

Clowns Without Borders International

Annual Report 2017



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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 betrig work of existing and future Clowns Without Borders chapters through ac-countability and governance.

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

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 omnibet 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.

During 2017, CWBI has grown, particularly by welcoming a new chapter, leading projects to capitalize knowledge about clowns and humanitarians and strengthening partnerships with international and intergovernmental organizations.

2017 in numbers



89 Projects have been carried out during the year



44 Different countries were visited



1166 Shows were offered



269 648 Children and adults attended CWB shows



418 Workshops were conducted



10 412 People participated in workshops

CWBI'S CONTINUOUS GROWTH

Welcoming a new chapter: CWB Switzerland



Clowns Without Borders Switzerland was founded in 2015.

The Swiss team has performed more than 60 shows for refugees and displaced populations in Nepal, Greece and Switzerland with various partners in the field such as UNHRC, Save the Children, Terre des Hommes, Kam For Sud, NAG, and Accademia Teatro Dimitri. The Swiss chapter joined CWBI during the General Assembly in May 2017 and became our 15th member.



After CWB Switzerland became member of CWBI, one of its first projects was to bring joy to refugee families living in Switzerland. Over the course of five months, they offered one show and workshop per week in refugee centres in Losone.



CWB Switzerland, Nepal, © CWB Switzerland, 2017

ACTIVITIES IN 2017

The year 2017 was successful for Clowns Without Borders International (CWBI). It marks an ongoing growing worldwide recognition of our organization. Indeed, CWBI and its national chapters developed their collaborations with numerous aid organisations and intergovernmental institutions especially with UNESCO. Moreover, CWBI developed its own project with the creation of tools and resources: an handbook, and an online collaborative platform about clowns and humanitarian work.

CWBI Projects History and Map

In 2017, 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 **1 173** projects have been led in **119** different countries.

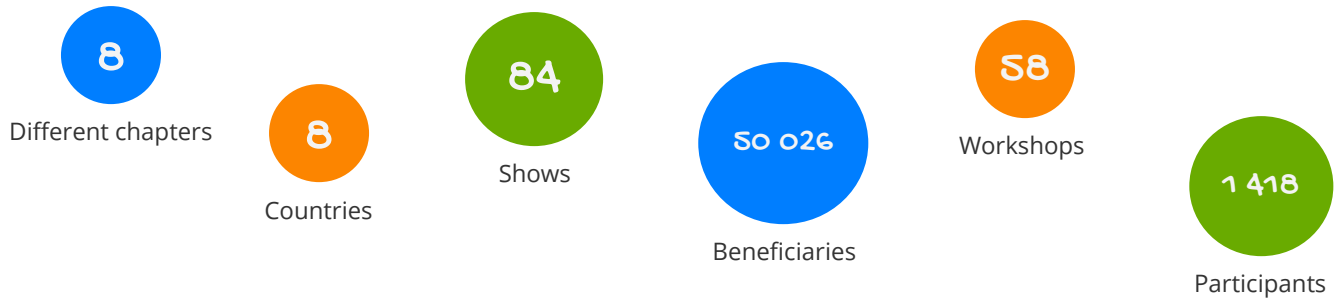


Information on all projects is available on our [website](#).

Joint Projects

The aim of CWBI is to encourage artistic collaborations 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 2017, 8 joint projects were led by CWB chapters.



KIR Finland and CWB Ireland, Greece, © Lighthouse Relief, 2017

In September, two chapters: Klovnit Ilman Rajoja (KIR) Finland and Clowns Without Borders Ireland went to Greece. During one week they offered a mixture of shows and workshops in Ritzona and Serres refugee camps. They performed for about 200 people.



CWB Australia and CUG Sweden, Rwanda, © Thomas Olsson, 2017

Rwanda is home to hundreds of thousands refugees, some displaced by the genocide in 1994, and others originating from DRC, Burundi, Uganda and South Sudan. Clowns Without Borders Australia and Clowner Utan Gränser (CUG) Sweden did a performance tour to the large refugee camps around Rwanda in collaboration with Gisenyi Acrobats (partner of CUG Sweden since 2009). They performed for 10 400 people.

Strengthening Our Partnership with UNESCO

CWBI has been a consultative partner of UNESCO since 2015. In 2017, CWBI participated in two conferences organized by UNESCO or the liaison committee NGOs-UNESCO:

- “The youth and its social impact” (May 2017 – Riyadh, Saudi Arabia)
- UNESCO 39th General Conference (November 2017 – Paris, France)



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Our presence at the UNESCO General Conference has led to a solicitation to join the working group to prepare a forum on migrants. The working group meetings started in January 2018.

« Fostering the diversity of cultural and artistic expressions by supporting the networking and international cooperation between clowns and circus-related artists ».

Clowns Without Borders International received the funding of UNESCO Participation Program 2016-2017 for this project, divided in three activities:

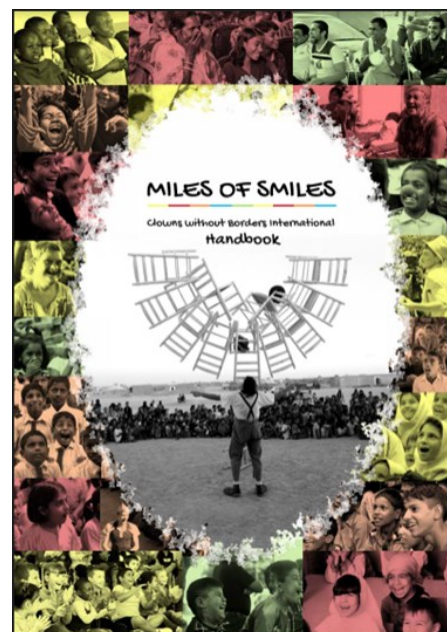
Good practices Handbook « Miles of Smiles »

The handbook is a compilation of knowledge from CWBI chapters. It contains education tools, artistic references, security rules, an evaluation protocol, and elements of reflection about artistic performances and humanitarian situations. The main objectives are to have a publication documenting CWBI's ways of working with people in crisis areas, including pictures and videos from field projects, and to standardize project procedures in order to react quickly and efficiently in case of crisis.

The aim of this handbook is to help our teams and field partners working in areas affected by crises all around the world, as well as artists who would like to lead similar projects.



To read it, click on the book.



Creation of an E-Library « Clown Cloud »

The E-Library is an online resource centre that enhances the visibility of the clown universe around the world and promotes living arts as a tool for peace and resilience in situations of humanitarian crisis.

The transmedia platform has three main objectives:

1. To acknowledge the existence of the figure of the clown as an important part of our global heritage.
2. To provide online resources for artists and groups of artists starting to work in clown-related performing and teaching. For example, CWB works with artists in Haiti, Rwanda, and many other countries, who are asking for help to find references and improve their artistic skills.
3. To promote the use of living arts as bringing a unique added-value to humanitarians and communities affected by emergency situations.



<http://www.theclowncloud.org/>

International Symposium - « How do we bring joy in crisis areas? »

CWBI organized an international symposium which took place in Schwangau (Germany) on the 21st of May 2017. It gathered 30 persons, including, members of Clowns Without Borders International as well as researchers studying clown traditions around the world. Several panel discussions were organized about artistic references, education tools, security, evaluation, and chapters' administrative structure, communication, funding).

During the symposium, Jethro Massey, a film producer, filmed short interviews of CWBI's members, documenting stories from the field, quick questions and answers that highlight elements of discussions from the symposium.

Below is a list of all videos made during the symposium:

CWBI overview: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-W9awFDqcao&feature=youtu.be>
Words for clown: <https://youtu.be/ctQfdjyMt5I>
Why does laughter make us feel good? <https://youtu.be/kjATtloMTaU>
Clowns noises: <https://youtu.be/ODk6eFHV2qs>
What is a clown: <https://youtu.be/sy1amjWFzS0>
Funniest words: <https://youtu.be/x6GRlinPx44>
What drew you to CWB? <https://youtu.be/CJ0CJ5vgBS0>
Clowns Without Words: <https://youtu.be/z-FHjgKSH3k>
What makes you happy when working with Clowns Without Borders ? <https://youtu.be/p08vf2PA10Y>
Favourite word: <https://youtu.be/EDkku01H4dM>
Where do you keep your nose? <https://youtu.be/ah1VhsZ5p50>
What keeps you going? <https://youtu.be/CcIVosNp9BQ>
A parade of joy, from Anneli (CUG Sweden): <https://youtu.be/Fohf9bjpv-4>
Birth of Payasos Sin Fronteras: <https://youtu.be/-9nVRKRlerE>
Laughter: <https://youtu.be/WYkjhztZd4c>
My first shows for refugees, Chiapas, 1987: <https://youtu.be/trnJsdWuel>
Joyful surprises where no one wants to go: <https://youtu.be/UalxLt9nRRA>
If we laugh together, everything will vanish ! <https://youtu.be/EHwS6ck9D7E>
United by joy: <https://youtu.be/ZrDzVhul9Hw>
Where are the clowns? https://youtu.be/1ek_7-RKXvA
Connection through fingers: <https://youtu.be/FJPvKg-04lg>
That's why: <https://youtu.be/s8vIkprOJFQ>
The Magic happens: https://youtu.be/mDa_9LkdOOs
Can we take the clown home? <https://youtu.be/ea9n07lopIQ>
Rock around the CloG: <https://youtu.be/UL1rWbBjIRI>
Raft trampolines: <https://youtu.be/8elmQK9t1mQ>
Metaphysic doubts of a red nose in the desert: <https://youtu.be/pe-roebgrSY>
"In my opinion": a child changes the director's mind: https://youtu.be/d485Sy_7AbM
Toys: <https://youtu.be/xgsZwlk5YkE>
The grandpa already knew it... <https://youtu.be/PlgcnPNF-5I>
Because of: <https://youtu.be/ShBgX1hZOUQ>
A clown can make a difference: <https://youtu.be/POOhCxnaXPc>
Working with a remote community: <https://youtu.be/Hz2WNYlg9-k>
Keep cool: <https://youtu.be/zIRIKoddhJs>
"Vai ter policia" or "Understanding our work": <https://youtu.be/MzHCo1TqEko>
Little by little we discover new clowns: https://youtu.be/_njqZzF54cs
The power of a girl: <https://youtu.be/kAWWh1rwxI7Y>
Story from Port-au-Prince after the earthquake of 2010: <https://youtu.be/Eg700fPkvYA>
What we learn from kids: <https://youtu.be/FNeSzZ1572I>
Reunited: <https://youtu.be/QKPhzw6NQo8>

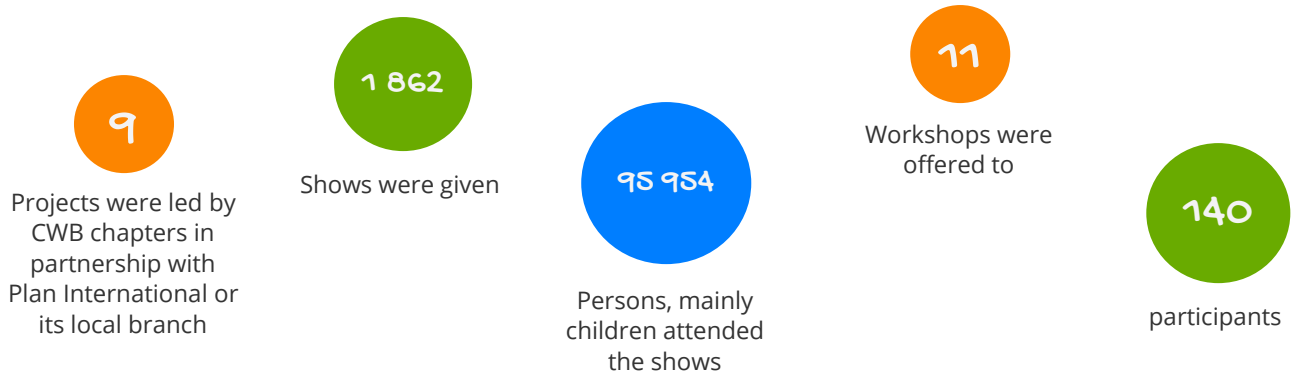


Developing the Partnership with Plan International

In 2015, Plan International and Clowns Without Borders International signed a first global Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to formalize a global partnership in providing psychosocial support to and with children and young people in development and humanitarian settings.

In October 2016, a year into the global partnership, Plan International and CWB International carried out a rapid evaluation to assess the partnership, and inform the review of the MoU. Surveys were distributed to all CWB International chapters and Plan International country offices who had been involved in joint projects between 2014 and 2016. Feedback on both programmatic and organizational aspects of the partnership was collected from CWB International chapters and Plan International offices. The evaluation coincided with the revision of the MoU, which took place from October 2016 to March 2017 and resulted in the new global MoU which was signed by both parties on in April 2017.

The partnership between CWB International and Plan International led to the implementation of many projects.



CWB Australia, CUG Sweden in partnership with Plan International, Myanmar, © CUG Sweden, 2017

ASSOCIATIVE LIFE AND MANAGEMENT

The CWBI board is composed of representatives from every chapter and the steering committee is elected once a year. For the year 2017 it was voted as follows:

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

Secretary: Sarah Liane Foster (USA): sarah@clownswithoutborders.org

Treasurer: Annabel Morgan (South Africa): annabel@cwbsa.org

Three Board meetings took place during the year on: February 2, September 25 and December 4. The General Assembly happened between May 19 and 22 in Germany.

CWBI has one employee (Emilie Faruya), the international coordinator. Since 2016, one volunteer works for the organization for, 8 months of the year. The volunteer supports the international coordinator in the following areas: project coordination, communication, and fundraising.

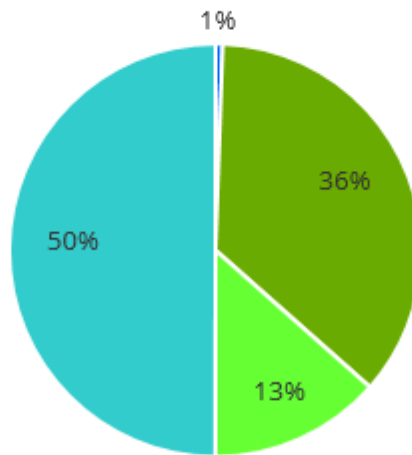
In 2017, the international coordinator made a trip to Barcelona in February in order to meet the webdesigner David Lasheras, CWBI accountant Jordi Rodés, and the Spanish chapter's team and four trips to Paris, including a joint trip with Alexander Strauss for the purpose of managing the bank account, meeting with the volunteer when she began her work with CWBI, attending the General conference of UNESCO, meeting with the e-library working group, and meeting with the French chapter's team.



Clowns Without Borders International's General Assembly in Germany, © Olivier Ouadah, 2017

FINANCIAL REPORT

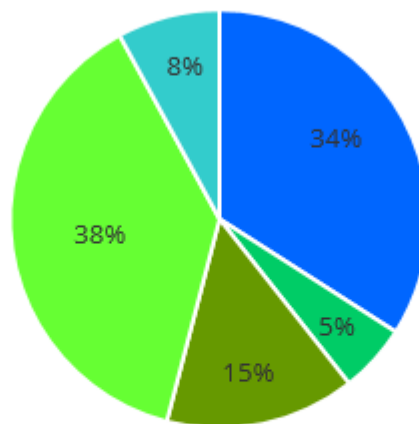
Incomes (€)



Total income: 31 435,39€

- Donations
- UNESCO Participation Programme
- Chapters' Participation to Forum accomodation and living costs
- Chapters' fees

Expenses and Investments (€)



Total expenses and investments:
29 764,45€

- Coordination costs
- Administrative costs
- Resources development
- CWBI International Forum - international transportation and local costs
- Steering Committee / Coordinator travel expenses

Balance between income and expenses: 1 670,94€

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