Would you like to invest in charitable causes and make your mark on the future.

By setting up a subfoundation within the ACCENTUS, EMPIRIS, or SYMPHASIS charitable umbrella foundation, you can get involved in your own personal way, without having to start a separate foundation. A subfoundation can be created within your lifetime or made part of your last will. Just like an independent foundation, you can define the charitable goal that your subfoundation will support. Purposes can include assisting disadvantaged persons, protecting animals and the environment, promoting research and science, or encouraging cultural projects and sports.

In addition to the purpose, you can choose the name of your subfoundation and its distribution pattern, i.e. whether only the profits are to be distributed or capital should be used as well.

A subfoundation thus offers similar options to a foundation of one’s own. However, you do not have to handle the startup and subsequent administration. The umbrella foundation guarantees long-term expert assistance for the subfoundation, along with the careful selection and control of the charitable projects that are supported. The costs of setting up and managing the subfoundation are paid mostly by the umbrella foundation.

ACCENTUS is primarily suited for subfoundations that are dedicated to charitable causes in Switzerland. EMPIRIS is ideal for subfoundations that promote non-profit projects in the areas of science and research. SYMPHASIS is designed for subfoundations that are devoted to charitable goals in developing countries.

Structure of the Umbrella Foundations
Advantages for Founders

- No new foundation required
  No expenditure of time and money required to establish own foundation.
- Tailor-made solution
  A subfoundation offers similar individual options to a foundation of one’s own.
- Low costs
  Thanks to low costs, there are more funds available for serving the charitable purpose.
- Eligible for tax deductions
  Donations are (where permitted by applicable law) tax deductible.
- Long-term support
  Assistance for the subfoundation and fulfillment of the founder’s goal are ensured for the long term.
- Many years of experience
  The umbrella foundations have many years of experience in searching for, selecting, and overseeing charitable projects.
- Distinguished Board of Trustees
  The Board of Trustees comprises prominent representatives from various fields of expertise.
- Asset management
  The donated funds are managed by reputable specialists.

Options for Founders

- Time frame
  The subfoundation can be established in your lifetime or made part of your last will.
- Naming
  The founder can choose the name of the subfoundation.
- Purpose
  The founder can define the charitable purpose of the subfoundation.
- Seat on grants committee
  The founder (or persons of his/her choosing) can have a seat on the grants committee and help select the projects to be supported.
- Mode of distribution
  The founder can choose whether only the income or the donated capital, as well, should be distributed.
- Donations
  The umbrella foundations can be appointed as beneficiaries of donations, last wills, or usufruct.
- Annual report
  On request, the founder will receive regular reports of the subfoundation’s activities.

Merger with Existing Foundations

Existing foundations often face the challenge of how to guarantee their long-term professional management without spending a substantial portion of the available funds in doing so. Merging with one of our three umbrella foundations – ACCENTUS, EMPIRIS, or SYMPHASIS – is one solution. The independent foundation is replaced with a subfoundation that has the same name and purpose. The potential benefits:

- Relief of the governing bodies of the merged foundation
- Involvement in selecting projects to be supported still possible
- The foundation’s purpose is guaranteed for the long term
- Access to the umbrella foundation’s expertise and network
- Reduce costs, thereby using more funds for the charitable cause intended by the founder
We would be happy to advise you on realizing your charitable projects and establishing your own subfoundation.