

## Invitation to events with Rita Sarin (THP Country Director in India)

We cordially invite you to an event together with the Foundation "Stiftung für Freiheit und Menschenrechte". The topic is: "New Perspectives for a Vision – Women Shape the Future of Their Villages in India". You are given the opportunity to learn about the approach of THP India first-hand in English by Rita Sarin, who is a rousing speaker. The Swiss-Indian singer Sophia Akkara will accompany the evening with Indian music.

Date: Wednesday, September 6, 7 pm to 8:30 pm with aperitif  
Venue: Französische Kirche Bern, Raum Chor, Zeughausgasse 8, 3000 Bern  
(450 m from Bern main station, tram and bus stop Zytglogge, behind Kornhauskeller, vis-à-vis Hotel Bern)

Rita Sarin will also tell about the progress of her work in India on Sunday, September 3 at 4:30 pm: "New Perspectives for a Vision – Women Shape the Future of Their Villages in India" (presentation in English with aperitif),  
Venue: Protestant Church Turgi, Kirchweg, 5300 Turgi (easily reached by train, 2 min from Turgi train station, exit platform 1, you won't miss the church).

We hope we have succeeded in inspiring you for one or the other of these events and are looking forward to your signing on by e-mail:  
alexandra.koch@hungerprojekt.ch  
or by phone: 044 586 68 34 by August 30. Admission is free, donations are welcome!

## Changes in the Global Governance and on the Board of THP Switzerland

The Hunger Project Family all over the world is in mourning for **Professor Idrissa Dicko**, who was a very committed associate for more than twenty years, first as the Country Director in Burkina Faso and, globally, for the last seven years as vice president for the programs in Africa. His work was highly esteemed, and everybody who worked together with him will miss him very much.



from left: Board Members Daniel Heini, Manuela Stiffler, Dorna Revie, Karin Tasso, Stella Cunidi, Ursula Maier, President Anne-Céline Bonnier and Managing Director Alexandra Koch



### THE HUNGER PROJECT SWITZERLAND

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We regret that the former global president Åsa Skogström Feldt departed the organization to move back to Sweden for family reasons; however, she will continue in The Hunger Project family as an activist and investor.

Suzanne Mayo Frindt has been president and CEO of the global Hunger Project since May 2017. Suzanne is a long-time Hunger Project investor and activist, with extensive business experience, including many years working as a coach with CEOs.

Three new members of the board were elected at the general meeting of THP Switzerland: Stella Cundi, Ursula Maier and Karin Tasso. Here is a short introduction of the three dedicated women: Stella has been working for THP Switzerland as a volunteer for three years. With her 15 years' experience in the insurance business and her Advanced Studies in Sustainable Finance and Corporate Development she is well qualified to take over the role of chief financial officer. Ursula Maier (profession: purchasing manager) has been supporting THP as a member for many years and as a volunteer for two years. As a member of the board she will take over the office management and the planning of events and meetings. Karin Tasso, who was born in Sweden, was motivated by a member of THP Sweden to commit herself to working for THP Switzerland. She works in marketing and communications in Geneva and will continue supporting THP activities above all in the French-speaking part of Switzerland. We are glad that our board is made up of seven members now.

### Partner Story from Kuntala Majhi in India

Kuntala Majhi lives in the village of Sunapur, in the northeastern state of Odisha, in India. Kuntala has served on the Gram Panchayat, the local elected government council, since 2012. After hearing about THP-training programs, Kuntala attended the first of many capacity building workshops to strengthen her leadership skills and receive additional information about her key roles and responsibilities. Kuntala also joined the Alibha federation, an organization of elected women representatives who meet at the state level to lobby for their collective interests, including greater transparency and accountability between government levels. With the help of her colleagues in the Alibha federation, Kuntala was able to obtain pensions and



housing support for her constituents, build concrete roads and provide electricity to a section of the village. Kuntala has also campaigned to make her village open-defecation free under the Clean India program. Building on her prior successes, Kuntala started mobilizing the women to fight with her to end violence against women in their village. She began campaigns to raise awareness, reaching not just village residents but also her colleagues on the Gram Panchayat. Together, they were able to stop some instances of violence

against women and spread awareness to prevent future incidents.

From her years in service, Kuntala has realized that the best way to ensure success for a women leader is to have more women leaders. As a result, Kuntala has been eagerly recruiting women to run as ward members and for other elected positions on the Gram Panchayat. She has also been bringing these women with her to participate in trainings organized by The Hunger Project-India and partner organizations.

Thank you for your commitment and dedication to ending chronic, persistent hunger by 2030!

Alexandra Koch, Managing Director THP Switzerland