

The background is composed of several overlapping geometric shapes. In the top left, there is an orange shape with a rounded corner. To its right is a teal square. Below the orange shape is a yellow rectangle. On the right side, overlapping the teal square and yellow rectangle, is a large white shape with a rounded corner and a yellow circle inside it.

# VaLoo

**Annual Report 2021 - 2022**

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# Preface

Dear Members, dear interested readers,

It is our pleasure to present to you the first annual report of VaLoo. A lot has happened both prior and past our founding assembly in 2021.

In this annual report it is therefore not the aim to provide you with a detailed chronology of the events, but rather to share the highlights that we have achieved together.

VaLoo, is an umbrella association that aims to bring together promoters of resource-oriented sanitation. We enable co-creation through diverse working groups that tackle current challenges of resource-orientated sanitation in Switzerland. Though young, VaLoo has big ambitions and is on track to achieving them.

The past 1.5 years have been dedicated to organizing our network and outlining pathways to overcome challenges in the status-quo towards resource-orientated sanitation in Switzerland. We are pioneers, exploring and discovering with each step of the way. We look forward to sharing the journey with you, this present activity report summarizes VaLoo's various pillars with their goals, describes what has been done to achieve them, as well as gives a glimpse into how we will continue to work together in the future.

The report would not have been possible without the trust, cooperation and knowledge of our members and our board (says Secretariat). We can say without a doubt that it has been the one adventure after another. Many thanks to all who have had the courage to tread new ground together. We are looking forward to the next creative year with VaLoo.

Happy reading,

For the Secretariat & Board  
Louise, Gina and Kayla

Questions or inspirations? Feel free to contact us as [info@va-loo.ch](mailto:info@va-loo.ch)

# Activity report

As the association was founded on the 19th of November 2021, this is the first activity report which covers the activities since the founding of VaLoo up until the end of 2022.

The activities of VaLoo are structured along 4 pillars, as is this report:

1. **Association**
2. **Co-creation**
3. **Advocacy**
4. **Outreach**



# Association

The main goal of this pillar is to support the creation of the association and manage VaLoo's administrative tasks:

## Founding an association

It all began with the idea to connect with mind-like people for a World Toilet Day Benefit dinner that had to take place online. This meeting, with 28 people was used to ask the questions: "Do we want to set-up an association together?". The echo was clear, YES, WE WANT TO. Since that first meeting more meetings followed and first working groups (WG) were created.

The WG Organizational Form created the statutes for the association that were accepted, after some discussion and modifications of course, at the founding assembly.



## Our Board

At our founding assembly on World Toilet Day in November 2021, a team of 8 people was accepted unanimously as the board of directors. The board meets 4 times per year in person for half-day workshops in order to give strategic advice on current activities. Additionally, to these workshops, monthly update calls help the board keep on top of opportunities and challenges for VaLoo.



**Bastian Etter**  
Mitgründer bei Vuna



**Kai M. Udert**  
Titularprofessor, ETH Zürich; Gruppenleiter Eawag



**Jojo Casanova-Linder**  
Mitgründer Kompotoi AG



**Reto Wey**  
Gründer Consulting for Impact, Basel, Switzerland



**Kayla Coppns**  
Projektleiterin bei Aneco und Doktorandin an der Universität Genf



**Philippe Reymond**  
Selbständiger Berater, Mitglied der Schweizerischen Katastrophenhilfe (SKH), tätig für UNHCR



**Dorothee Spuhler**  
Postdoktorandin an der Eawag das Wasserforschungsinstitut des ETH. Bereichs



**Vincent Carel**  
Mitgründer bei piss&love

## Our Secretariate

Thanks to external funding, VaLoo has the means a secretariate which allows VaLoo achieve its ambitions goals. In the beginning of 2022, we published a vacancy position and held interviews. Workflows between the Secretariate, the Board, the Secretariate, and the General Assembly (GA) were defined.

The Secretariat exists of Louise Carpentier and Gina Marti. Louise is co-ordinates the secretariat and leads the VaLoo project enabled by Migros Pioneer Fund. Since March 2022 Gina is in charge of communication for VaLoo. We regret Kayla Coppens left our team in February 2022, but luckily, we could keep her as a board member. Andri Heidler leads the Advocacy activities and Jojo Linder together with Lukas Baumgartner, are in charge of developing a mobile exhibition Roadshow a key outreach objective.



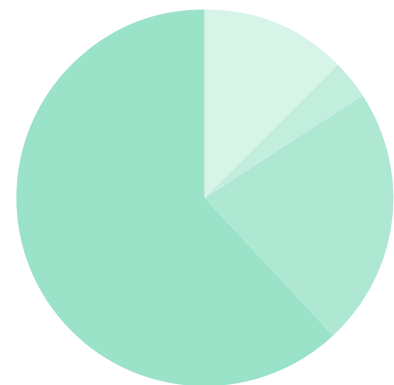
The founding of VaLoo as well as the main activities in the pillars are enabled by the Migros Pioneer Fund (2021-2024), which sees in VaLoo a solution for the society of tomorrow in the field of circular economy. At the start, the VaLoo project was hosted by Kompotoi, giving us time to set up the association's administration while already being active. At the founding assembly 2021, the members agreed the association takes on the ownership of the Migros Pioneer Fund VaLoo project. Since September 2022, all administration was managed by the VaLoo association.

## Our Charta

A task central to find our shared vision was the creation of a Charta. The Charta is a self-declaration for members to sign and guides us on our adventurous path. You can find the current version of the Charta, which will be presented during the yearly gathering of the General Assembly in March 2023 soon also on our website.

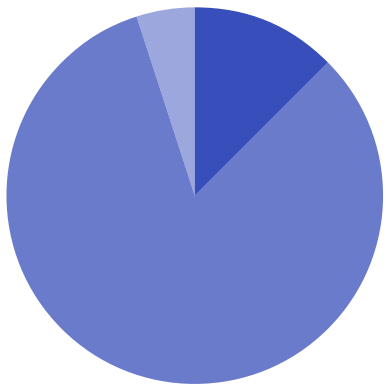
## Our Members

VaLoo was founded by 44 members from 18 organizations. At the end of 2022, VaLoo had 63 members from 24 organisations.



### Member type

- 8 Association
- 2 Research institute
- 14 Company
- 39 Individual



### Member segment

- 8 Housing & Living
- 52 Collection & Treatment
- 3 Reuse & Production



# Co-Creation

Co-creation is a driving force at VaLoo. The main goal of the pillar is bringing members together to work together as well as collaborating with other actors.

## Working Groups

VaLoo advances our common cause through working groups, where members are invited to participate and contribute their expertise and ideas.

The following working groups have been created and are active depending on our needs, their activities and outputs are described in more detail throughout the report:

- **Organizational Form:** created the statutes of the association and helped organizing the founding assembly. After the founding of VaLoo, the tasks and objectives of the WG were handed over to the Board.
- **Visual identity:** the group designed a logo and defined a color scheme and fonts for VaLoo.
- **Knowledge and Awareness:** the group's main goal is to collect, create and curate knowledge for VaLoo. Two of their big outputs in 2022 were an infographic and website creation.
- **Advocacy:** this group is dedicated to initiating an enabling legal environment for circular sanitation in Switzerland.
- **International Collaboration:** a circular Sanitation is also full of potential beyond borders, this group was created to benefit from international synergies and also in order to advance our mission at the international level.
- **Roadshow:** the Roadshow is a mobile exhibition which will make circular sanitation more tangible.

We sincerely thank all active members for sharing their expertise and voluntary engagement in the working groups, and we actively invite members to get involved, either by signing up for an existing working group or creating a working group of your own.





## World Toilet Day Award

Two Benefit events were held, one to celebrate the founding assembly in 2021 and another after the general assembly in 2022. At each event, a competition for the VaLoo World Toilet Day Award was organized. The public and a jury awarded the projects with 1'000 CHF funding, along with creative trophies. These awards allowed members to showcase new initiatives.



VeLoo



Urin\*all

- 5 projects participated in the 2021 award under the Title "Create VaLue of what ends up in the Loo". Aneco won the jury prize for its low-tech urine fertilizer development "Pitribon" and Michel Riechmann won the public award for his interactive presentation of his mobile bike toilet: VeLoo.
- In 2022, under the motto of co-creation, we invited members and non-members to hand in collaborative ideas working to bring our mission forward. Again, 5 projects were presented. The project team represented by Aneco convinced the Jury due to the number of partners and authorities involved in the pilot project in Presinge while the all gender Urin\*all from Luisa Tschumi and Leonie Roth convinced the Public.

All 10 projects were portrayed on our linked-in profile to spread the word.



Award, 3d-printed toilet paper



## Impact projects

VaLoo wants to enable 3 impact projects between 2022–2024 to facilitate the collaboration with authorities and decision makers to improve the enabling environment. These projects should 1) tackle regulatory challenges identified by our members and 2) should be driven by our members and actively involve regulating bodies such as authorities or associations. VaLoo provides workload, strategic advice and financial support to these projects.

As a first pilot project, the board decided to support the newly permitted pilot trial on composting dry toilet contents at Kunz tree nursery in Uster. This project was initiated by Kompotoi and received support from researchers of different institutes. The project was granted a permit in spring 2022 to test industrial composting by the Zürich authority for Water and Waste (AWEL). VaLoo choose to facilitate and support the project allowing us to build on the already established relationships with authorities and the large number of actors involved. The project tackles two regulatory challenges the WG Advocacy identified (see further), namely the “incomplete composting positive list of the VVEA” and “regulatory ambiguity around recycling human excreta” (see advocacy). In the project, the quality and safety of the produced fertilizer are evaluated. In addition, we actively exchange with national authorities with the goal to get clarity on the legal definition of separately collected human excreta and the possible legal paths for reuse of the produced fertilizer. This work is closely coordinated with members of the WG Advocacy.

In spring 2022, a first composting trial was performed, and the finished product analyzed on standard parameters for nutrients, compost quality, polluting foreign matters. Where no parameters or limits exist for recycling fertilizers, the analyses plan is completed with pioneer work done in Germany on the DIN SPEC 91421:2020-12, a quality assurance standard being developed for recycling products from dry toilets for use in horticulture. This is the case for pathogens and micropollutants. Micropollutants will be measured in 2023. So far, first results showed a good and safe compost.

As a rewarding result, VaLoo could establish good relationships with cantonal (AWEL) and national authorities (FOEN). We thank everybody who is involved in this project for the support and engagement and we are looking forward to continue this project in 2023.

Two other impact projects will be selected in March 2023 through our impact project call (see outlook).



# Advocating

The main goal of this pillar is to initiate the transition to an enabling legal environment. The activities of this group are managed by the WG Advocacy.

In 2022, the main goal was to understand the existing regulations in Switzerland that affect or hinder the implementation and scaling of resource-oriented sanitation. The main challenges our members are facing were collected and ranked, in order to have a clear overview of regulatory challenges.

Also throughout this first year, multiple opportunities crossed our path where we could advocate for resource-oriented sanitation systems. For example, the WG prepared a statement to the partly revision of the USG towards more circular economy in Switzerland. VaLoo stressed the importance of a circular economy for nutrients and closely follows-up with the process.

Additionally, VaLoo became member of the European Sustainable Phosphorous Platform (ESPP) and was represented at the ESPP conference in Vienna. We try to keep track of the multiple advocacy opportunities opening up thanks to our participation in the ESPP. One of these opportunities was the invitation to take part in the European Commission survey that sourced for new materials for fertilizer compounds (CMC). Through joint forces with our partner associations NetSan in Germany and the RAE in France, we were able to motivate many actors EU-wide to participate, so that 28% of the answers advocated for human-excreta based fertilizers.

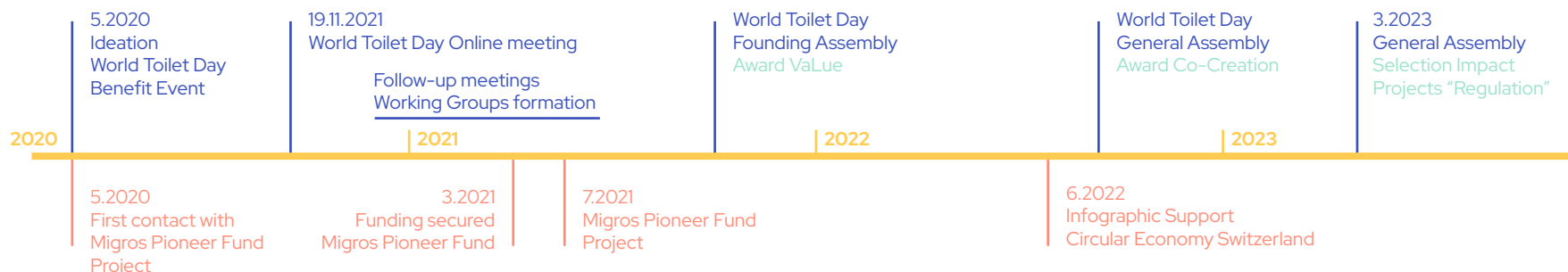
# Outreach

VaLoo aims to spread the word about the potential of resource-oriented sanitation. To do so, VaLoo communicates about current challenges related to linear resource and wastewater management and promotes solutions for closing water and nutrient cycles. The main outreach achievements include:

- 6 community updates for members
- 2 newsletters (for both members and non-members)
- Landing webpage was implemented
- Linked-in profile was created and regular updates & posts were shared
- An attractive collective business card was designed
- A virtual VaLoo sticker which can be easily integrated into email signatures was designed and shared with members.

We were happily surprised by first media attention presenting our mission and portraying members in the SonntagsBlick and the SRF input podcast "Fäkalien sind nicht weh, sondern wow". We represented VaLoo at multiple Networking events (e.g. Urinodukt by Vuna and Quadrat Impulse).

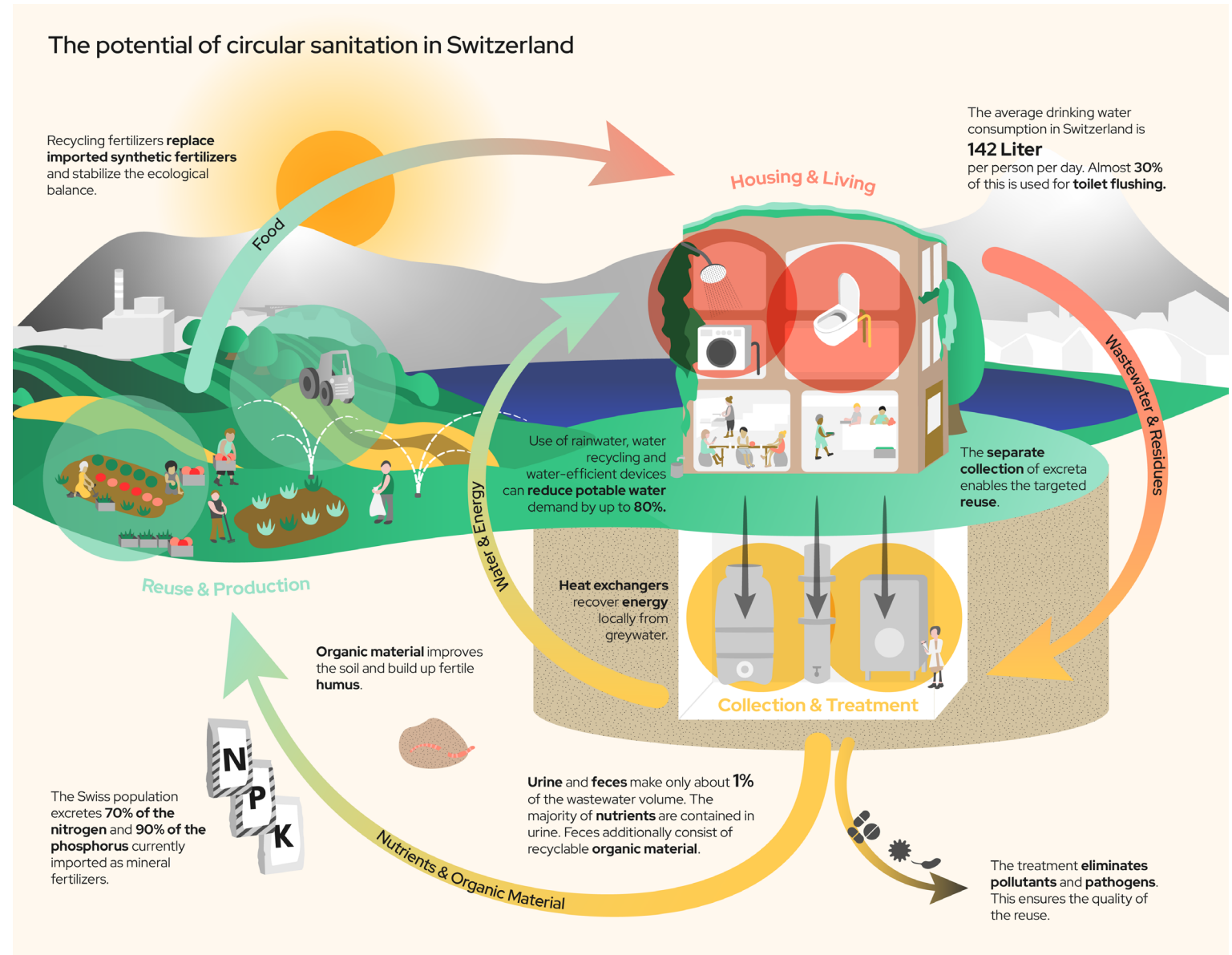
## Flashback – Timeline





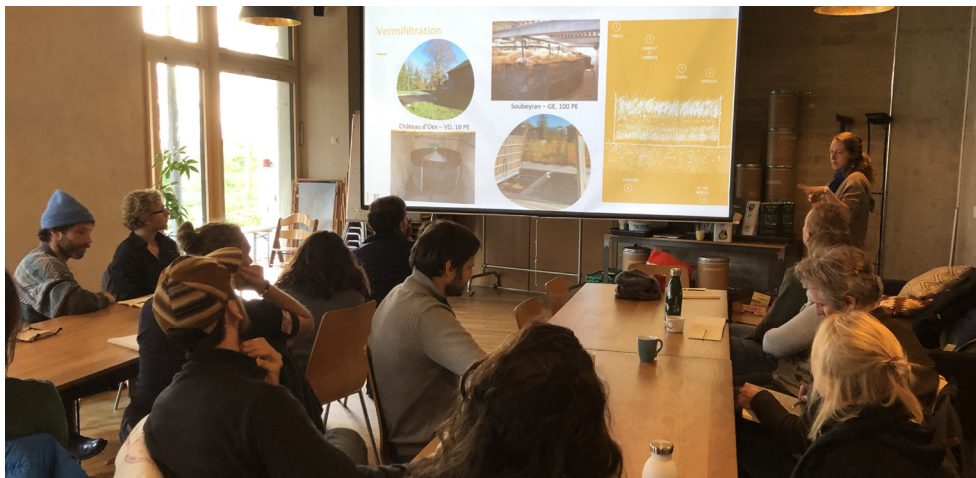
## Website & Infographics

The WG Knowledge and Awareness has worked intensively on two large projects this past year. The group created an infographic showing the potential of circular sanitation in Switzerland by visualizing our vision. The satisfying result can be used to quickly introduce people to our topic and will be a key element to structure our website. Creating the website has been the second big task the group took on. The site will function as a knowledge hub, which will host a map allowing visitors to discover solutions and products of our members while the knowledge part invites users to get an overview or dive deep into circular sanitation related topics.



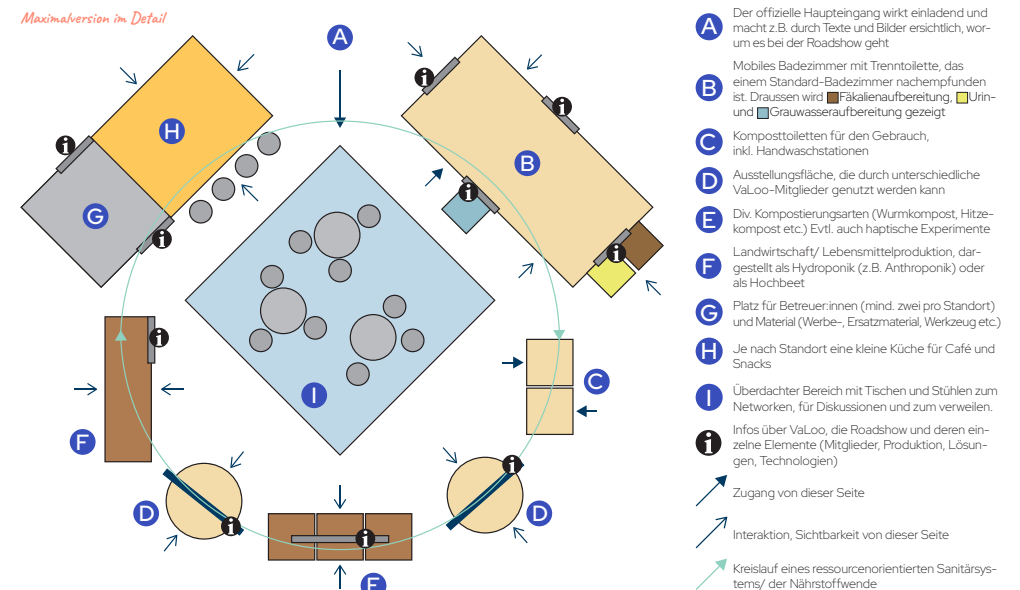
## Thematic Workshops

A first thematic workshop directed towards architects was organized in Geneva: "Circular Sanitation implementation in Swiss Cities." Various members & third-party organizations came together to present the workshop, which attracted 16 participants.



## The Roadshow

We are planning to display the potential of circular sanitation in all corners in Switzerland starting in 2024 in the form of a mobile exhibition. In 2022, the WG Roadshow created an attractive concept that will allow us to search for additional funds and secure the stops for the roadshow (for example, at fairs or city events).



# The year in figures

The annual accounts for our extra-long first association year go from of our extra-long association year 19.11.2021 until December -2022 and are therefor separated in 2 columns. were externally revised by ATO Treuhand fiduciary.

Before founding the association, the VaLoo project enabled by Migros Pioneer Fund, was hosted by the company Kompotoi from its start in July 2021. The VaLoo project was handled as an income neutral project in the annual revision of Kompotoi (2021).

Revenues: In the founding phase, Migros Pioneer Fund is the main source of revenue for VaLoo. Other revenues include support for the creation of our infographic through a call for Circular Economy Discourse (Circular Economy Switzerland, 2022) as well as 2022 membership fees and donations from our 2022 World Toilet Day Benefit event.

Annual Accounts 2021-2022 are subject to approval by the General Assembly in March 2023.

## The year in figures - Financial report.

For the association period since its establishment 19.11.2021-31.12.2022

Income statement		Balance	
Income	CHF	Assets	CHF
Funding by foundations	195.873	<b>Current assets</b>	
Project Infographic (Circular Economy Switzerland)	3.317	Cash equivalents - ABS Bank	274.735
Membership fees	6.675	Receivables	570
Donations Events (WTD 2022)	3.016	Prepaid expenses	507
Income from events (WTD 2021)	46	<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>275.812</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>208.927</b>		
		<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>Current liabilities</b>	
<b>Project expenditure</b>		Accounts payable	22.248
Events (World Toilet Day)	3.069	Notes Payable	245.470
Workshops	1.314	<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>267.718</b>
Member projects, impact projects, legal advice	10.891		
Communication and marketing	12.182	<b>Equity</b>	
CES discourse infographic	3.290	Association assets	0
Other project expenditure	1.531	Profits	8.094
<b>Personnel costs</b>		<b>Total equity</b>	<b>8.094</b>
Wages	124.405		
Social Security	14.403	<b>Total Balance</b>	<b>275.812</b>
Other personnel costs	8.174		
<b>Operating costs</b>			
Room rental, property insurance	1.128		
Office supplies, bookkeeping, consulting	3.493		
Member assembly, board meetings	1.992		
Other administrative expenses	1.059		
IT expenses	928		
Advertising expenses (advertising, travel, memberships & networking)	3.219		
Interest, bank charges	283		
Non-operating expenses	9.499		
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>200.833</b>		
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>208.927</b>		
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>200.833</b>		
<b>Profit of the association</b>	<b>8.094</b>		



# Outlook

Our goals for 2023 are again very ambitious and will require engagement of our members. This outlook is thus a warm invitation to collaborate with us on our path towards a well-established and impactful VaLoo Network, for example by:

- invite one new member to our network. We hope to reach 130 members the end of 2023.
- engage in a working group: we have multiple working groups where you can engage over time or for short-term projects to tackle current challenges.
- share opportunities and news with VaLoo: besides a periodic newsletter going to interested readers, we share news from within the network regularly with our members.

In 2023, our priority activities are:

- Defining the budget plan, roadmap and financial strategy for VaLoo 2024-27 with a new WG;
- Tackling regulatory challenges hindering the implantation of circular sanitation together with our members. The main strategy to do so is by supporting 2 new VaLoo impact projects, which we will select at the General Assembly in 2023;
- Coordinating advocacy activities at political and authority level, such as following-up with the process of the USG-revision for a circular economy of nutrients in Switzerland;
- Launching a full website which functions as a knowledge hub for circular sanitation solutions and our members;
- Fundraising & creation of the educational concept and content for the Roadshow;
- Hosting two thematic workshops addressing practitioners from the building sector to share practical experiences as well as the potential of circular sanitation solutions;
- Organizing an international network event with our partner associations.

## We look forward to another eventful year.

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