term vision and development strategy of CWBI.

The decision of CWBI's International Coordinator to leave the organization after three years of involvement, and the successful completion of our outreach and documentation project supported by UNESCO were also an opportunity to assess the last three years, and make decisions on the structural and sustainable development of CWBI. CWBI General Assembly in July 2018 in Spain provided a key moment for reflection and planning. This was followed up by a successful hiring process for a new Coordinator during the last trimester of 2018. Meanwhile, the national chapters continued to implement quality projects around the world.

### CWBI Project History and Map

In 2018, we compiled a complete list of the projects conducted by CWB member chapters since the birth of its first chapter (Payasos Sin Fronteras – Spain) in 1993.

Since 1993, **1275** projects have been led in **123** different countries.

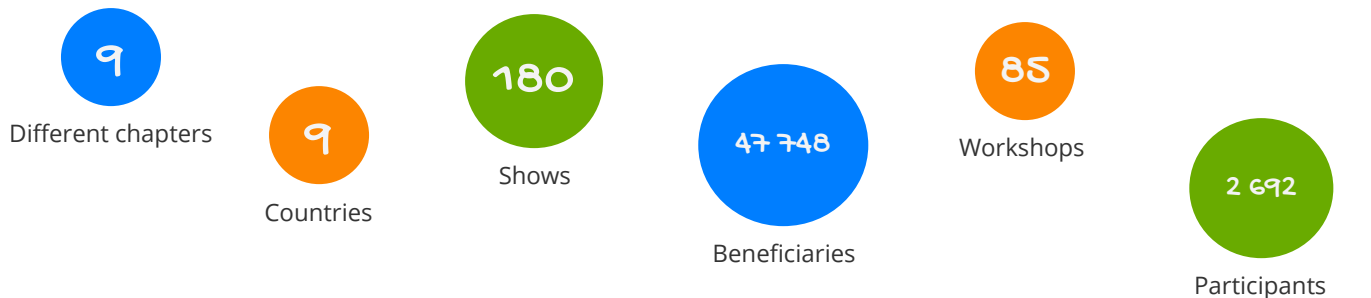


Information on all projects is available on our [website](#).

## Joint Projects

The aim of CWBI is to facilitate collaboration and communication between its national chapters, and a lot of shows have been created through joint projects. CWBI favors these initiatives because having artists joining from different nationalities and cultures enriches the projects.

**In 2018, 13 joint projects were led by CWB chapters in 9 different countries :  
Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, India, Mexico**



CSF Canada, and CWB USA, Guatemala, © CWB USA, 2018

In collaboration with field partners, CSF Canada and CWB USA worked together during the emergency mission in Guatemala to provide psychosocial support to the victims of the humanitarian disaster following the eruption of the Fuego volcano.

Four multidisciplinary artists performed in several IDP camps and hospitals, and conducted four workshops for first responders and civilians who helped during the disaster. This tour brought laughter and hope to more than 1920 people.



CWB UK and CUG Sweden, Bangladesh, © Edward Morgan, 2018

CWB UK and CUG Sweden collaborated in Bangladesh for a tour of 9 shows, all of which incorporated a basic hygiene message. This message became the theme of the show, as well as of various acts within the performance. The artists also developed a simple theme song for the show.

The shows were very successful and once again, the reaction from children, adults and staff was extremely positive. The team also completed two Train the Trainers workshops sessions of three days each, sharing their child-centered, playful activities with NGOs that work with children.



## Strengthening Our Partnership with UNESCO



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

CWBI has been a consultative partner of UNESCO since 2015.

2018 has been the closing year for our project implemented in 2016-2017 with the support of the UNESCO Participation Programme and named : "Fostering the diversity of cultural and artistic expressions by supporting the networking and international cooperation between clowns and circus-related artists."

This project was divided into three activities :

- 1) Organization of an international symposium: « How do we bring joy in crisis areas? »
- 2) Best practices handbook: « Miles of Smiles »
- 3) Creation of an e-library: « the Clown Cloud »

The first trimester of 2018 was dedicated to finalizing the evaluation report of this project, which was sent to UNESCO representatives in March, 2018.

In September 2018, Alexander Strauss (President) together with Anneli de Wahl (Treasurer) from CWBI joined "Another Perspective on Migration", an international forum of NGO's in official partnership with UNESCO which took place in Tunis.

CWBI participated in a panel about resilience, education and the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of The Child.



@UNESCO Forum group picture

"What really inspired me was that even if all of us have a different approach for addressing migration, we want the same thing. There is power in these 60 NGOs from all over the world wanting to make a difference".

Anneli De Wahl, Treasurer of CWBI

# Associative Life and Management

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The CWBI board is composed of one representative from each chapter and the steering committee is elected once a year. For the year 2018, it was voted as follows:

President: Alexander Strauss (Germany): alex.strauss@clownsohnegrenzen.org

Secretary: Sarah Liane Foster (USA): sarahlianefoster@gmail.com

Treasurer: Anneli De Wahl (Sweden) : anneli.dewahl@gmail.com

Four Board meetings took place during the year on: 13th of March 2018, 24th of May 2018, 6th of July 2018 and 20th of September 2018. The General Assembly happened between the 3rd and the 6th of June 2018 in Caldes de Montbui, Spain.

In 2018, CWBI had one employee (Emilie Faruya), as international coordinator until July 2018. Emily left during the summer 2018, so the last trimester of the year was dedicated to the recruitment process of a new coordinator. The board received 16 applications from 10 different countries/nationalities (10 women and 6 men) and did 4 job interviews.

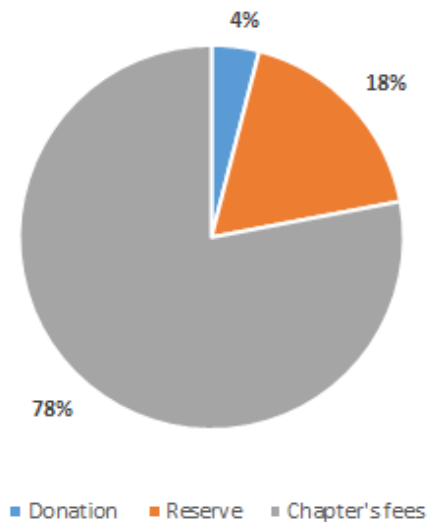
Since 2016, one French Civic Service volunteer has worked for the organization for 8 months of the year. The volunteer supports the international coordinator in the following areas: project coordination, communication, and fundraising.



Clowns Without Borders International's General Assembly 2018 in Spain, © Marta López Mas

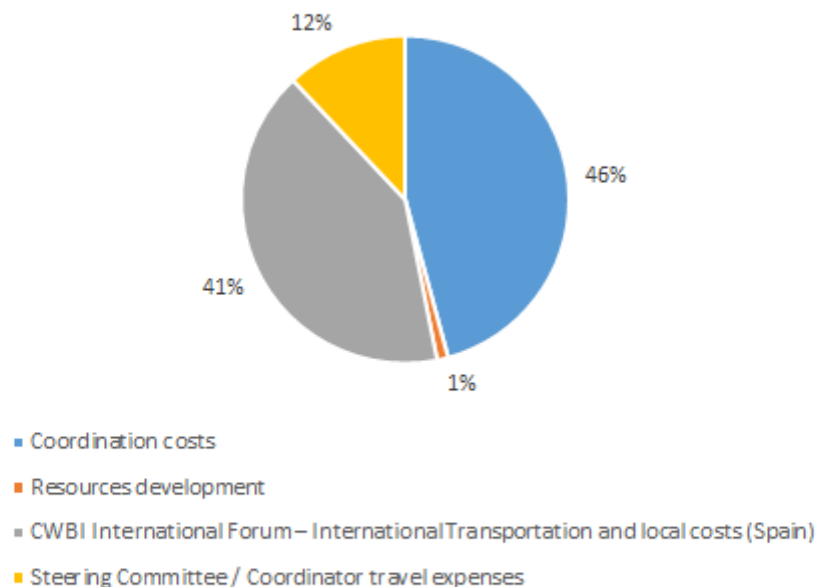
# Financial Report

## INCOMES (€)



**Total Income : 24172,728€**

## EXPENSES AND INVESTMENTS (€)



**Total Expenses And Investments: 15707,08€**

**Balance between income and expenses: 8 465,64€**



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