

An underwater photograph of a riverbed. The water is clear and blue. The riverbed is composed of numerous smooth, rounded stones of various sizes and colors, including shades of brown, tan, and grey. On the right side of the image, there is a vertical bank of green algae or moss growing on the rocks. The text "Id. New Interventions" is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**Id. New  
Interventions**



## New Interventions

This new budget line is intended to fund innovative projects that meet at least two of the following requirements: they must be transverse projects cutting across the Foundation's different statutory aims, take place in more than one country, be developed in the form of a partnership and involve either distributive activities or activities designed for the funding of other institutions from the non-profit sector.

	Amounts in euros
Subsides and grants	716 804
Own activities	47 282
<b>Total</b>	<b>764 086</b>
Receipts	3 159

### Neglected Tropical Diseases Initiative

Under the heading of "Innovative Projects", an item that was newly created in the budget for 2009, approval was given in March 2009 for the sum of € 170,000 to be earmarked for the participation of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation in the European Foundations Initiative for Neglected Tropical Diseases (EFINTD).

Also participating in the EFINTD are four other European Foundations from different countries – the Volkswagen Foundation, Mérieux Foundation, Nuffield Foundation and Cariplo Foundation. This initiative, which is already in its second year of existence, is designed to strengthen African research capacity in Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs), in the areas of biomedicine and public health. According to the World Health Organisation, NTDs are a group of 14 infectious and parasitic diseases that mainly affect populations living in tropical and sub-tropical climates under conditions of extreme poverty, with it being estimated that these diseases affect more than one billion people worldwide. Besides the negative effects that this group of diseases has on the health of individuals (they are debilitating, incapacitating and can be deadly), NTDs also contribute towards the perpetuation of a continuing cycle of poverty. With this initiative, and with the support given to certain projects, the aim is to make an important contribution towards the control and eradication of these diseases.

In 2009, the EFINTD launched the second edition of the competitive application process for the award of post-doctoral scholarships to young African researchers seeking funding for research and development projects in the area of NTDs. There are three phases to be followed in each edition of this process for the selection of scholarship holders: the first consists of a general presentation of the research proposal; the applicants that are selected for the second phase must then present a more detailed research proposal; finally, these applicants are invited to take part in a final conference. These conferences are designed to make it possible to choose the final recipients of the scholarships to be awarded under the scope of the Programme, who will then receive support for the development of their research projects, as well as to stimulate an exchange of ideas and

information in the area of NTDs. The final conference for the selection of the scholarship holders in the 2009 edition of this competitive application process (chosen from a total of 20 pre-selected applicants) will take place in Lisbon at the beginning of 2010.

Also under the scope of the EFINTD, but on this occasion with the funding being provided only by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, a call was launched in mid-2009 inviting applications for PhD Scholarships in the area of NTDs from graduates of the Portuguese-Speaking African Countries (PALOPs), with the aim of encouraging research into NTDs in the countries of origin of the applicants and leading to their qualification with PhD degrees. Three scholarships were awarded for a period of up to three years, with a part of the applicant's training due to be provided at European universities and scientific institutions and with the research component set to take place, at least in part, at a research institution in the applicant's country of origin. Two scholarships were also awarded for training periods of short duration at the university institutions where two of those answering this call for applications intend to undertake their research work, as well as one scholarship for a Master's degree.

## **Elderly people**

### **Ageing and social cohesion**

Due to the fall in birth rates and increased life expectancy, we have been witnessing the progressive ageing of the world population. This phenomenon will strongly affect this century because it has impacts on the organisation and functioning of society. Within this framework, and because support for the elderly has been one of the Foundation's main concerns, the Gulbenkian Human Development Programme (GHDP) and the UK Branch have decided to undertake a joint intergenerational relationship programme in the firm conviction that different generations spending time together and sharing experiences will help to improve the quality of life of both groups.

### **Ageing and Social Cohesion (2008-2012)**

This is a GHDP/UK Branch transnational initiative to promote intergenerational relationships. It was set up in 2008 with a view to furthering knowledge on intergenerational practices, fostering social cohesion and reducing elderly people's isolation. The programme involved a number of activities: the creation of the European Map of Intergenerational Learning network, which brought together 23 partners specialising in intergenerational intervention from 21 countries, an international scoping study of intergenerational practices conducted by the Oxford Institute of Ageing and four pilot projects selected in the United Kingdom and Portugal to promote intergenerational cooperation and digital inclusion based on one of the following themes – “Environment”, “Migration and intercultural issues”, and “Isolation and loneliness”. In the United Kingdom, projects from Age Concern Oxfordshire and Age Concern South Tyneside were selected for the “Addressing a 21st-Century Challenge” competition. The two projects chosen in Portugal were “Rio Lis: Velho Rio Con’Vida” from the Leiria Polytechnic Institute and “Escola de Mestres” from the Beja Polytechnic Institute.

A comparative study on “Intergenerational Relationships” in Portugal and the United Kingdom was published, along with reports from seminars by experts on dementia, isolation and intergenerational relationships.

## **Café Salam / Dialogue Café**

Subsidy awarded to the Association for the Promotion of Intercultural Dialogue (Associação Promo Diálogo entre Culturas – Dialogue Café), with a view to the creation of a worldwide network of cafés, with display monitors for videoconferencing designed to enable people from different cultures to establish a discussion forum in several different places at the same time.

## **Environment, science and art**

The Gulbenkian Institute of Science, the University of Lisbon Botanical Garden and the Oxford Botanical Garden are partners in an initiative that makes it possible for a British artist to reside in Portugal and a Portuguese artist to reside in the United Kingdom, so that they can produce works related to the environment, science and art.

Rob Kessler will take advantage of the most modern imaging equipment at the Gulbenkian Institute of Science to create new works focusing on botanical themes. During the period that he has spent at the institute, he has directed workshops in science and art aimed not only at graduate students but also at students from the cycle of basic education. At the same time, the Portuguese artist Gabriela Albergaria is undertaking a similar residency at the Oxford Botanical Garden.

The joint results of these initiatives will be presented at an exhibition.

## **Competitive Application Process for Support for Development Cooperation Projects**

Under the scope of the “New Interventions” budget line, approval was given in July 2009 to the competitive application process for “Development Cooperation Projects”, which is designed to support development cooperation projects contributing to the concerted pursuit of more than one Millennium Development Goal (MDG) in the Portuguese-Speaking African Countries and in East Timor, giving special emphasis to projects that seek to increase the autonomy of women, namely through their education and training and the improvement of the health conditions of the populations covered by these same projects.

Applications were assessed by an independent jury, in accordance with the priorities and criteria set out in the Regulations for this Competitive Application Process, resulting in the approval of seven projects (four in Guinea-Bissau, two in Mozambique and one in Cape Verde).

The approved projects will have a maximum duration of two years (2010 and 2011), and are as follows:

- › “Nô Djunta, Nô Mindjora, Nô Saúde”, in Guinea-Bissau, presented by ISU (Institute for University Solidarity and Cooperation). The main challenges facing this project are the promotion of self-employment and improved access to basic healthcare. This project has three fundamental and interdependent aspects: (i) the granting of microloans to 20 women’s groups to set up activities that will generate an income; (ii) training in education for health, through activities designed both to raise awareness and to provide training in matters relating to reproductive and child health; and (iii) a general improvement in the provision of basic health services in the region of Quinara, through

the setting up of community health facilities, to make it possible for people with lower incomes to enjoy access to healthcare.

- › “Women and Development: Self-employment and Self-confidence”, in Guinea-Bissau, presented by ACEP (Association for Cooperation between People). This project makes the response to the constraints of the Quinara region (sectors of Buba and Fulacunda) dependent on the use of available resources and potentialities. It will involve the main target group (women and girls) in economic activities that can generate self-employment, income and social recognition, using local resources and promoting innovation with the use of simple technologies to facilitate appropriation and accessibility. The project will create appropriate conditions for intervention in areas such as information about health, sanitation and decent living conditions.
  
- › “Women, Health and Income on the Island of Jeta”, in Guinea-Bissau, presented by INDE (Intercooperation for Development). The aim of this project is to reduce poverty and improve the living conditions of the population of Jeta, namely women and children, guaranteeing them access to basic healthcare and stimulating economic activities, by enhancing the potential of already existing resources. These objectives are to be achieved through the rehabilitation of the Health Centre, the realisation of training programmes about general healthcare, female and reproductive health and the management of micro-enterprises, and the transformation of local products with the aim of enhancing local trade, allowing for an increase in the income originating from the subsistence activities of women.
  
- › “Women’s Leadership in Health: a Process of Community Responsibility”, in Guinea-Bissau, presented by VIDA (International Volunteers for African Development). Based on its 11 years of experience of working in the São Domingos region, this project is designed to build and strengthen the capacity of pilot schemes for co-management in the area of health, led by women, so that they can form technical and material bases for the implementation of a system of co-management guaranteeing the level of access, quality and sustainability that are essential for the existence of a fair and equitable system in terms of maternal-infant health.

- › “Sinha Lowo Ni Kulangutelaca: Tree of Hope”, in Mozambique, presented by Instituto Marquês de Valle Flôr. This project is designed to contribute towards improving the health and economic conditions of the population of Namacha, a rural area in the province of Maputo, in the south of Mozambique. In a district where women frequently take on the role of head of the family, and recognising their importance as essential agents in the improvement of the socio-economic well-being of communities, the activity of this project is aimed at empowering women to help in the progressive eradication of poverty, promoting new dynamics of production for family consumption and trade, as well as new instruments for water purification.
  
- › “Stitch by Stitch with Health”, in Mozambique, presented by the Mãos Unidas Padre Damião International Association. This project is designed to train and equip 150 women with tools that will enable them to confront the crisis and their own subsistence in a sustained fashion, by making use of the means and resources that are within their reach. The aim is to train women in a trade that is useful to them in their day-to-day life, affording them a means of subsistence, through the making of clothes and/or handcrafted articles that can be sold at the local markets in the nearby cities, namely Inhambane, and at tourist outlets.
  
- › “Training for Women”, in Cape Verde, presented by City of Lisbon Foundation. Given the less-favoured situation of the women of the island of Santo Antão, this project seeks to ensure that a considerable number of women in this situation can overcome the situation of poverty in which they find themselves by investing in their training/empowerment, equipping them with the instruments that will enable them to develop a professional activity capable of integrating them into the community and helping them to overcome the problem of unemployment and poverty. This project is centred on a programme of training/empowerment designed to raise awareness and provide different but complementary skills, with its overall objectives being both to contribute towards the employability of women and their integration into the labour market on the island of Santo Antão and, simultaneously, to guarantee better conditions for maternal-infant health.