

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



AZAHAR FOUNDATION



AZAHAR FOUNDATION

AZAHAR FOUNDATION LTD., 76 CHARLES ST, APT 5F, NY 10014, USA
AZAHAR, IM OBERMOOS 5, 3067 BOLL, SWITZERLAND

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Dear Friends, Donors and Supporters of AZAHAR,

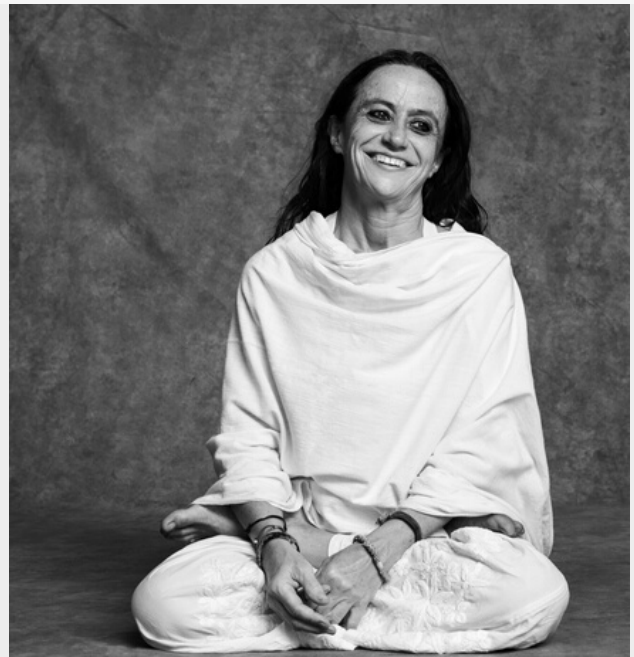
I recently returned from a month in Cambodia, where I was so happy to see the efforts and support of so many of you bear fruit in the blossoming of young people's lives. Looking back at 2018, the year began with us being able to send 3 people from Cambodia, Rwanda and Syria to the internationally renowned Jivamukti Yoga Teacher Training.

In Cambodia, AZAHAR was registered as a local NGO. At the two AZAHAR Centers for Peace, Yoga and the Arts in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap, regular public classes were offered in Yoga, Bokator (ancient Cambodian martial art), Circus Arts and Dance. The Yoga teachers were all trained by Oskar Nery and Allison Hawkins in 2016/17, as commissioned by AZAHAR.

Twenty young people were selected to participate in our second Peace Program, twelve of whom continued with internships in communities of need, and with a 100-hour Yoga Teacher Training offered by AZAHAR.

During my stay in Cambodia in March, AZAHAR's Yoga teachers and trainees were invited to participate in the Jivamukti Yoga Retreat with Cat Alip-Douglas and myself. This was followed by an Immersion in Phnom Penh and our annual Peace Camp in Takh Mao, with the theme of "Peace through Meditation and Buddhism."

Our vegan Cambodian restaurant, Mahob Buos (monks' food) continued serving delicious meals to disadvantaged youth, homeless people and paying customers.



AZAHAR'S program director Liva Sin was invited to participate in an International Peace and Leadership training in Switzerland.

In Rwanda, we continued offering classes to genocide survivors in 4 different organizations. In Ivory Coast, youth from informal settlements continued to benefit from Yoga on the beach, and in Lebanon, Dance and Yoga classes were offered to children of Syrian refugees.

Our work would not be possible without your ongoing support!

With Love, Light & Gratitude for helping AZAHAR take small steps towards the possibility of a Paradise on Earth.

OM Shantih,

Yogeswari
President & Founder

AZAHAR FOUNDATION MISSION



ABOUT OUR MISSION

AZAHAR'S mission is to promote a Culture of Peace through Yoga, Meditation, the Arts and supporting methodologies, such as Non-Violent Communication, Youth Leadership and Women's Empowerment, in zones of conflict and developing countries.

JIVAMUKTI TEACHER TRAINING INDIA



2018 began with the 300-hour Jivamukti Yoga Teacher Training at Govardhan Eco Village in India. Thanks to generous gifts from Manizeh Irani-Rimer, the McCall Mac Bain Foundation and Jivamukti Global, AZAHAR Foundation was able to provide job training at the internationally renowned Jivamukti Yoga Teacher Certification to Thyda Sek, National Director of AZAHAR Cambodia, Aline Mazimpaka, AZAHAR Yoga teacher in Rwanda, and Ahmad Chaaban from Syria.



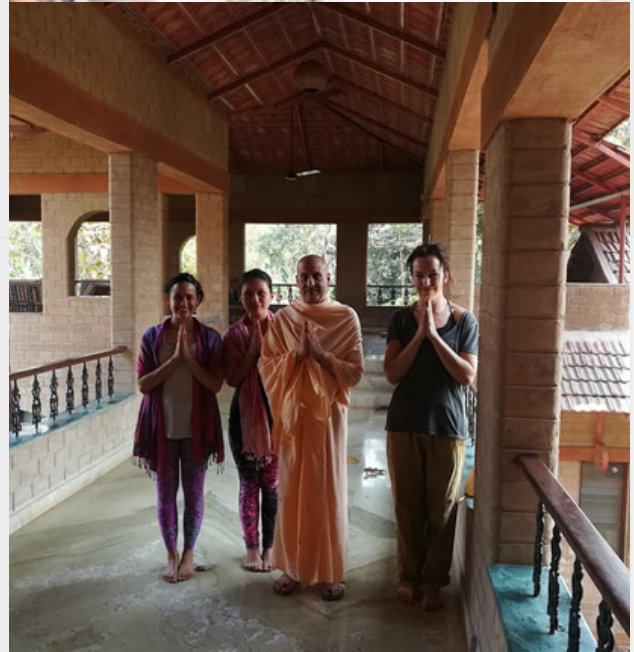
JIVAMUKTI YOGA TEACHER TRAINING IN INDIA

**From the perspective of participant
Thyda Sek - National Director of
AZAHAR Foundation in Cambodia**

The Jivamukti Teacher Training in India was a unique experience personally and professionally. Indeed, being the national director of AZAHAR Cambodia, an NGO that promotes Yoga, Peace and the Arts, it is important that I am able to understand Yoga from the practitioner's point of view, but also the teacher's point of view. It also helps me to understand globally what Yoga is, not only an asana practice but also a lifestyle that brings me inner peace through my actions and thoughts.

I am very thankful for having had the chance to attend this Teacher Training and to bring my knowledge to our young people and teachers in Cambodia. This would not have been possible without the love and care of Yogeswari, AZAHAR Foundation's board and the Jivamukti team.

Thyda Sek
National Director AZAHAR Cambodia



AZAHAR IN CAMBODIA

CAMBODIA LOCAL NGO AND AZAHAR CENTERS FOR PEACE YOGA AND THE ARTS IN PHNOM PENH AND SIEM REAP

In Cambodia, AZAHAR was registered as a local NGO under the name AZAHAR Cambodia. At the two AZAHAR Centers for Peace, Yoga and the Arts in Phnom Penh, and in Siem Reap regular public classes continue to be offered in Yoga, Bokator (ancient Cambodian martial art), Circus Arts and Dance. Both centers together provide employment for 15 young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. Between the students at the center, classes at several businesses, hotels and NGOs, they teach to approximately 3500 people. Thanks to AZAHAR's commitment of training Cambodian teachers and then employing them, Cambodian students comprise 50 % of the student body now. Just two years ago, Yoga was considered a hobby for expats. Paid classes at the Center and in businesses help to pay for 1/3 of AZAHAR's operational expenses, which enables us to allocate more funds for programs directed to people in need.

PEACE PROGRAM

The second Peace Program, that had been started in the Fall of 2017, continued into the spring. Every week-end, there were Yoga & Meditation classes, plus theme specific workshops, such as Non-Violent Communication according to Marshall Rosenberg, Youth Leadership, Women's Empowerment, Trauma and Stress Management, Team Building & Motivation and Dance.



AZAHAR IN CAMBODIA

PEACE PROGRAM INTERNSHIPS

In the fall, the participants of the Peace Program began their Internships that were planned to last into the spring of 2019. One group was teaching Yoga and Hygiene to children from an informal settlement area inside of an old pagoda near the AZAHAR Center in Phnom Penh. The other group chose to teach Yoga classes to a group of children from a village at one of the main mass killing sites in Takeo Province. Our visits have also supported the local monks and villagers with food offerings and the sale of village women's artisanship at our center in Phnom Penh.



AZAHAR IN CAMBODIA



PEACE CAMP

The Peace Program culminated in a Peace Camp held at White Lotus Center in Takh Mao, just outside of Phnom Penh. This year's overlying theme was Peace through Meditation and Buddhism. We received meditation instruction from nuns of the Vipassana Center in Battambang and listened to some very thought provoking lectures from an influential monk, Krou Sopheap. We also had lectures and panel discussions lead by various Environmental and Women's Rights' Organizations.



AZAHAR IN CAMBODIA

YOGA TEACHER TRAINING



In December, 12 students from the Peace Program in Phnom Penh enrolled in a 100-hour Preliminary Yoga Teacher Training led by AZAHAR's most senior teacher, Vun Em, who was selected to participate in the 300-hour Jivamukti Teacher Training in 2019 in India. In Siem Reap, Jivamukti Certified Teacher Jackie Barbour from London began a Preliminary Yoga Teacher Training with 10 young women from our partner NGO's, PEPY and Free to Shine.

JIVAMUKTI YOGA IMMERSION

Every year, Yogeswari teaches a Jivamukti Immersion in Phnom Penh as a form of Continuing Education for our teachers, and as a preparation for individuals of merit, who may attend the Jivamukti Teacher Training or another International Teacher Training in the future.



AZAHAR IN CAMBODIA

JIVAMUKTI YOGA RETREAT IN CAMBODIA



In March, the participants of the Peace Program and AZAHAR Yoga teachers were invited to participate in an intensive Yoga training at the annual Jivamukti Yoga Retreat in Angkor Vat, led by Cat Alip-Douglas and Yogeswari. This retreat provides intensive Yoga training to interested young people, who could never have such an opportunity in their country. It reconnects them with the wonders of their noble cultural and spiritual roots in the ancient Khmer Empire. It also affords our beneficiaries an opportunity of cross-cultural exchange with Yoga students from abroad.

AZAHAR IN CAMBODIA

MAHOB BUOS - VEGAN CAMBODIAN CUISINE



Mahob Buos, which is the first vegan restaurant featuring solely Cambodian cuisine, provides employment to three young women, also from disadvantaged backgrounds. They are learning the skills of cooking and of service on the job. Since most Cambodian children from poor families can only attend extracurricular activities when they receive food, Mahob Buos is also providing a food and yoga program. In Phnom Penh, AZAHAR teachers and students gather on Saturdays to cook together and then to distribute the food to children and elderly people who suffer from hunger in the streets of the city.



CROSS-CULTURAL EXCHANGE

INITIATIVE OF CHANGE CAUX, SWITZERLAND

In July, AZAHAR's program director, Liva Sin, was selected to attend an international training in Peace and Leadership at the Initiative of Change in Caux, Switzerland. It was Liva's first visit to Europe, and with attendees from over 60 nations, this training was an extraordinary and enriching experience both for her and AZAHAR.



INITIATIVE OF CHANGE CAUX, SWITZERLAND

From the perspective of participant
**Liva Sin - Program Director of
AZAHAR Foundation in Cambodia**

The month at the Peace and Leadership Forum with Initiative of Change in CAUX, Switzerland, provided me with the most incredible life experience I have ever had, both personally and professionally. Although one month is not enough for a thorough training on Peace and Leadership, my level of understanding and skills in practical application improved exponentially.

It was a very enriching time to share and learn with a diverse group of students and social entrepreneurs from all over the world. The training was organized in three stages:

- 1) Understanding of Self
- 2) Understanding of Global Culture
- 3) Personal Impact in the World

It was everyone's individual responsibility to manage their time and energy between learning and volunteer work. I benefited from two experiences at once, as, besides the training, I was working part time in the dining room team, where I learned a lot about service, teamwork and hygiene.

Every morning there was quiet time for meditation, contemplation and writing. Afterwards, we were free to share our insights with our friends or not. This was a really a great way to learn and understand ourselves deeply, to develop compassion for others and to share as many happy moments together as we could.



In addition, I was really interested in the workshops on Peace and Conflict Analysis and World Perspectives. They taught me a lot of techniques and methodologies that can be constructively applied to Cambodia's recent situation.

I also participated in CAT (Children as Actors for Transforming Society). There were nearly 300 children who came from all over the world to participate in this program. They learned, they shared and they grew together in harmony. CAT is a unique program that AZAHAR should start to implement in Cambodia.

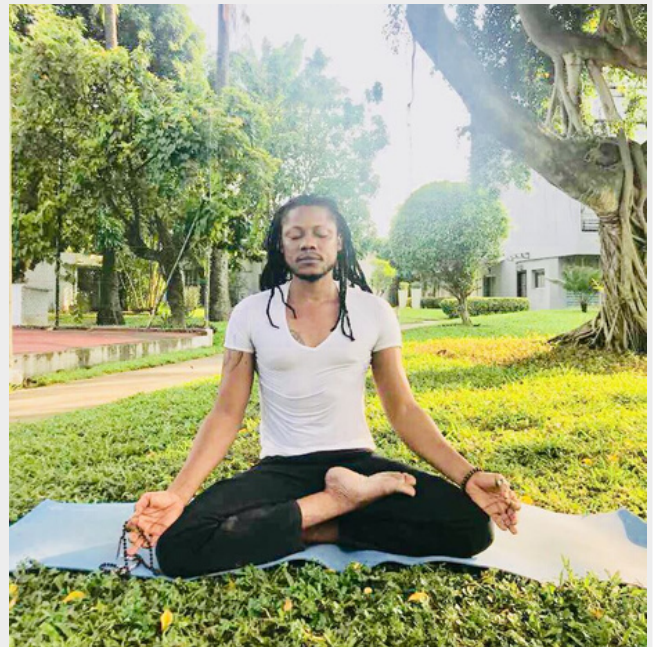
I would like to pay my gratitude to Yogeswari and AZAHAR Foundation for encouraging and supporting me to take this training. Without their kindness and support, I would not have been able to participate in this life-changing experience. I promise to implement what I have learned in Cambodia, with the aim of benefiting the Cambodia people.

Liva Sin
Program Director AZAHAR Cambodia

CROSS-CULTURAL EXCHANGE

IVORY COAST

Jean-Claude Djamba, Jivamukti graduate of 2017 continued to make his living as a Yoga teachers in Abidjan. He teaches weekly Yoga classes to youth from an informal settlement on the beach.



CROSS-CULTURAL EXCHANGE



RWANDA

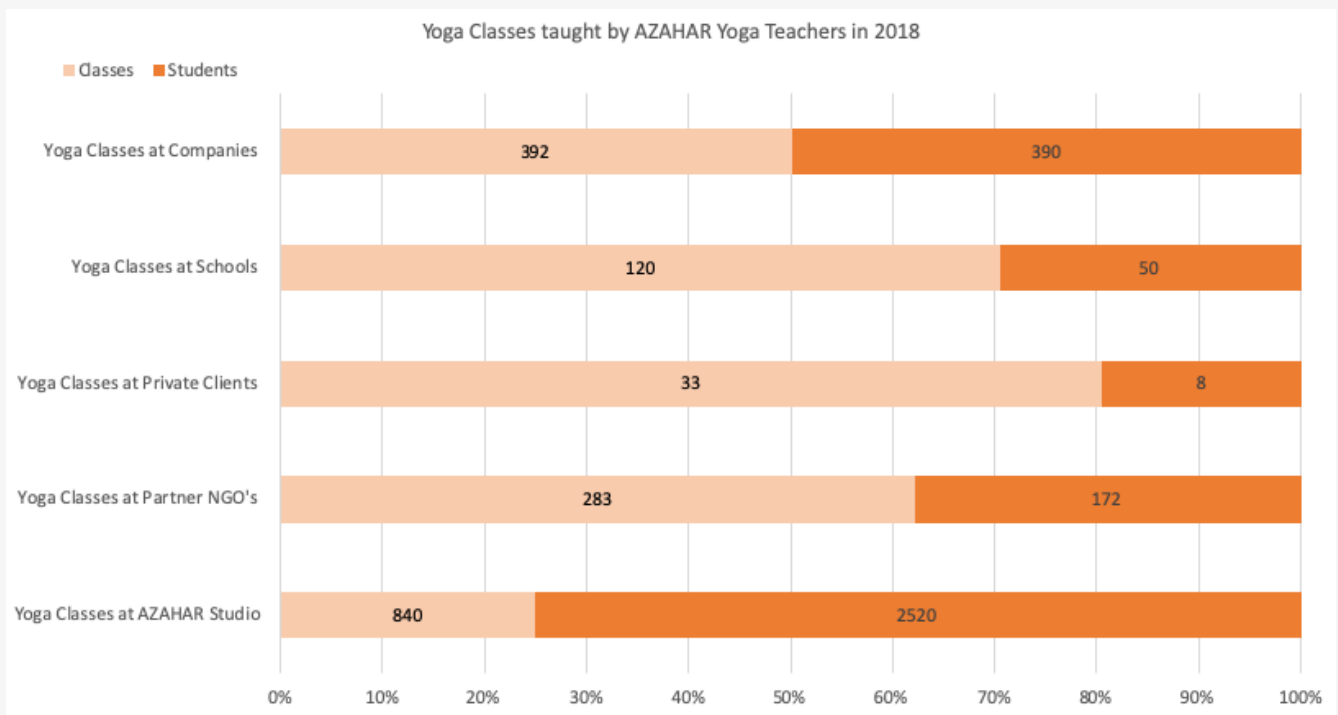
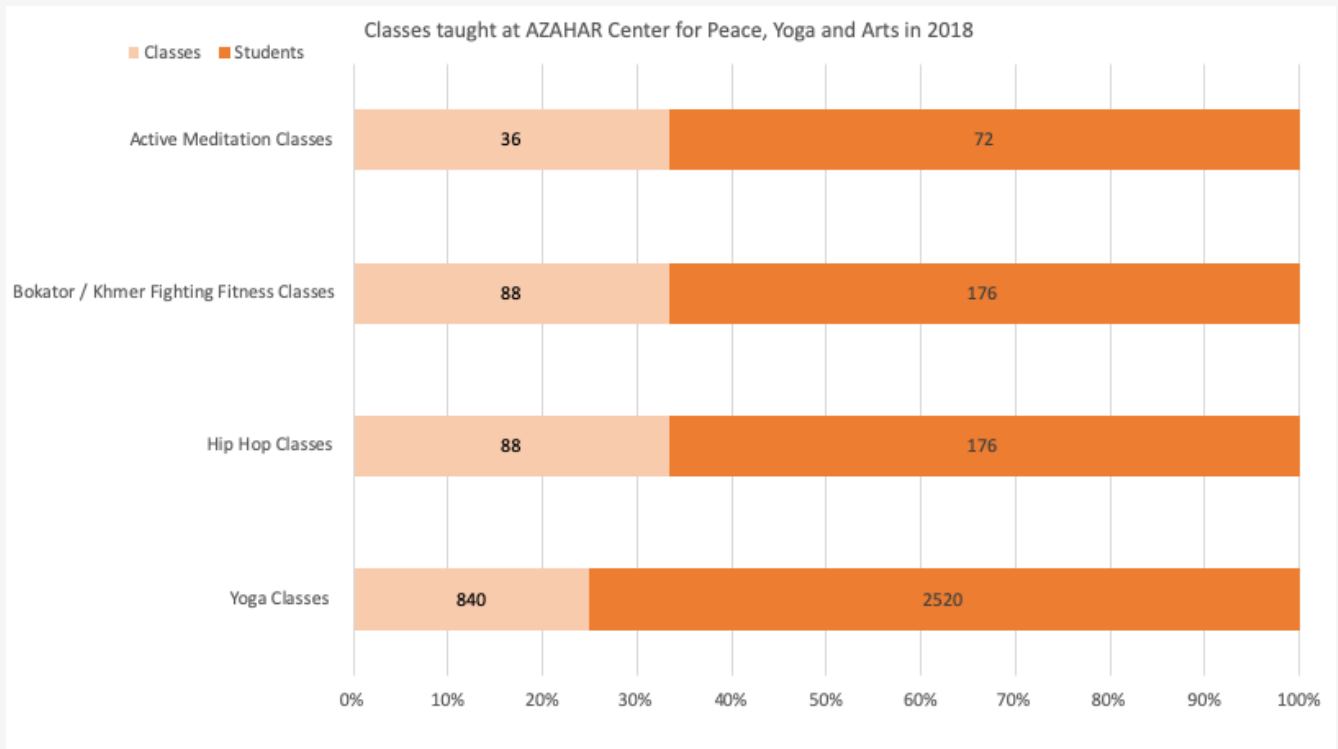
In Rwanda, Aline Mazimpaka continued to teach Yoga to young people and women affected by the genocide at Agahozo Shalom, Indego Africa and Imbuto Foundation. These classes were temporarily put on hold in the summer, and Aline continued to teach at Komera Rwanda as a free service.

SYRIA

Having taken refuge in Lebanon due to the war raging in Syria, Ahmad Chaaban taught children of Syrian refugees in Beirut Yoga and Dance for a few months, until he decided to seek asylum abroad. He will launch a parallel project, once he is able to stabilize his status.



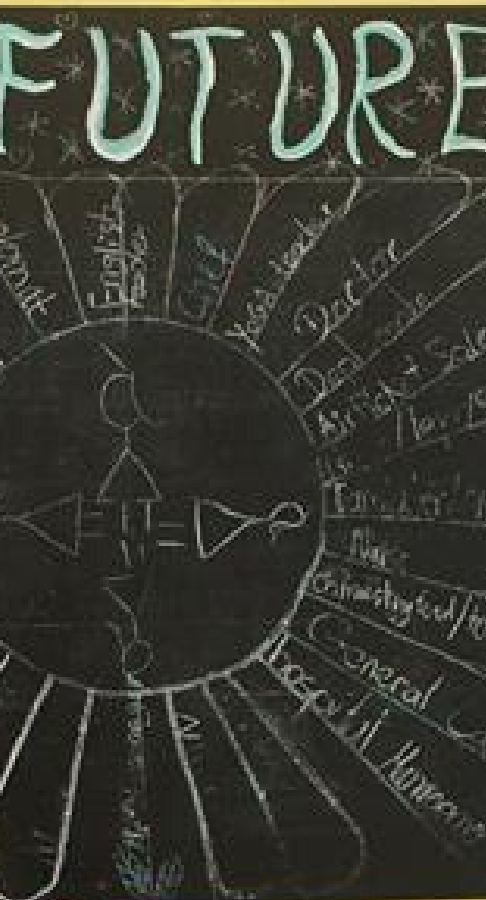
IMPACT DATA



AZAHAR FOUNDATION VISION

In 2019, the main focus is on solidifying and growing the project in Cambodia, so it can later serve as a business model for other locations. We are presently taking over a beautifully renovated house from an artist in Siem Reap, so we can bring the AZAHAR Center and the restaurant under one roof. We plan to align ourselves with the movements of Plastic Free Cambodia and Refill not Landfill. Under the direction of Vun Em and Thyda Sek, Yoga Teacher Trainings for young people from low income backgrounds will be held both in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap. We also are beginning to implement a 3-year plan that will offer Professional Training in the Arts, starting with Dance and Music by beginning of 2020. This will culminate in an accredited school that will be part of a Peace Village / Ashram in a rural area in the South of Cambodia.





DONORS

Institutional funders, Individual & Business Donors

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

Jivamukti Yoga Global
Lulu Lemon

STAKEHOLDERS

Volpi-Cupal Family Trust
UDT

GROUNDBREAKERS

Zeynep Kocabiyik

ACTIVISTS

Manizeh Rimer
Association Restaurants
Sans Frontières
Elena de Weck

BENEFACTORS

Catherine Alip-Douglas
Rowina Apostol
Margrit Schacher
Anonymous
Jessica Chaney
Erik Holzinger
Nigol Koulajian
Ruth Lauer-Manenti
Jivamukti Yoga Stavanger

FRIENDS

Maria Macaya
Michelle L. Widmeier
Jivamukti Yoga Puebla
Rima Rabbath
Zufall Family Foundation
Ulrike Hager
Jivamukti Yoga Cambodia
Satsang (Retreat)

SUPPORTERS

Anonymous
Kristina Vince
Stanley Currier
Bernadette Gates
Rob Naulty
Amanda Hartman
Danette Fernandez
Joan Suval
Ludovic Baussan
Charlotte Kelberine
Linh Ramirez
Stefania Barker
Christian Montegut
Maria Sunnqvist Lindh
Sarah Schwalbe
Sven Seiffert



DONORS

Institutional funders, Individual & Business Donors

SUPPORTERS

Nicolas Lim
Jochen Reiter
Banka Schneider
Anonymous
Julie Jensen
Catherine Miranda
Zineb Fahsi
Sara Cowlan
Daniela Bollmann
Eva Wu Lam
Clemence de Limburg
Ellen Fassberg
Lori Zucker
Paloma Baker
Yvonne Ernst
Nicole von Grünigen
Chhivlin Lim
Patrick Flury
Yoga con Gracia BCN
Camilla Veen
Yoga at the Beach
Rosa Reiter
Anonymous
Harriet Bone
Karo Tak

YOGATHON WORLDWIDE

Abby Vakay at Hamptons
Yoga Healing Arts

Andrea Kwiatkowski at
Santosha Yoga

Catherine Miranda at
Jivamukti Jersey City

Harriet Bone at Sangye
Yoga School

Yogeswari at Jivamukti
Yoga School NYC

Yogeswari at Sphere
Geneva

Yogeswari at Hotel
Spitzhorn

Yogeswari at Jlvamukti
Yoga School Sydney



PARTNERS

NGO's, Private Sector, Companies, Schools

Non-Governmental Organizations in Cambodia

Women Peace Makers
Change Makers Network
Khmer Youth and Social Development
Khmer Youth Association
Cambodia Volunteer for Society
Cooperation Committee for Cambodia
Transcultural Psychosocial Organization
Youth For Peace
Cambodia Center for Human Rights
UNITED Sisterhood
Worker's Information Center
Happy Chandara
Cambodia Children's Fund
EMDR Cambodia
Gender and Development for Cambodia
PEPY Empowering Youth Organization
Khmer Kampuchea Krom For Human Rights and
Development Association
Free To Shine
Anjali House
Women's Resource Center
Bayon Pastry



PARTNERS

NGO's, Private Sector, Companies, Schools

Private Sector: Companies and Schools in Cambodia

Huione Golf Club
Family Gym
Gunze Gym Japan
Hong Kong Land
Japan Tobacco International company
Aman Hotel
French School Siem Reap
Siem Reap Gym Club
Angkor Village Resort

Non-Governmental Organizations in Rwanda

Indego Africa Project
Agahozo Shalom Youth Village
Imbutu Foundation
Komera

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - US BOARD MEMBERS



YOGESWARI
FOUNDER & PRESIDENT
SWITZERLAND / USA



PALOMA BAKER
JIVAMUKTI YOGA PUEBLA
MEXICO / USA



JEANINE MUNYESHULI-BARBE
RWANDA / SWITZERLAND



CAMILLA VEEN
JIVAMUKTI YOGA STAVANGER
NORWAY



LORRAINE KIDD
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
UNITED KINGDOM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - SWISS BOARD MEMBERS



YOGESWARI

FOUNDER & PRESIDENT
SWITZERLAND / USA



**JEANINE
MUNYESHULI BARBE**

BOARD MEMBER
SWITZERLAND



ANJA BUNDSCHUH

BOARD MEMBER
GERMANY / SWITZERLAND



CÉLINE RYF

BOARD MEMBER
SWITZERLAND



MONICA NAMY

BOARD MEMBER
SWITZERLAND



LINH RAMIREZ

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
SWITZERLAND

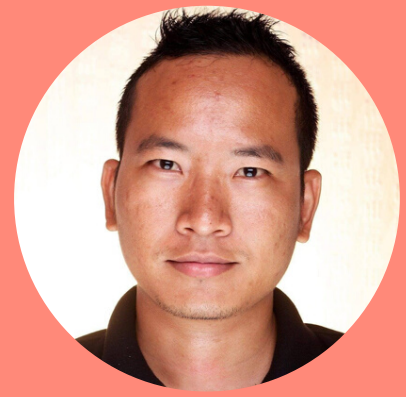
BOARD OF DIRECTORS - CAMBODIAN BOARD MEMBERS



YOGESWARI
FOUNDER & PRESIDENT
SWITZERLAND / USA



VIBOL CHEA
BOARD MEMBER
CAMBODIA



DARA HUOT
BOARD MEMBER
CAMBODIA

STAFF - AZAHAR TEAM MEMBERS

ACCOUNTANTS:

Lee Knight (USA)
Linh Ramirez (CH)
Somono Pheng (KHM)
Chhaykeang Sourn (KHM)

YOGA TEACHERS:

Vun Em
Koem Nith
Chhayleang Kauy
Nget Srey Neang
Vath Srey Pov
Vath Srey Lin
Thyna Panha
Noon Sreynoch
Rathy Khun
Meyyum Sa

YOGA TEACHER TRAINEES:

Victory Vuthy
Mesa Koem
Rithy Vann
Soveth Vath
Sophan Mai Meng
Srey Roth Meng
Ponleu Chab
Thona Phum
Srey Lin Mek
Srey Nak Ouk
Rathana Sien Kong
Chhorvvy Chan Puth
Sokhom Nort
Navy Pornng
Makara Rin
Saleav San
Voleak Pech
Srey Mom Sean
Kunthear Chhorm
Reaksa Voeung

CIRCUS:

Vannara Nouv

BOKATOR:

Dara Phang
Tharoth Sam Oum

DANCE:

Belle (Traditional Khmer)
Chive Chheng Heang

MEDITATION:

Srey Mom
Hani Mansour

CLEANING:

Srey Nheip Keo

MAHOB BUOS:

Sarai Vin
Savong Thon
Sopheak Pov

VOLUNTEERS:

Julien Forat (Finance)
Jackie Barbour (Yoga)
Bettina Blank (Yoga)

RWANDA:

Aline Mazimpaka
(Jivamukti Teacher)

IVORY COAST:

Jean-Claude Djamba
(Jivamukti Teacher)

SYRIA:

Ahmad Chaaban
(Jivamukti Teacher)

STAFF - AZAHAR TEAM CAMBODIA



THYDA SEK
NATIONAL DIRECTOR



LIVA SIN
PROGRAM DIRECTOR



RATHY KHUN
WEBSITE



CHHAYKEANG SOURN
ACCOUNTANT



SOMONO PHENG
ACCOUNTANT

STAFF - AZAHAR CAMBODIA YOGA TEACHERS



VUN EM



KOEM NITH



CHHAYLEANG KAUY



NGET SREY NEANG



VATH SREY LIN

STAFF - AZAHAR CAMBODIA YOGA TEACHERS



VATH SREY POV



THYNA PANHA



NOON SREYNOCH



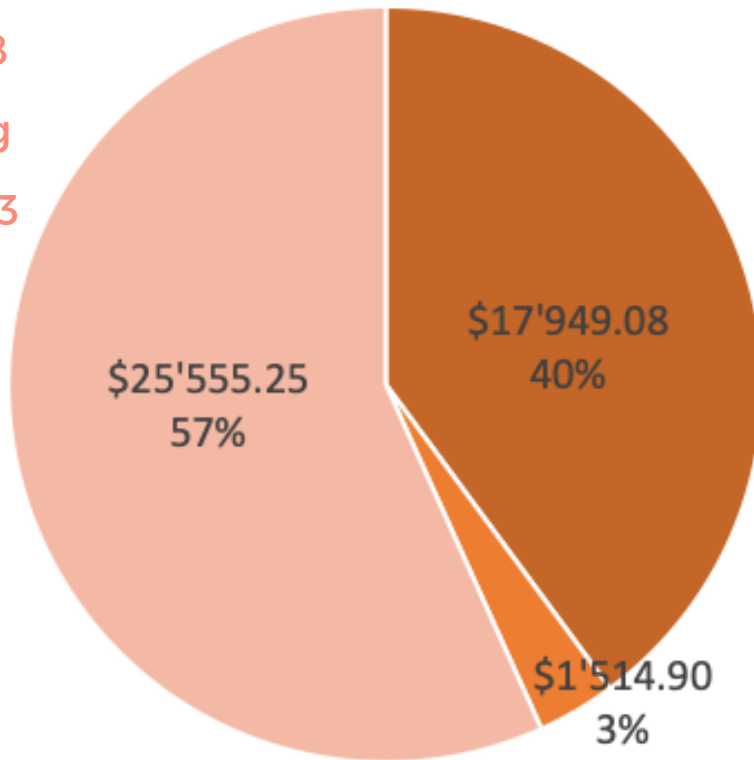
RATHY KHUN



MEYYUM SA

USA: 2018

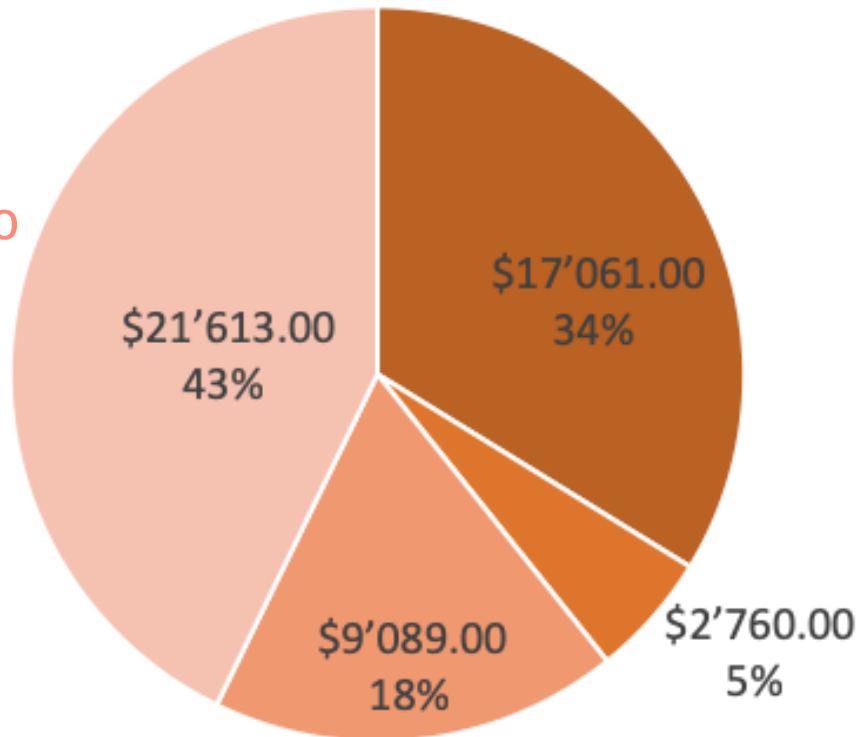
Operating revenue
\$ 45'019.23



■ Total Foundations and Coporations ■ Total Special Events (Yogathon) ■ Total Individuals

USA 2018:

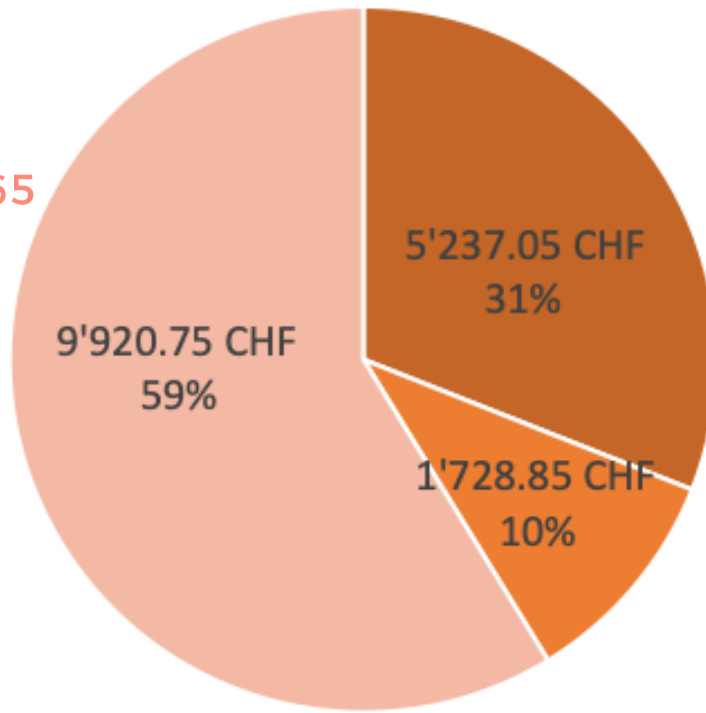
Operating expenses
\$ 50'523.00



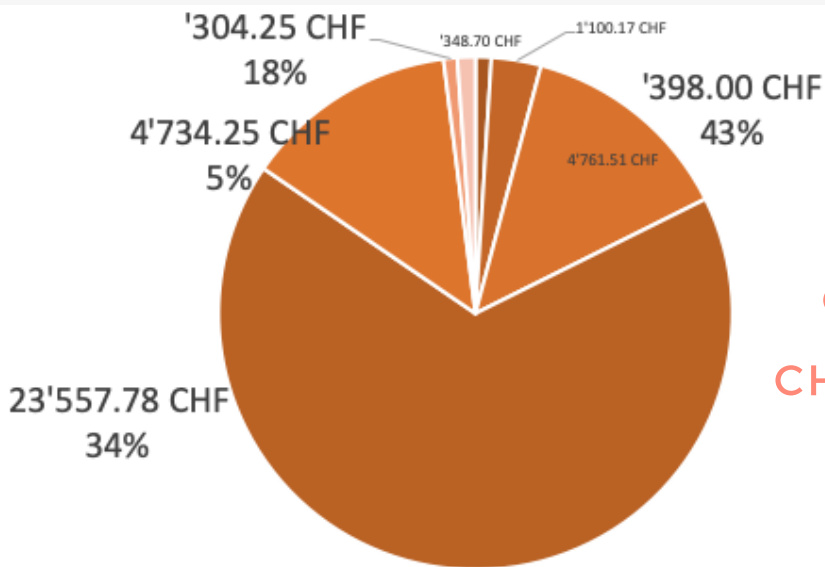
■ Yoga Program Cambodia ■ Program Management Cambodia
■ G&A AZAHAR Foundation ■ Minus balance at the beginning of the year

CH: 2018

**Operating revenue
CHF 16'886.65**



■ Total Foundations ■ Total Special Events (Yogathon) ■ Total Individuals

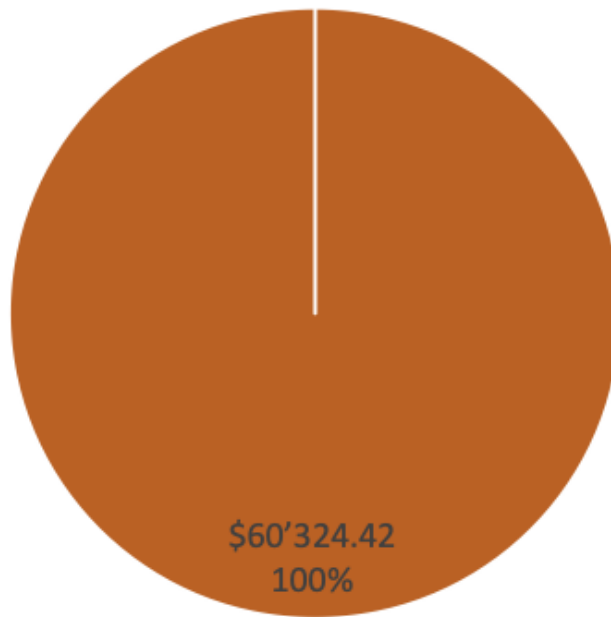


**CH: 2018
Operating expenses
CHF 35'204.66**

■ Bank Fee's ■ Reimbursement HR Staff (Travel costs)
 ■ AZAHAR Project Rwanda ■ AZAHAR Project Cambodia
 ■ AZAHAR Project Syria (TT Fee) ■ Consultant Fee's
 ■ Miscellaneous

Cambodia:
2018

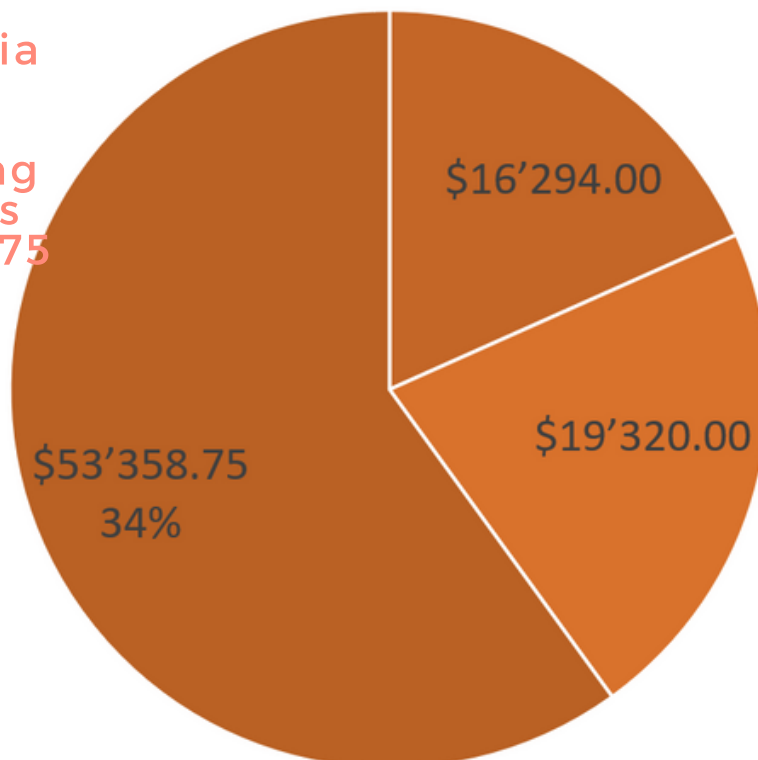
Operating
revenue
\$ 60'324.42



■ Total Program Activities

Cambodia
2018:

Operating
expenses
\$ 88'972.75



■ Total Administration

■ Total Human Resources

■ Total Program Activities

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT AZAHAR FOUNDATION

DONATE

Donations can be made in cash, bank transfer, checks or through our Gofundme Campaign www.gofundme.com/AZAHARyogathon
You can contact us directly via: info@azaharfoundation.org

The smallest donation can make the biggest impact.

RAISE MONEY AND JOIN OUR YOGATHON COMMUNITY

Dedicate your class, your practice or your donation to raise funds for yoga / peace projects in Cambodia, Rwanda and Ivory Coast. Help a generation of young people traumatized by war and genocide develop strategies of peace based in the practices of Yoga, Meditation, the Arts and Non-Violent Communication!

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Subscribe to our Mailing List or follow us on Social Media to receive important news about AZAHAR Foundation and our projects!

AZAHAR Foundation is a 501 ©3 registered non-profit organization in New York, and is a registered non-profit association in Switzerland. Your donation is tax deductible by law.



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