HOW IT WORKS

AN EXECUTIVE BOARD
The executive board, whose members come from inside and outside the foundation, meets three times a year to review the submitted projects’ feasibility and approve the foundation’s main orientations, new projects and choice of partners.

A BUDGET
The foundation’s annual operating budget is $1.5m, or $7.5m over five years.

COUNTRIES WHERE THE FOUNDATION HAD ONGOING PROJECTS IN 2016
Bangladesh  Vietnam  Cambodia

A TEAM
The four-person team is based in Paris and Croix, France and Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- Marie-Hélène BOIDIN DUBRULE, Vice-president
- Alain RENERS, General Delegate
- Juliette BATAILLE, Country Project Manager
- Amandine FURST, Bangladesh Project Manager

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THE WEAVE OUR FUTURE FOUNDATION
UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE FONDATION DE FRANCE

Design: Auchan Retail Communication Department, April 2016
Photo credits: Juliette Bataille
Auchan Retail set up Weave our Future under the aegis of the Fondation de France. Chaired by Auchan Retail Italy and Hungary President Philippe Baroukh, its purpose is to fund projects that improve industrial workers’ working and living conditions in developing countries.

The aim is to foster social progress by participating in the creation of innovative projects that improve the daily lives of workers and their families.

The foundation co-funds sustainable development projects with mill owners via stakeholders including NGOs, intergovernmental agencies such as the ILO* and governmental agencies like AFD**.

An Executive Board approves projects involving health, training, the improvement of working conditions or transport to the mills, often spelling out the conditions of their implementation.

Philippe BAROUKH

A PROJECT FUNDED IN CAMBODIA

Weave Our Future teamed up with AFD to help SIPAR create 18 libraries/resource centres in factories near Phnom Penh.

Set up over 30 years ago and supported by a very active Board of Trustees in France, the organisation helps educate people by encouraging them to read and provides expertise in publishing and in creating and managing libraries.

SIPAR sent bookmobiles to schools, the countryside, disadvantaged areas, hospitals and prisons before investing in textile mills.

In addition to books, SIPAR offers young workers nutrition, hygiene, illness prevention and reproductive education workshops to help them stay healthy and manage their lives better. The workshops take place on site with support from two NGOs, Care Cambodia and CWPD (Cambodian Women for Peace and Development).

The foundation jointly carries out the project with GMAC, the textile manufacturers’ association, which selects the candidate mills. It will run until the summer of 2018.

A $329,000 budget has been earmarked for the project over three years.

A 2015 RTM (Research and Training Management International) survey of 400 workers, 40 nurses and doctors and approximately 20 managers helped identify their priority needs and the main pathologies and occupational hazards to which they are exposed.

Budget: $23,000

The survey revealed the need for better training of the health care providers working in the mills’ dispensaries. Consequently, in 2016 WOF is training 100 nurses during four 13-day sessions and 100 workers over the course of two days.

Budget: $49,000

A project to provide 20,000 workers and their families with health insurance started with the local NGO GK Savar, which was founded in 1972 and operates two hospitals and five health centres in industrial areas near production zones.

The four-year project was launched in May 2016 with a $1,800,000 budget.

* ILO – International Labour Organisation
** AFD - Agence Française de Développement (French Development Agency)