

Press release of 26 March 2020

Groupe Mutuel has pledged CHF 2 million to support Swiss citizens, SMEs and the medical profession during the Covid-19 crisis

Martigny, 26 March. As a socially responsible and committed company, Groupe Mutuel, through its Foundation, has decided to actively support people in need by donating CHF 1 million to the Chaîne du Bonheur. Groupe Mutuel Foundation is also joining forces with Vaudoise Assurance and QoQa to support small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) by taking part in an innovative project and donating an additional CHF 1 million. Finally, Groupe Mutuel will also support the medical professional by making specialised staff available to the Swiss health system free of charge.

Supporting citizens in need

The public health and financial crisis caused by the coronavirus is currently putting many people in a difficult situation. Alongside the measures taken by the Swiss Confederation and cantons, the Chaîne du Bonheur is taking action to help these people. It provides support to individuals and families severely affected by the financial, health and social consequences of the crisis, by offering targeted and immediate assistance. Groupe Mutuel Foundation commends this initiative and is making its own contribution with a donation of CHF 1 million. *“It is our duty to show solidarity and help those in need during this extraordinary time”*, said Karin Perraudin, President of Groupe Mutuel Foundation.

Groupe Mutuel, Vaudoise Assurance and Qoqa are joining forces to help SMEs

The two largest insurers in French-speaking Switzerland are joining forces with QoQa to support those small retailers and producers in Switzerland that are now facing financial hardship. From Thursday onwards and via a new platform, QoQa will provide the opportunity for citizens to support the economy by purchasing vouchers that will be redeemable at local retailers. Through this commitment, Groupe Mutuel Foundation is taking concrete action to support local businesses. *“This is a difficult time for a number of small and medium-sized businesses and Switzerland’s economic actors must work together and show solidarity. Thanks to this initiative, in partnership with QoQa, it will be possible to provide tangible help to retailers”*, added Thomas Boyer, CEO of Groupe Mutuel.

Groupe Mutuel is committed to supporting the health system

On a voluntary basis, Groupe Mutuel will allow its specialised staff (nurse consultants, pharmacy assistants and pharmacy advisers) to become involved with health institutions. Groupe Mutuel will continue to pay the salaries of those employees. In this way, as a stakeholder in the healthcare system, Groupe Mutuel intends to show solidarity with the healthcare providers who work daily to fight the coronavirus and save lives.

In addition to these initiatives for the general population, Groupe Mutuel has taken several concrete and action-oriented measures to help its customers, such as suspending commercial rents and debt recovery procedures.

Groupe Mutuel has also reorganised its activities to ensure the highest level of service to its insured persons while safeguarding the health of its employees. In this regard, over 90% of its teams are now providing services to customers directly from their homes.

“All of us together have a collective responsibility to do everything we can to stop this pandemic”, concluded Thomas Boyer, CEO of Groupe Mutuel.

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About Groupe Mutuel

Over 1.3 million private individuals and 24,000 corporate clients are insured with Groupe Mutuel.

Groupe Mutuel's overall turnover exceeds CHF 5.6 billion.

In addition to compulsory health insurance (LAMal/KVG) and supplemental insurance (LCA/VVG), customers can choose from an extensive range of life insurance plans to cover risks and provide for their individual pension benefits, as well as from a range of patrimony insurance solutions (legal protection, private liability insurance and household contents insurance). Moreover, Groupe Mutuel insurers offer daily allowance insurance to companies, pursuant to LAMal/KVG and LCA/VVG, as well as compulsory accident insurance (LAA/UVG). Groupe Mutuel also manages Groupe Mutuel Prévoyance-GMP pension fund.

Groupe Mutuel Foundation

Groupe Mutuel Foundation was created in 2018 and develops its activities on a non-profit basis. In this respect, the Foundation supports the well-being of the Swiss population through the implementation of health promotion and prevention measures. Its scope of action covers institutions and associations, individual customers and companies. To carry out its mandate, Groupe Mutuel Foundation covers three types of commitments: individual and institutional support and the presentation of incentive awards.