



# COMMITTING TO THE COMMON GOOD

CORPORATE PHILANTHROPY  
2020 ACTIVITY REPORT



**BNP PARIBAS**

The bank for  
a changing  
world



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**MICHEL PÉBEREAU**

Honorary Chairman of BNP Paribas  
Chairman of the BNP Paribas Foundation

**JEAN-JACQUES GORON**

Head of Group Philanthropy  
General Delegate of the BNP Paribas Foundation

# ANSWERING THE CALL

**In 2020, the whole world was faced with an unprecedented health and social crisis. How did you react?**

**Michel Pébereau.** From the month of March, Jean-Laurent Bonnafé, Director and Chief Executive Officer of BNP Paribas, implemented an international action plan to tackle the situation and its consequences. Beyond the urgent action taken, for example donating a large amount of masks, the plan was rolled out in three areas: aid for hospitals and health care workers, help for groups of people hard hit by the crisis, and support for pupils and students with their schooling.

With a budget of 57 million euros, the plan has enabled us to meet needs in many countries, thanks in particular to the commitment of employees who got involved with volunteering on the ground. The BNP Paribas Foundation has been able to put in place around 20 conventions with the main associations and

foundations fighting social exclusion and able to act the quickest. That is without mentioning the Rescue & Recover Fund which contributed to this corporate philanthropy.

**Jean-Jacques Goron.** We have also extended this support to the artists we work with and with whom we have stayed in permanent contact. Not only have we maintained our aid, for artists, festivals and institutions alike, we have provided additional support to help them make it through the difficult period and allow to them continue their projects. At the same time, we have provided new funding for small associations working in disadvantaged neighbourhoods which our employees also contributed to personally via the Help2Help programme.

**What will you take away from this?**

**M.P.** All players in the charity and institutional sectors have shown the ability to adapt, accelerating the use of digital technology and new ways of communicating. On our side, we have been able to maintain the connection with our partners and the continuity of our decision-making committees, as well as make people

aware of our programmes by expanding audiences, for example our research programmes. This will all influence our ways of working in the future even if, of course, nothing can replace face-to-face contact, all the more so for artists.

**J.-J.G.** First of all I would like to underline our partners' commitment. The situation has also brought about new forms of solidarity, through the pooling of resources, for example the philanthropic coalitions between companies or foundations dedicated to refugees or to climate which we have joined. The same goes for the cultural sector where artists and programme coordinators have been able to use this time to rethink the issue of audiences beyond the usual performance locations and to reflect on a more sustainable and responsible approach.

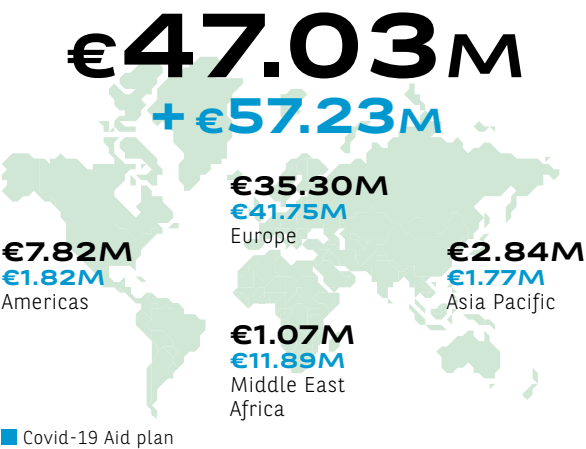
**How are you feeling as you prepare to leave the Foundation and hand over to Isabelle Giordano?**

**J.-J.G.** The last years have been immensely rewarding on a personal level thanks to the people I've met who put their trust in me within the bank and beyond. As its history proves, the Foundation has been able to grow and evolve to rise to new challenges, take risks, invent projects that respect its values and promote corporate philanthropy at a whole Group level. I know that Isabelle Giordano, backed by a talented team, is dedicated to pursuing this legacy while opening new doors. I wish them the very best for the future.

# BNP PARIBAS GROUP CORPORATE PHILANTHROPY IN 2020

BNP Paribas Group corporate philanthropy is involved in three areas – solidarity, the environment and culture.

## TOTAL CORPORATE PHILANTHROPY BUDGET



In 2020, the BNP Paribas Group's corporate philanthropy budget amounted to €104.26M, thanks to an exceptional Covid-19 plan of €57.23M, distributed across all continents.

On a like-for-like basis, the budget of €47.03M is up 5.61% on 2019. This sum is divided between the solidarity (74.9%), culture (14.5%) and environment (10.6%) sectors.

## BNP PARIBAS FOUNDATION

Total budget  
**€15.56M**

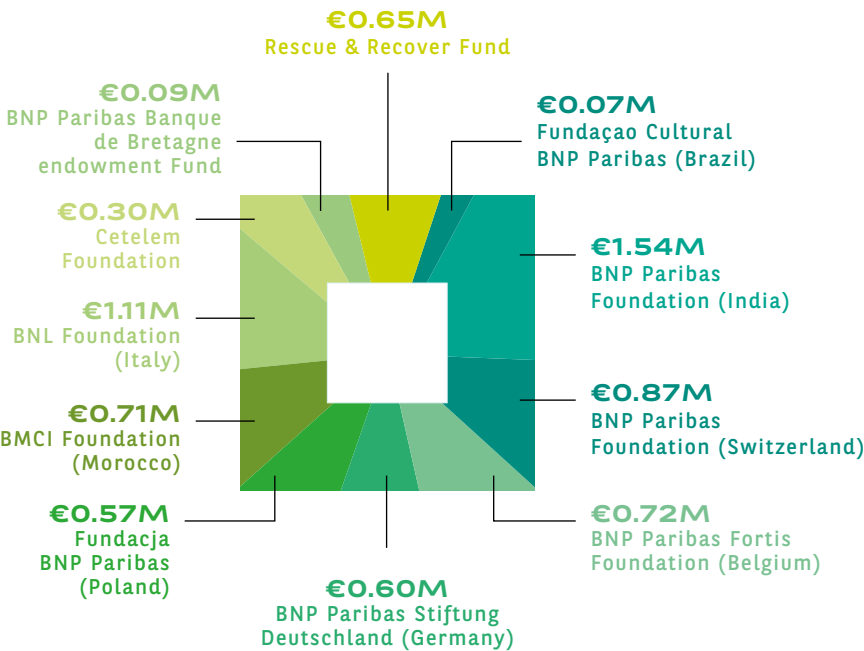
The BNP Paribas Foundation's budget in 2020 amounted to €15.56M, including €6.03M for the Covid-19 aid plan.



## THE GROUP'S OTHER FOUNDATIONS ACROSS THE WORLD

Total budget  
**€7.23M**

The Group has 11 other foundations and endowment funds, apart from the BNP Paribas Foundation. Their 2020 budget amounts to €7.23M.





# SOLIDARITY



Total budget of  
**€35.21**  
**M**

**€12.02M**  
Education – Equal opportunities

**€10.46M**  
Social inclusion

**€4M**  
Education & Research

**€3.39M**  
Microfinance

**€2.41M**  
Health

**€1.77M**  
Employee commitment

**€1.16M**  
Refugees

+

Covid aid plan  
**€56.92**  
**M**

**In 2020, BNP Paribas responded to the pandemic with an exceptionally wide-reaching plan.**

Firstly, the budget dedicated to solidarity, which employees also participate in, grew by 15.93% compared to 2019, for a total of 35 million euros. What's more, as part of the Covid Plan rolled out globally, nearly 57 million euros more were designated to the three key areas of this corporate philanthropy: education, social integration, and health, including medical research.

# Inventing tomorrow



Axelle Davezac, Executive Director of the *Fondation de France*, presents the importance of committed collective action from those working for solidarity, particularly in the most vulnerable areas, to respond to the health crisis.

## What impact has Covid-19 had on your area of activity and in the field of solidarity?

From the first weeks of the crisis, the needs facing those working on the ground literally exploded. To respond to the urgent situation, we took action by starting the operation *Tous unis contre le virus* (United together against the virus), an unprecedented partnership with the AP-HP (Paris public hospitals trust) and the *Institut Pasteur*. Our objective was clear: provide concrete support for hospitals and medical research, and help the most vulnerable in society. We were overwhelmed by the generosity and solidarity of the French people, even in times of uncertainty and concern for themselves and their families. It's a real sign of hope for the future!

## In these circumstances, what role do you think a partner like the BNP Paribas Foundation has to play?

The health crisis has highlighted the essential role that all private players serving public interest have to play: both local associations and individuals, as well as companies that have got involved through their foundation or by making donations. The BNP Paribas Foundation is used to accompanying multiple cultural, social and environmental projects in the long-term. In just a few weeks, it was able to draw up an international emergency plan to help those most affected by the pandemic. It managed to quickly carry out significant work in the areas of health, solidarity and education, notably to combat the digital divide.

## What have you learned and what will you take away from this crisis?

The crisis has made us all rethink how we act, both urgently and in the long term. All of our action programmes have been re-examined. The crisis has also strengthened the ties that unite us with sheltered foundations. It has highlighted the importance of collective action, and the relevance of collaboration between players that want to take efficient action. At the *Fondation de France*, we created a new programme entitled *Inventer Demain* (Inventing Tomorrow). Its goal is to support the most innovative and effective collective initiatives, particularly in the hardest hit areas. ■



# HELPING HEALTH CARE

WORKERS, SUPPORTING HOSPITALS



Caregivers of the  
Henri-Mondor  
hospital in Paris  
alongside the patients.

SOLIDARITY

Rolled out in Spring 2020, the BNP Paribas emergency plan prioritised the hospital and medical sector. In over 30 countries where the Group operates, donations, targeted funding for hospital equipment and funds allocated to research have contributed to the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic.

**“W**e must stand by those who care for us”, announced Jean-Laurent Bonnafé, Director and Chief Executive Officer of the BNP Paribas Group, when the pandemic crisis began.

## IN THE AMERICAS AND ASIA

BNP Paribas has come to the aid of local hospital structures across South America - Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico and Peru - and North America. BNP Paribas in Canada also provided emergency support to the Montreal University Hospital Center (CHUM) to help finance the *Biobanque québécoise de la COVID-19* project led by its Research Centre and aiming to identify determining factors for infection. It also provided Quebec public health services with

7,000 masks to tackle the shortage of equipment in Montreal hospitals. In Toronto, it backed the Toronto General & Western Hospital Foundation’s programme monitoring the health and well-being of professionals and staff. “We’re living in extraordinary times that are affecting us all, both on a professional and personal level. We’re proud to support different organisations and partners on the front line of this humanitarian crisis,” stated Sonja Volpe, BNP Paribas manager in Canada.

# A PEOPLE'S HEALTH ACADEMY IN SEINE-SAINT-DENIS



Health prevention actions in the departmental park of Sausset, near Villepinte.



Khadija, Pascal and Samia live in Aubervilliers, Bondy and Noisy-le-Grand, in the Parisian suburbs. They work in a school canteen, as a childcare assistant and as a video technician and they responded to the call for applications for the first *Académie Populaire de la Santé* (People's Health Academy). They joined the group of 20 ambassadors, along with 10 professionals in the health/social sector, in this innovative programme launched in 2020 by the local council with the support of the BNP Paribas Foundation as part of its Covid-19 plan. The goal is to invent more inclusive preventative health services that are better adapted to the living conditions of residents of Seine-Saint-Denis. Since January 2021, they have been participating in monthly training sessions and discussions to create a video that will be shown to the public to raise awareness. Each of them must also put in place an initiative to raise the awareness of people around them regarding a health subject of their choice. This participatory approach takes place in a department where the Group is the number one private employer, and which, while heavily paying the price of the Covid-19 crisis, is considered a medical desert, as the local council President Stéphane Troussel confirms.

## "ALL UNITED AGAINST THE VIRUS", AN ALLIANCE OF SOLIDARITY

On March 20th, 2020, the Fondation de France, the AP-HP (Public Hospitals of Paris) and the Institut Pasteur mobilized their networks within the "All united against the virus" alliance. The BNP Paribas Foundation supported their call for solidarity in favor of caregivers, researchers and field workers working with the most vulnerable, by donating €500,000 to the Fondation de France, of which €400,000 went to the Paris Public Hospital's Foundation for caregivers and research, plus direct aid of €1 million to the Institut Pasteur.







AP-HP  
medical staff.

## THE MATERIAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT THE BNP PARIBAS GROUP HAS PROVIDED TO HOSPITAL WORKERS IS REALLY VALUABLE.

*It tangibly contributes to the daily action of the establishment's health care workers. It is also proof of your solidarity with those who aren't counting their hours, nor their effort. This action testifies to your citizen-oriented instinct, which is something to be proud of.*

**Bernard Dupont,**  
General Director of  
Nancy CHRU

**In the US, the Group provided extensive support** for hospitals in several states. As Nandita Bakhshi, President and CEO of Bank of the West and co-CEO of BNP Paribas USA Inc, emphasises: "At this pivotal moment, the need for financial resources and personal protective equipment is great. We hope our contributions will help to improve the health and well-being of everyone on the front line and serve as a reminder to us that we are stronger together." In return, Dylan Sublett, president of the MLK community health foundation, which supports and funds the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Hospital, was keen to say what a major contribution the donation was. "It will go a long way towards protecting the health of those at our facility who are working on the front lines of the outbreak, but also healing bodies and supporting the mental health of our community, which is particularly vulnerable at this critical time." As president and Chief Executive Officer of Presbyterian intercommunity hospital (PIH health) in California James R. West saw the support from Bank of the West as recognition of the total commitment of the doctors, nurses and staff who are working hard to provide care against the pandemic. "These funds are very helpful in equipping us with equipment to keep our caregivers safe. It will also allow us to acquire the equipment necessary to provide state-of-the-art medicine for all of our patients and staff."

**In Asia, the Group has invested** in several countries, including India, notably funding the purchase of medicine and equipment for health care workers and patients at the K.J. Somaiya Hospital in Mumbai and the VHS Hospital in Chennai.

## IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

In Europe, a continent hard hit by the pandemic and where BNP Paribas has a large presence, the Group rolled out a number of measures including direct financial aid for hospitals, a total donation of 3 million masks and various subsidies to charities.

**In Italy, aid was shared between several hospitals,** including the Giovanni XXIII in Bergamo. Maria Beatrice Stasi, the hospital's Director General, explained that this support enabled her establishment to purchase a vascular ultrasound machine, 20,000 protective gowns, oxygen material, diagnostic equipment for the immunology service, 10 laptops and 50 webcams for remote consultations.

**In France,** efforts were concentrated on the Grand Est region that was particularly affected. Large quantities of masks were given to hospitals, including to parents wanting to visit their sick children, and donations were also made to hospitals in Nancy, Metz, Strasbourg, Mulhouse and Colmar.

**In Poland, BNP Paribas funded the purchase of screening tests** for health care workers, while in Ukraine its subsidiary UKRSIBBANK provided financial aid for 80 hospitals across the country acting as centres for coronavirus patients. The network of 32 local agencies enabled the bank to be in direct contact with each hospital in order to precisely meet its needs.

# COMING TO THE AID

## OF THE MOST VULNERABLE



A food distribution  
on Léon-Jouhaux  
Street in Paris.

The health crisis has accentuated needs for food, health care and housing for the most disadvantaged. BNP Paribas and its Foundation has provided huge aid to different associations, some of which are existing partners, faced with an influx of demand and a reduced number of volunteers.

**T**he Covid-19 support plan also responded to the need of all those who found themselves in great difficulty because of the health crisis.

### MEETING MULTIPLE NEEDS IN FRANCE

Six categories of people in difficulty have been helped: vulnerable and homeless people, refugees, students, isolated elderly people, women and children in danger, and people with disabilities.

***Rolled out in two phases, in spring and then autumn,*** this urgent support targeted the main French and international associations fighting against social exclusion. They include *APF France Handicap* who, with the financial support of the BNP Paribas Foundation, put in place a large-scale plan named *Solid@ire*. Faced with the increased needs of the groups concerned, the employees and volunteers of 96 units provided targeted responses: maintaining social ties through a phone hotline, providing aid and equipment to people at home that can't get out, and creating dedicated tools to communicate and digital events. Coline Poireau, volunteer with the Loire-Atlantique units, tells us: "My days are spent busy making phone calls to look after new members, organising outings for the leisure and watersports groups planned for after the lockdown and remotely leading the *Créa'telier* workshop with plasticine model





One of the walks organized by the association *Agir pour la santé des femmes* (ADSF).

Care and consultations for women are organized in this mobile truck.



## THIS AID IS A HUGE HELP TO DISTRIBUTE INTIMATE HYGIENE PRODUCTS

*which for every woman are essential not only for their physical health, but also their dignity. They are distributed through our different interventions, both during daily rounds and at our different centres. Our centre in the Barbès area of Paris receives each day nearly 200 women in situations of exclusion.*

**Nadège Passereau,**  
general delegate of *Agir pour la santé des Femmes*, and *La France s'engage* laureate.

making on the agenda!" This engagement was expanded with the operation *Un été comme les autres* (A summer like any other), which offered mini-getaways and a range of activities and was repeated during the autumn lockdown.

## SPECIFIC ACTION TO HELP WOMEN

The BNP Paribas Foundation has also supported the Fondation des femmes' initiatives to fight against increasing hardship due to the health crisis. In May 2020, it participated in the #ToutesSolidaires urgent fundraising efforts which financed concrete solutions to combat domestic violence (up by 40% during the first lockdown

according to police). Particular support has been given to the Maison des femmes in Saint-Denis and the Résonantes association which works with 15-24-year-olds and young adults to make them aware of violence against women and girls, and the Women-Safe centre which takes in women and children that are victims of or witness to violence. They were able to help 300 women during the crisis.

**In October 2020,** the Foundation made another donation to associations specifically providing period protection, an acute problem for women in precarious situations.



## HELPING REFUGEE INTEGRATION IN EUROPE

In response to the migration crisis, BNP Paribas has been engaged since 2015 in a European plan for social and professional integration of 12 million euros, centred around learning the language of the host country. Convinced of the necessity of this solidarity, the Group continued its efforts in 2020 in a context made more difficult by the pandemic. In Poland, 54 young refugees were followed during the school year as part of the Knowledge to the Max (Wiedza do potęgi) programme created in Warsaw by the BNP Paribas Foundation and the Ocalenie Foundation. They received personalised educational tutoring, help with homework, support for their families, cultural visits and sports and leisure activities, and for 14 of them, scholarships covering their school fees. In Frankfurt, the German branch of the BNP Paribas Foundation supported the integration through language learning programmes of the Joblingue association. This training gave refugees the opportunity to learn German, focusing on speaking, to then be able to find work. The programme has now helped more than 1,500 participants, 73% of which have now found a job.

## SOLIDARITY WITH INTERNATIONAL REACH

In Canada, BNP Paribas has made donations to food banks via Moisson Montréal, which serves 257 community organisations, and Second Harvest, which supports more than 500,000 vulnerable and marginalised people in the Greater Toronto area. In the United States, the Group supported the Food Bank of New York, the Food Bank for the Rockies and the American Red Cross who come to the aid of homeless people and those hit by the crisis. In Italy, aid was shared between Caritas, Sant'Egidio, Banco Alimentare, the Italian Red Cross, and social cooperative Onlus, in addition to the purchase of food vouchers for struggling residents of Florence. In Morocco, thanks to the support of the BMCI, the JOOD association unveiled a mobile shower and changing room truck for homeless people in May 2020. Meals are also provided and the INSAF has been distributing food packages to disadvantaged mothers in the isolated region of Chichaoua-El Haouz and looking after young girls out of school.

**Hit by another disaster,** Lebanon was able to benefit from the support of BNP Paribas via its Rescue & Recover fund. Following the violent explosions of 4 August 2020 in the port of Beirut which destroyed a large part of the city and left 200 people dead and 6,500 injured, the French Red Cross, Doctors Without Borders and CARE received a special Lebanon Emergency donation for their actions in the field.



The partner NGO Doctors Without Borders rescued the populations in Lebanon.



# PROMOTING ACCESS

FOR ALL



The long-distance school mentoring set up by the AFEV association made it possible to maintain links with the children.

**For BNP Paribas, developing actions to help young people receive an education and high-quality teaching is a priority objective, especially in the midst of the health crisis. Among the measures rolled out in 2020, large donations of IT equipment have helped reduce inequalities resulting from the digital divide.**

In the Grand Est region of France, the Foundation has been particularly focused on the Ecoles de la Deuxième Chance (Second Chance Schools, E2C) Strasbourg/Lorraine which offer young, unqualified and unemployed adults personalised support in partnership with social inclusion companies and players. BNP Paribas has given nearly 400 laptop and desktop computers and 200 printers to E2C in Lorraine, Strasbourg, Mulhouse, and Dijon as well as to associations working to help young people in Reims, Nancy, Strasbourg and Dijon.

## CONTINUING TO MONITOR SCHOOLING AND SUPPORTING EDUCATION

The associations supported by the Foundation were also able to bounce back. At the AFEV (French association for students in the city), Jade Coudert explains: "In order to maintain the link with young people at

risk of dropping out of school, particularly in times of crisis, our programme of two hours of mentoring a week with volunteer students has gone online. We have also adapted our website resources to provide our 8,000 mentors with the necessary tools. In total across the regions supported by the BNP Paribas Foundation, 5,441 students have been supported throughout the 2019-2020 school year, and more than a million hours have been donated to support disadvantaged neighbourhoods."

Within the *Collectif Mentorat*, the association has also worked alongside *Article 1*, *Proximité*, *Institut Télémaque*, *Entraide Scolaire Amicale*, *Association Socrate*, *NQT (Nos Quartiers ont des Talents)* and *Chemins d'avenir*. By pooling their resources, they were able to urgently equip 1,300 families with IT tools. This was led and monitored by AFEV volunteers. What's more, the *#MentoratdUrgence* operation was able to help an additional 3,500 young people. In Paris, the resident associations part of *L'Ascenseur*, including *Article 1*, *Viens voir mon Taf*, *La Cravate Solidaire* and *Eloquentia*, were able to rely on



Concert organized under the aegis of the Dream Up program at the Murayama School in Japan.

BNP Paribas to continue their mentoring actions online to promote professional integration. The Group donated 600 computers to this partner coalition for equal opportunities, destined for students in the Paris region.

The trainers and volunteers at the *Apprentis d'Auteuil*, the primary French association committed to helping unaccompanied minors, have put in place specific measures: individual and group phone calls, virtual classes via videoconference and a digital platform with a range of educational content. Beyond its support, the BNP Paribas Foundation has provided computers to help maintain ties with these young people in difficulty.

## CONTINUING TO DEVELOP ARTISTIC SKILLS

Created in 2015 by BNP Paribas in 29 countries, the Dream Up programme lets children from disadvantaged backgrounds practice music, art, theatre or choreography. The health crisis once again disrupted ongoing projects but many partner associations stepped up to keep them going in an adapted format. In Japan, the closure of schools interrupted the Minna-no-Kotoba association's programme which teaches children to play music. The Murayama school, specialised in welcoming pupils with disabilities in their last year of sixth-grade, was nevertheless able to organise its planned concert, without an audience, on the last day of school. Their teacher said "for the pupils, it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to play an instrument as part of a musical ensemble. The artists taught them the importance of repeatedly practicing the same thing, and showed them the right attitude to take in difficult situations." In South Africa, the Educap association transformed its Shakespeare Schools' Festival into a virtual festival. Offering theatre workshops online, it managed to reach even more children. All participants were able to continue their rehearsals and film themselves performing their respective pieces.



In Cape Town, South Africa, one of the shows put on by the Educap association.



# EMPLOYEES COMMITTED

## TO THE COMMON GOOD

BNP Paribas team  
volunteering with  
#1MillionHours2Help  
program.



SOLIDARITY

Through programmes like One Million Hours 2 Help, BNP Paribas values and supports its employees invested in volunteering and skills-based sponsorship. This support has proved even more precious in the context of the pandemic.

As part of the Help2Help programme, the BNP Paribas Foundation provided additional support to 30 associations championed by its employees. Catherine Dyion, Professional affairs manager at the Troyes agency, states: "I'm a volunteer at the Claire Amitié association. BNP Paribas' donation came at the right time due to the costs of implementing all the new health precautions in centres during the pandemic." Estelle Adam, strategic analyst, is a member of La Case Départ. The Rouen-based association, twice-awarded during the 2020 call for projects, launched a fundraising effort to build mini mobile wooden houses for homeless people. BNP Paribas' funding will also enable them to equip a day centre.

### THE CETELEM FOUNDATION, A SOCIALLY COMMITTED PARTNER

Part of BNP Paribas Personal Finance, the Cetelem Foundation contributes to fighting against exclusion due to the digital divide. In 2020, it chose to back the "Homeless Plus" app championed by Anne Tuet, an employee of the BNP Paribas Group for 15 years. Simple and free to use, the app was created by Aida Demdoun and geolocalises homeless people, with their agreement, and posts what they need: food, clothes or conversation! The site puts retailers, associations and individuals in contact, informing those who wish to respond to these needs. "Through the Cetelem Foundation, BNP Paribas Personal Finance provides us



One of the mobile homes of La Case Départ, an association awarded by Help2Help.

with financial support and participates in the development of the new version of the app. It also gives us visibility for our 6,000 employees in France, and enabled us to participate in the European Sustainable Development Week in June where we collected smartphones. We have also been able to form new interpersonal relationships within the Group. I'm very proud of my company and everyone who helps us, each at their own level, like the employee

that collected 100 thermos for us in July that we then handed out to homeless people during the heatwave so that they could keep their water cold. A huge helping hand!"

## #1MILLION HOURS 2HELP: VOLUNTEERING FOR THE PLANET



Planting trees, with #1MillionHours2Help, helps preserve natural areas.

BNP Paribas Group employees have also got involved through the One Million Hours 2 Help volunteering programme which encourages their charitable work. Their commitments range from safeguarding the environment and fighting climate change to preserving biodiversity and protecting natural areas. In March 2020, around 40 BNP Paribas Fortis employees actively participated in restoring degraded forests in Halle, in the Flemish Brabant province of Belgium. After learning about plantation methods with the Reforest'Action association, the participants dug holes to home new species, and left with a smile on their face!

This operation is part of a recent collaboration between BNP Paribas Fortis and Reforest'Action: for every 1,000 euros invested by the bank's customers in sustainable investment products offered by Retail & Private Banking, a tree is planted in Belgium to restore a degraded forest. Over 70,710 trees have already been planted so far.



## THE SAMARITAN FOR THE INDIAN SLUMS

Just before lockdown in India, Lakshman Ravichandran, an employee at BNP Paribas Chennai, went to his local government to find out about the needs of the least fortunate faced with the Covid-19 crisis. It was urgent to provide hand sanitiser, masks and PPE to 1,400 health care workers. Himself and a group of friends pooled their savings and gave it all to local authorities. Continuing with this momentum, these good Samaritans reached out to their personal contacts, via social media, and managed in the space of three weeks to collect groceries, essentials, masks and water for 1,000 underprivileged families! Picked up by the media, the donation programme even reached surrounding areas. An incredible example of solidarity which in turn inspired more initiatives.



# ENVIRONMENT



Total budget of  
**€4.98**  
**M**

—  
**€3.68M**  
for research

**€1.30M**  
to raise awareness

The Covid-19 crisis has revealed the extent to which preserving a balanced environment is **crucial**. This is also one of the major challenges of BNP Paribas who has dedicated a total budget of 4.98 million euros to the cause. Working with researchers as a priority, the Foundation supports multiple programmes across all continents focusing on phenomena related to climate change and the erosion of biodiversity. It also strives to ensure knowledge is shared and encourages collective awareness by funding initiatives to get the public involved.

# Climate shocks and consequences on health



At the head of the European Climate Foundation, economist and professor Laurence Tubiana delves into the links between climate, loss of biodiversity and health.

## What impact has the Covid-19 pandemic had on your area of activity and on the environment?

Human responsibility in this crisis sheds light on the interdependence between human health, the preservation of biodiversity and the fight against climate change. Extending the human habitat, deforestation, the artificialisation of soils... our lifestyles have enabled the propagation of the virus. We have also observed to what extent our globalised and industrialised societies are fragile faced with the spread of Zoonoses. The pandemic illustrates just how these crises are interdependent, and solutions, are therefore common. With the European Climate Foundation that I head, we are endeavouring to support initiatives that respond to these multiple challenges.

## In these circumstances, what role do you think a partner like the BNP Paribas Foundation has to play?

The responsiveness of the BNP Paribas Foundation team has contributed during the health emergency, particularly in supporting vulnerable people. The Covid-19 pandemic, like all health, economic and environmental crises, exacerbates social inequalities. This is what drives the support programme involving women in the agricultural transition in Africa. It's fundamental; no sustainable response can occur without social justice.

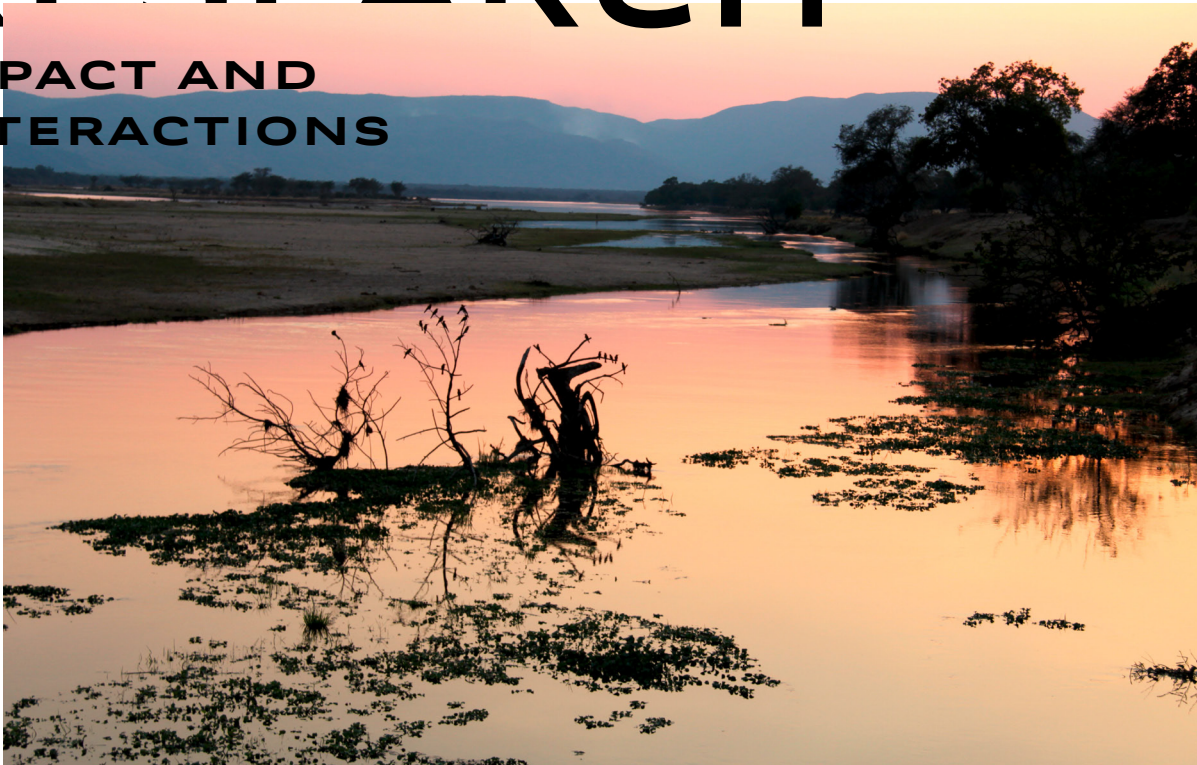
## What will you take away from this crisis?

A decisive decade lies ahead of us to act before the consequences of climate change become unbearable. Philanthropy needs to respond with the urgency and scale the crisis imposes. According to data from Climate Works, in 2019 less than 2% of global philanthropic donations were directed to limiting climate change, that is 5 to 9 billion dollars out of a total of 730 billion dollars donated. This is no way to respond to the scale of the task. I am determined to play my role to increase mobilisation in favour of the ecological transition. ■



# COVID AND RESEARCH

## IMPACT AND INTERACTIONS



Researcher Eve Miguel's HUM-ANI project studies biodiversity in Zimbabwe.

ENVIRONMENT

**Environmental research is conditioning our future as well as our present, which is why funding this work through the Climate & Biodiversity Initiative is one of the major pillars of the BNP Paribas Foundation's commitment. While the Covid-19 pandemic has meant certain programmes had to be adapted, it has also made this dedicated work even more essential.**

**I**n line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Foundation's programme supporting scientific research will have helped over 400 researchers between 2010 and 2022, working at nearly 90 universities and institutions in over 20 countries.

It has funded 27 projects for a total of 18 million euros, of which 70% are co-led by women. Launched in 2019, the fourth call for projects selected nine laureates working on varied issues including the impact of melting glaciers on global biodiversity, the resilience of coastal ecosystems to extreme climatic events, and the reforestation of disrupted ecosystems.

### THE HUM-ANI PROJECT AT THE HEART OF INTERNATIONAL CURRENT AFFAIRS

Among the nine ongoing projects is HUM-ANI, led by Eve Miguel, which particularly echoes the crises of 2020. In the context of climate change, the eco-epidemiologist specialising in parasitology at the French Research Institute for Development (IRD) evaluates the impact of biodiversity, as well as human behaviour and practices, on the transmission of infectious diseases. Taking a particular interest in the spread of pathogens between human and animal species, wild and domestic, and Human/Nature interfaces in Zimbabwe, she questions whether biodiversity protects from the zoonotic risk, i.e. the risk of transmission from animals to humans. This questioning is crucial in the midst of the coronavirus crisis where we know that 60% of the 1,400 human pathogens originated from animals.

## THRIVING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

AWARD researchers  
promote agricultural  
development in Africa.



While its population is rapidly growing, Africa is particularly vulnerable to climate change. In this context, the Agrified programme, which is backed by the Foundation and its BICIS subsidiary in Senegal, and which accompanies female entrepreneurs in the agricultural sector, is experiencing remarkable growth. The One Planet Fellowship, started by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the BNP Paribas Foundation, is also maintaining its innovative momentum. The programme trains researchers developing projects and new technologies to help small-scale agricultural workers and local communities to adapt to climate disruptions. One of its primary organisers is AWARD (African Women in Agricultural Research and Development), and with its 20-million dollar budget, it is creating an intergenerational, highly connected network of scientists that respects gender equality.

Its second call for projects, closed on 31 March 2020, received 903 applications from 14 countries. 25 women and 20 men, English- and French-speaking, were selected as future leaders in the fight against climate change in Africa. Over five years, their careers are accelerated through intensive training under the guidance of senior African scientists. To adapt to the health crisis, the first sessions from May to November 2020 were held 100% digitally. The mentoring programme has already proved a success. In September, one of the laureates from Malawi received a subsidiary from his country's Ministry of Agriculture and a prize of 5,000 dollars as part of the Young African Phosphorus Fellowship Award organised by the African Plant Nutrition Institute.



## THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC SUSPENDS MISSIONS IN ANTARCTICA

For the 2020-2021 Antarctic campaign, it was essential not to introduce SARS-CoV-2 on to the continent that had remained untouched. Equally, the number of crew members had to be reduced as the possibilities for emergency medical evacuation were limited. Jérôme Chappelaz, Director of the French Polar Institute and the first researcher supported by the Foundation for the Subglacier drilling probe tests and the EAIIST expedition, explains: "In October 2020, the French Polar Institute organised for the first time the transfer by special charter of a whole group of 80 crew members, 40% less than usual. Many research projects had to be postponed but the essential went ahead: replacing winter teams, maintaining and restocking research stations and carrying out studies in association with the national observation services."



# THE CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE OF BIODIVERSITY



Care of baby elephants at the Panda Masuie Forest Reserve in Zimbabwe.

Poaching, illegal trade of endangered species, pollution, overfishing, destruction of natural environments... As every 20 minutes an animal or plant species goes extinct, the Covid-19 pandemic has more than ever highlighted the capital role that biodiversity plays, whether marine, land or animal, in human health and the preservation of the planet.

**B**NP Paribas is getting involved with associations and institutions acting on the ground to protect the essential biodiversity balance.

## PROTECTING THE WORLD'S FAUNA

Through its Rescue & Recover Fund, it has donated 62,576 euros to the IFAW (International Fund for Animal Welfare) which facilitated three concrete actions for animal protection on three continents.

**Rescuing marine mammals in North America.** Each year, tens of thousands of marine mammals (dolphins, seals, whales, etc.) are caught in fishing nets and die or wash up on shores. As soon as an animal is spotted, IFAW urgently intervenes to safely

transport it using special tents, treat and care for it, and then release it into a safe place where it will be monitored by satellite tags. The NGO also deploys portable X-ray units to evaluate the health of dolphins and seals washed up on shore. Furthermore, the association has developed specific solutions to treat large whales tangled up in fishing nets and hurt. They firstly send drones to evaluate their wounds and determine the correct dose of medication. Sedatives and antibiotics are then administered from a distance using an appropriate darts system.

**Protecting orphan elephant calves in Africa.** In Southern Africa, when poachers slaughter an elephant for its ivory, its calf is abandoned and left to fend for itself. Weaning takes places in elephants at between five and ten years old, so the chances of survival for an elephant calf in the wild are little to none. This loss also prevents it from learning the essential social norms of group life. IFAW has thus teamed up with local partners to manage two orphanages for elephant calves. The animal victims are identified, collected, cared for and then prepared for life in the wild before being freed with help to find a herd and a territory where they can live peacefully in protected areas.

The coastlines and marine reefs of Central America are threatened.



**Fighting against the trafficking of protected species in Asia.** We are seeing an increasing number of traffickers turning to the internet, particularly social media, to buy and sell wild animals from protected species. To combat this cybercrime, IFAW chose to prioritise its civic engagement. It has created surveillance and alert groups on these networks, made up of law enforcement officers, academics, university students and citizens. In addition, to better implement existing legislation, it is training the online sales companies concerned to reinforce the regulations on their

platforms and to implement a zero tolerance policy with regard to the sale of wild species.

## CORAL, THE GUARDIAN OF THE OCEAN

A species that is both plant and animal, coral is one of the key markers of marine biodiversity. French international solidarity association Coral Guardian has been a partner of the BNP Paribas Foundation since 2018 (international coral reef year) and its mission is to preserve these particularly fragile ecosystems. Its actions to raise public awareness include the "Adopt a coral" initiative which has enabled the Group's employees to sponsor 190 corals. Transplanted in damaged reef zones, the corals are scientifically monitored in order to study their impact on neighbouring coastal communities. In 2020, the Foundation also backed the launch of the Blue Center training for project leaders, whose objective is to spread Coral Guardian's participative marine conservation model.



Mission and rescue of stranded dolphins.



## A YOUNG RESEARCHER IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Valentine Meunier has been fascinated by coral since her childhood. Hardly surprising when she grew up in New Caledonia, home to the second largest coral reef on the planet. Yet this natural treasure, a UNESCO world heritage site since 2008, is threatened by climate change which has devastating effects on its marine wildlife. Eager to "understand the mechanism of acclimatisation and adaptation", the 3rd year PhD student at the Nouméa Research Institute for Development is completing a thesis on the relationship between coral and planktonic diazotrophs in the context of climate change. Her work earned her the Young Researchers Prize in December 2020, awarded by the BNP Paribas Foundation in association with the French Foundation for Biodiversity Research (FRB). The award is a chance for the Foundation to broaden its corporate philanthropy in line with its environmental concerns.



# MAKING SCIENCE

ACCESSIBLE AND  
UNDERSTANDABLE



The bio-inspired exhibition offers an original approach to reach a wide audience.

ENVIRONMENT

To complement its support for research, the BNP Paribas Foundation is committed to informing as many of its employees as possible about the projects selected and raising awareness about environmental issues through various conferences, exhibitions and other initiatives.

In the difficult context of Covid-19 restrictions, in 2020 the Foundation launched two conferences completely online.

## DIGITAL CONFERENCES TO SPREAD KNOWLEDGE

**The first, focusing on forest ecosystems,** brought together 300 BNP Paribas employees from 20 Group entities across 14 countries. It gave Bastien Castagnérol, ecology researcher at France's National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment (INRAE), and one of the new laureates of the Climate & Biodiversity programme the opportunity to present their research project TREE BODYGUARDS which examines the consequences of climate change on the health of trees and forests.

**The second conference was a round table,** organised by ADMICAL's 2020 Mécènes Forum led by two members of the scientific committee on the topic of: "Why should we support research into climate change and biodiversity loss?" 100 members of this network and information centre for all the corporate philanthropy players in France were able to evaluate the challenges linked to the loss of biodiversity and measure the importance of supporting research while learning about the BNP Paribas Foundation and AXA Research Fund's actions.

Protect the health of trees with the TREE BODYGUARDS project, supported by the Foundation.



In China, BNP Paribas employees carry out a "clean beaches" operation.

## THIS WAS AN INCREDIBLE EXPERIENCE FOR MY CHILDREN AND MYSELF.

*There was so much packaging: straws, takeaway boxes, plastic bottles, lids, cups... Even though the pandemic has increased the use of single-use plastics, I hope this action can make everyone think about how important it is to limit their consumption to the strict minimum and manage it effectively.*

**Dong Yu,**  
volunteer, CGS.

## EXHIBITIONS TO MAKE ISSUES ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

As an extension of the 2015 partnership for Climat, l'Expo à 360° (Climate, a panoramic exhibition), which has since continued to travel all over the world, the BNP Paribas Foundation has once again teamed up with the Cité des Sciences to launch a new exhibition entitled Bio-Inspirée : une autre approche (Bio-inspired, another approach). Inaugurated on 18 September 2020 and installed for five years, the exhibition sheds light on the principles of biomimetics. This multi-disciplinary approach is inspired by the expertise developed by organisms in the living world to come up with answers to 21st-century environmental challenges. Three ecosystems - a mangrove, a coral reef and a forest floor - were reproduced to scale to provide a precious opportunity for learning. Fun, interactive installations and a sensory journey make the exhibition ideal for children and parents alike.

## GRANTS TO FINANCE JOURNALISTIC INVESTIGATIONS

In partnership with the EFSJ (European Federation for Science Journalism) and the CFJ Paris (Journalist Training Centre), the BNP Paribas Foundation co-funded the organisation of the second edition of the Climate Investigation Grant on 12 September 2020. This distinction, jointly created in 2018 by the Foundation and the AJSPI (French Association of Science Journalists), supports transnational, collaborative and transmedia investigations focusing on the understanding of the climate, climate change and different strategies for remediation. In 2020, the focus was on projects including African journalists or with a connection to the continent. Out of the 30 proposals studied, three were rewarded including Dutch journalist Klaartje Jaspers and his Zambian colleague Bellah Zulu's project Biased Biomass 2020-2021. The two journalists will lead a multimedia investigation in Zambia into the harmful consequences of plant biomass imports from Europe (intended to fight greenhouse gases) on diversity, inequality and climate disruption. The three laureates shared a prize of 12,000 euros awarded by the Foundation.

## GROUP EMPLOYEES ACROSS THE WORLD GET INVOLVED

From India and the Middle East, to Great Britain and Switzerland as well as in Asia, BNP Paribas teams are participating in initiatives for the environment. Take the 51 employees of BNP Paribas China who, as part of the Green Company For Employees programme launched in July 2020, brought together their friends and family to clean the beaches of Shanghai, Guangzhou and Tianjin. They collected 125kg of waste, mostly single-use plastics. A real-life response to the disastrous scale of marine pollution.



# CULTURE



With a financial commitment of €7.15 million, BNP Paribas’ support for culture is a precious asset for the sector, particularly in light of the current health crisis. While the Foundation focuses its support on contemporary dance, new circus and jazz, the whole Group’s corporate philanthropy covers a broad artistic spectrum, from cinema to fine art

Total budget of  
**€7.15**  
**M**

—  
**€1.43M**  
Dance – circus

**€2.42M**  
Music

**€1M**  
Others

**€0.90M**  
Cultural institutions

**€0.68M**  
Cinema

**€0.41M**  
Museums and exhibitions

+

Covid aid plan  
**€0.31**  
**M**

# Overcoming challenges together



For Dominique Hervieu, Director of the Lyon Maison de la Danse and Biennial, maintaining and strengthening ties, both between professionals and with the public, is key.

## What impact has the Covid-19 pandemic had on the Maison de la Danse and culture in general?

We've been hit hard: 200 performances and 40 shows cancelled, 2 million euros in ticket sales refunded, most of our teams placed on furlough. That being said, there have been some positive effects for the world of culture: with the *Nuits de Fourvière*, the *Opéra de Lyon*, *Pôle Pik* and the *Centre Chorégraphique National de Rillieux-la-Pape*, we created a real choreographic community to help artists and safeguard their future. As schedules were completely up in the air, there was no longer the issue of fighting for exclusivity. Both programme coordinators and choreographers have been able to better understand the other's role and their economic constraints. What's more, while recordings and doubling audience numbers on our Numéridanse site provided direct access to choreographic culture, we learned that digital technology ends up saturating itself...

## In these circumstances, what role does a partner like the BNP Paribas Foundation have to play?

A role in a virtuous chain of solidarity. The Foundation has financed some of our actions during this crisis, reaching out to isolated audiences, hospitals and children dropping out of school so that they can maintain a link with culture. We share the same values and the same vision of a humanist connection to art as close as possible to people and real life.

## What have you learned and what will you take away from this crisis?

Reducing our travel by using video conference, paying more attention to local personalities who previously we tended to neglect due to our global view of the world, and concentrating on artists who will be able to give meaning to what we missed. ■



# EXCEPTIONAL ACTION

## AND SUPPORT FOR CULTURE



In rehearsals, the choreographer Amala Dianor's new creation.

THE CREATION IN 2020 OF *CHERS*, A DANCED DIALOGUE WITH THE DEAD, WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FOUNDATION.

*Despite having zero visibility due to the health crisis, we were able to continue working and employ 10 members of the artistic team between September and December 2020 to develop with them a real research laboratory. We took action to "dance with the invisible", in schools, from nursery to sixth-form, and in prisons and retirement homes, speaking with residents about what is alive and what dances within them...*

**Kaori Ito**  
dancer and  
choreographer

CULTURE

Culture and performing arts are among the sectors hardest hit by the health crisis. With its long-standing history of commitment to contemporary creation, the BNP Paribas Foundation has continued or renewed its financial support for all its partners, institutions and artists, providing the latter with additional aid.

Since its creation in 1984, the BNP Paribas Foundation has always prioritised contemporary dance. 37 years later and now one of the major corporate philanthropists for dance, circus and jazz, in summer 2020 it invested heavily to back players in these three sectors. With cancelled productions and tours, and dates postponed to later seasons on the disrupted calendar, all without systematic compensation, this already fragile ecosystem has suffered a painful blow. Even internationally-renowned artists and institutions haven't been spared: the Hofesh Shechter Company was forced to cancel 80 performances, from past creations still in demand like *Grand Finale* to its new piece *Double Murder*. The *Biennale Internationale des Arts du Cirque* estimates the losses of its circus troupes in the Southern region of France at 500,000 to 700,000 euros. As for jazz musicians, usually very mobile and

active during the summer period, they have lost on average between 20 and 60 concert dates.

### EMERGENCY AID FOR EVERY ARTIST

For the Foundation, enabling the 17 dance and circus companies and 14 jazz musicians it supports to withstand this critical period was essential. In addition to their annual subsidy, they each received the sum of 10,000 euros, making a total sum of 310,000 euros. This help proved crucial for circus performer Alexander Vantournhout whose organisation is comprised, himself included, of only two people, as well as for the Basinga company, specialising in tight-rope walking and major aerial feats, whose



## ROSAS COMPANY: PASSING DOWN FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

With support from the BNP Paribas Foundation since 2013, Rosas, led by choreographer Anne Teresa de Keersmaecker, has highlighted the importance of passing on its repertoire to young performers. This new generation is entrusted with iconic pieces like *Rosas danst Rosas*, *Drummin*, and even the famous *Phase*, to the music of Steve Reich, who at 22 years old launched the Flemish artist's career. In 2020, she created a new solo for herself, *The Goldberg Variations*, to the music of Johann Sebastian Bach of the same name interpreted by pianist Pavel Kolesnikov. The noteworthy French premiere took place on 13 October 2020 as part of the *Montpellier Danse* festival, the show's co-producer.



## PAUL LAY AT THE BAHRAIN JAZZ FEST

Since its creation in 2017, in partnership with the BNP Paribas Foundation and BNP Paribas Bahrain, the Bahrain Jazz Fest has made its name as a major musical event. In 2020, the BNP Paribas Group accompanied the festival over 12 days of concerts, some of which were streamed online due to the pandemic. It also made it possible for Foundation-backed pianist Paul Lay to attend for a masterclass followed by a recital on 7 December 2020. This was a chance for him, after being crowned Instrumental Artist of the year by the Victoires du Jazz in October 2020, to engage in fascinating discussions with local musicians keen to embrace jazz and improvisation.





Concert of Thomas Enhco in duet with the percussionist Vassilena Serafimova at the Variations festival in Nantes.

## THE FOUNDATION SUPPORTS US, SUPPORTS ARTISTS, AND BEYOND THAT, A WHOLE AESTHETIC.

*This collaboration helps us directly on a financial level by heavily participating in the festival's budget, and enabling us to have greater visibility of the future through triennial conventions. But the most precious part is this community of projects and this shared goal that encourages us to support exceptional artists. We're simply on the same page artistically and long may it continue!*

**Denis Le Bas**  
Director of the *Jazz sous les pommiers* festival in Coutances.

turnover was slashed by 160,000 euros during the crisis, and equally precious for choreographer Crystal Pite. On the other hand, some artists, even without direct support from the Foundation, were able to continue their ongoing work thanks to funding from international creative residencies organised at the *Théâtre national de la Danse Chaillot* and as part of the *Festival Montpellier Danse*.

**This help also enabled trumpeter Airelle Besson** to finish recording her critically acclaimed new album *Try!* with quartet *Radio One* in between two lockdowns. In a supplement of *Jazz Magazine* put together in partnership with the BNP Paribas Foundation, she explained: "It's in difficult times like the situation we're currently facing that the aid BNP Paribas Foundation has given me for years really takes on its full importance. The beginning of the first lockdown was the exact moment that I decided for the first time to take on the role of producer of my own album, and despite the uncertainty we were surrounded with, I was able to dive right in, knowing that I would make it to the end because I had this financial support. That was hugely comforting."

**Others succeeded in creating their own label.** This was the case for drummer and composer Anne Paceo, who in the same special edition told us: "It's called *Jusqu'à la nuit* and the first release in 2021 will be a live recording of my group *Circles'* concert in 2017, before recording my new album in April called *S.H.A.M.A.N.E.S.*" And this is thanks to the Foundation who "have

helped enormously with many projects over the years." The group *Volunteered Slaves* also added: "We created our own label, *Day After Music*, which we were planning to launch on 14 March 2020 before going to record our new album, *SpaceShipOne*, with the support of the BNP Paribas Foundation. Unfortunately we had to interrupt recording on the second day because of lockdown and we only picked things up again in June. The label has taught us so many things about a whole host of new areas, and that would have been impossible without the Foundation."

## CONTINUING DONATIONS TO INSTITUTIONS TO PRESERVE CREATION

Despite many events being cancelled or postponed in 2020, the BNP Paribas Foundation has kept its annual funding for events and festivals exactly the same, thus promoting creation.

Thanks to this loyalty, *Jazz à Saint-Germain-des-Prés* in Paris, *TANJazz* and *Jazzablanca* in Morocco, *Jazzdor* in Strasbourg and *L'Esprit du Piano* in Bordeaux, sadly cancelled due to Covid restrictions, were able to partially compensate their financial losses and safeguard their future.

**Likewise, the Foundation has supported events** that were able to go ahead, and even reach a wide audience by using new formats. In June 2020, the *Lille Piano Festival* became *Lille Piano(s) Digital*, streaming planned concerts via a dedicated YouTube channel. "Weird to be clapping in your living room, but the artists deserve it!" tweeted one delighted viewer. Initially planned for April, the 2020 edition of the *Festival Variations*, co-founded in 2017 by *Le Lieu Unique* in Nantes and the BNP Paribas Foundation, was postponed to 20-25 October in a shorter format. The nine days of



During the pandemic, pianist Dan Tepfer performed online.

*Jazz sous les pommiers* in Coutances in May became just a single but packed week-end from 18-20 September, with 13 groups across 5 concert sites. Although opting for a reduced programme, the 41st edition of *Piano aux Jacobins* managed to keep its mix of prestigious performers and young talent, including Thomas Enhco who will never forget this "magical place" and "fantastic audience". Lastly, the *Festival Montpellier Danse*, traditionally in June, presented part of its programme at the start of the autumn in the form of multiple artistic "rendez-vous".

## THE CRISIS SPARKS THE INVENTION OF INNOVATIVE CONCEPTS

Accompanied by the Foundation, artists and institutions have designed new ways of performing, reinventing their economic model. In April 2020, pianist Dan Tepfer launched a series of free *Monday livestreams* during which he improvised 'online'. Thanks to cutting edge software, he then launched duos and trios perfectly in synch with other musicians for the paying public. With its live stream of the ballet *La Bayadère* on 13 December 2020, *L'Opéra national de Paris* successfully introduced its brand new live streaming concert platform *L'Opéra chez soi* (the Opera at home), and sold in total 13,000 show tickets priced at 11 euros each. As for the *Hackathon International de la Danse*, started by the Foundation and co-organised by the *Maison de la Danse* in Lyon, the *Théâtre de Liège* and *Sadler's Wells* in London, the *Dansathon* couldn't be held as planned from 20-22 November in Liège. Nevertheless, an evening was dedicated to it as part of the *Impact Festival*, showcasing artists Wang-Ramirez, backed by the Foundation, and Pierre Rigal.

**As for circus performer Etienne Saglio,** he didn't hesitate to take to a disused church converted into a theatre in Rennes to perform his show *Le Bruit des Loups* on 15 December. An original way to declare that "the need for culture is also a spiritual need."

## WHICH ANIMAL LIES DORMANT IN YOU?



Countless amateurs and professionals of all ages and all backgrounds responded to this question asked by choreographer Akram Khan. In the framework of the *Animal Kingdom* collective project, in collaboration with the *Maison de la Danse* and with the support of the *BNP Paribas Foundation*, they personified seven animals of their choice - in solos, duos and groups - to a musical composition by Vincenzo Lamagna, and filmed their performances thanks to a dedicated tutorial. The videos, posted and shared on the *Numeridanse* site, were transformed into a film questioning the relationship between man and nature. Published on the platform on 30 September 2020, it brings together dance lovers from around the world.



# A PARTICULARLY RICH

CULTURAL CONTEXT IN SPITE OF THE PANDEMIC

Through the grapevine, the duet of circus artist Alexander Vantournhout.



Despite the struggles due to the pandemic, 2020 was a particularly fertile year for the 31 artists supported by the BNP Paribas Foundation. They were all able to pursue their projects and some of them were especially honoured. Let's take a look back on some of the highlights of these 12 months of creation.

Le Tambour de soie, created in 2020 by Kaori Ito.



**A**mong the new additions to the dream team of artists backed by the BNP Paribas Foundation was pianist Laurent Coulondre who received the award for Instrumental Artist of the year from the Victoires du Jazz in November 2020, sharing the top spot with Paul Lay, another Foundation artist. This award was recognition for a musician with an unparalleled sense of rhythm and harmony, and whose last album, *Michel on My Mind*, an homage to the great Michel Petrucciani released in August 2020, was met with an enthusiastic reception from the public and critics. At the *Institut Français de Dakar*, choreographer Amala Dianor was able to hold the behind-closed-doors premiere of his collective piece

*Sigüifin* with African dancers and choreographers. He also created a trio, *Point Zéro*, a meeting of the best street dance artists, himself included, and worked on a female adaptation of his solo, *Man Rec*, renamed *Wo-Man*. Lastly, the Foundation's backing has also facilitated circus performer Alexander Vantournhout's work on his next duo, *Through the Grapevine*, a reference to the song by Marvin Gaye, as well as the creation of the piece by Camille Boitel and Sève Bernard (L'Immédiat company), *Le Poids des choses*, a display of inversion of weight centred around mime and levitation.

CULTURE



**Maison de la Danse**  
@maisondeladanse

Nouvelle vidéo de Jessica Sotak # OurAnimalKingdom.  
À découvrir sur #numériquedanse! Et vous, quel animal  
sommeille en vous? [@bit.ly/ND-AK-JessSot](https://bit.ly/ND-AK-JessSot) @AkramKhanLive  
@FondationBNPP #mondaymotivation #challenge #mdld  
#danse #dance

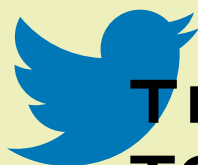
♡ 35 ↻ 14



**Bastien Castagneyrol**  
@BCastagneyrol

Ma première conférence  
en ligne aussi avec un  
format TED très inhabituel.  
Merci @FondationBNPP  
et @BivwAkBNPP pour  
l'accompagnement !

♡ 6 ↻ 2



**THANKS  
TO OUR  
PARTNERS  
FOR THEIR  
TRUST**



**Association Adie**  
@Adieorg

L'Adie et @BNPParibas, c'est un partenariat historique  
de 27 ans qui a permis d'aider des milliers de  
personnes à retrouver le chemin de l'emploi via  
l'#entrepreneuriat ! #Partenariat #Merci [urlz.fr/e2sH](https://urlz.fr/e2sH)

♡ 23 ↻ 5



**Anne Charmantier**  
@AnneCharmantier

Kick-off meeting for  
the « Mommy knows  
best » project funded  
by @FondationBNPP  
The dream team  
to work on avian  
phenological plasticity,  
climate change and  
population dynamics!  
@martijnvdpol1  
@MartaSzulkin  
@DenisREALE  
@TomEReed  
@m\_e\_visser

♡ 31 ↻ 4



**Forest Whitaker**  
@ForestWhitaker

Thank you @BNPParibas,  
@FondationBNPP  
and @RCSGroup\_ for  
your support to our  
#youthpeacemakers in  
#SouthAfrica and for making  
their graduation ceremony  
such an amazing event -  
looking forward to pursuing  
our collaboration in  
#California and #CapeTown!

♡ 79 ↻ 17



**Bahrain Jazz Fest**  
@bahrainjazzfest

We got into a heart to heart  
chat with @FondationBNPP  
supported French jazz pianist,  
Paul Lay, who kicked off our  
2020 program with a special  
masterclass in jazz piano  
followed by a jazz piano recital  
of his own compositions, jazz  
standards and classical music.  
#jazz #bahrain.

♡ 73 ↻ 9

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