



A YEAR OF NUMEROUS **CRISES**

In 2023, the humanitarian needs in Fida's working areas were greater than ever. The emergency in Ukraine deepened and conflicts in Yemen, Myanmar and the Democratic Republic of Congo continued. A new conflict began with a war between Israel and Hamas in Gaza, causing immense suffering. Earthquakes in Turkey, Syria and Nepal caused thousands of deaths and material destruction. Famine deepened in Burundi, Uganda and elsewhere.

The effects of climate change hit the most vulnerable

In all the crises mentioned above, Fida, together with its partners, was able to bring hope and a future in the midst of darkness.

> During Christmas week, I travelled to Lviv to meet our partner Pentecostal Church of Ukraine, a growing denomination that is doing strong relief work in the midst of war. I met many people who are putting themselves on the line for the victims of war. We started working together right next to the front line in eastern Ukraine. The Ukrainian Pentecostal Church is in great need of European contact. It is important that Fida can play its part in encouraging them.

I thank everyone who has made it possible for Fida, together with its partners, to give hope and a future to millions of people in 2023!

Harri Hakola

Executive Director

YEAR 2023

Fida's humanitarian aid reached 141,000 people.

Finns donated €450,000 in aid.

The Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs supported our work with 3,72 million euros.



In Gaza, 1,000 people were given food aid and psychosocial support.



In Congo (DR), Fida supported 2,037 refugee child's schooling.



In Yemen, Fida implemented a humanitarian assistance project of €1.42 million in the Taiz region. 1,800 families suffering from severe hunger received food aid. Psychosocial support groups reached 810 people.



Fida provided €40,000 for the supply of food aid to Burundi and Uganda.



In Nepal, an earthquake destroyed homes.
For €20,000, Fida provided food for the
help and shelters for 230 families.



in Myanmar, causing massive damage and distress to people already in crisis. Fida distributed food aid to families.

In 2023, Fida responded to a number of humanitarian crises. We helped people in need in droughts, floods, earthquakes and armed conflicts. For example, we were able to deliver aid quickly to an earthquake-ravaged village in Nepal.

We continued our work in conflict zones in Yemen and the Democratic Republic of Congo, providing food aid and psychosocial support to those most in need. As the distress in Ukraine continued, Fida shifted its aid focus closer to the frontline of the fighting. We supported local people living in the midst of a difficult conflict.

These efforts were made possible thanks to your support. Thank you for your help and your commitment! Together, we brought hope for a better future to those who need it the most.



Maija Saarni, Humanitarian Assistance Manager

We strengthen people's possibilities to lead a decent life amid crises. We help communities affected by protracted crises to return to everyday life.

IN UKRAINE, WORK BEGAN **NEAR THE FRONT LINE**

Masha, an 11-year-old fifth-grader, is one of the children we help in Ukraine. Masha has been living in temporary accommodation for over a year after fleeing the war with her family from Bakhmut. Masha has learned to love her new city, even though she misses her home and friends.

In her new home, Masha has been able to continue gymnastics and dancing, hobbies that she has been doing since the age of five. Being able to continue these activities has helped her to adapt to her new life away from home. Daily routines and continued schooling are important.

In 2023, Fida provided €1.15 million in aid to Ukraine. More than 3,500 people living in the midst of the war received food and health services. €900,000 of the aid came from the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs and €250,000 from Fida's donors.

Fida's assistance included regular food aid, psychosocial support groups, trauma therapy and children's camps.

Fida started a new cooperation with Kindness, the relief organisation of the Ukrainian Pentecostal church, in eastern Ukraine, near the front line. Power banks, medicines and emergency kits were distributed to villages in the Zaporizhia region for the winter.

Palestinian Christians have suffered for a long time. I ask that the world would not forget us. Not many people know about our situation – it is particularly bad in Gaza and the West Bank, where people have no food, and many are living in makeshift tents. My colleagues in Gaza are doing relief work at the risk of their lives. They are housing people in churches, cooking food and helping those in need. We are also helping in the West Bank. Many Gazans are trapped there and are staying in a camp set up at the Jericho police station, among other places. In addition to food aid, we organise medical examinations, give medicines and send the injured to hospital if necessary. We need each other now more than ever, we are called to build peace. There is land here and space for everyone to live in peace. We need dialogue and building

> bridges. Please pray for our country and our people, so that we can have a lasting peace.

> > Nashat Filmon, Executive Director, Palestinian Bible Society





Already on the third day of the war, after Hamas attacked Israel on 7.10.23, we started to receive calls from people and communities. They were left homeless and jobless by the invasion, when entire villages were destroyed, and their inhabitants evacuated. Within a few days, we filled our hotel to capacity, 180 beds, with people from kibbutzim of southern Israel. Later, evacuees came also from the north. In addition to accommodation, people were given full care and facilities to gather. We organised a social programme for children and adults to support them in their difficult situation. Many have lost relatives and friends, and communities have been wounded. We have organised activities such as guitar lessons and picnics. We have also provided bicycles and taught children to ride them, so that they could forget the situation for a while. The war is still going on, and we will have 50 members of the Zikim kibbutz from the Gaza Strip as our guests for at

Fida donated €15,000 to the Palestinian

The aid has been used to buy mattresses,

food distribution.

Bible Society's work in the war zone in Gaza.

hygiene products and food, and to organise

least another couple of months. The government has assisted us with accommodation costs, but we would not have been able to do all this without donations.

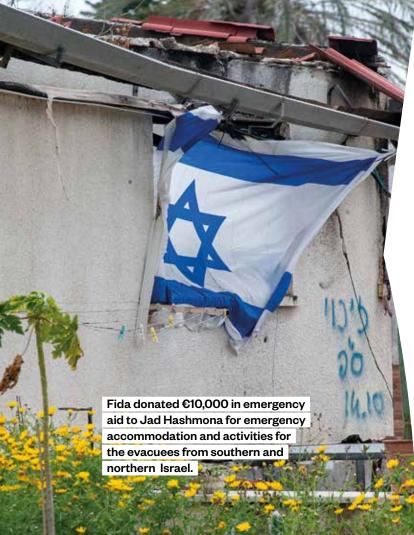
> Ayelet Ronen, Secretary, Jad Hashmona

HELP TO GET THERE FAST

"On a February morning, a powerful earthquake struck Turkey and Syria, destroying nearly a million homes. It changed everything in the lives of people in the region. We arrived in the quake zones before many government organisations and set up soup kitchens for food distribution. With your donations, we were able to provide food, hygiene supplies and tents for those who lost their homes.

We have continued to help for months. In the Hatay and Adiyaman regions alone, we have reached one million people." – Director for Relief Work, Kurtulus Church ■









Bangladesh | 300 people received information on gender equality and harmful practices, such as child marriages.



Kenya The livelihood of 2,900 people improved.



Ethiopia | 12,000 people gained new skills to build peace and cohesion.



Tanzania | 10,400 pupils' and teachers' knowledge of environmental sustainability and climate change improved.



Iraq | 680 children with disabilities had better access to school.



Myanmar | There were 20 learning centres in villages.



Nepal | Schools improved classroom facilities and trained teachers. 27,000 pupils benefited from this.



Uganda 4,100 children participated in children's clubs that support the development of learning skills.



Bhutan | More than 300 people received skills training.

MISSION

Fida's development work equips churches and partner organisations to act as social agents to ensure that the rights of vulnerable children and youth are realised.



Maikki Kuittinen, Programme Manager Development Cooperation

At a time when development funding is declining, it is vital that Fida has been able to continue to support education and create safer living environments for children and youth in developing countries.

Together with our partners, we have brought hope and support to the lives of the most vulnerable groups. Our work has contributed to social harmony in many very fragile and conflict-prone communities. The safety of women and girls has improved through our community work, as gender-based violence and female genital mutilation practices have reduced.

Vocational training for youth and supporting girls and children with disabilities to attend school have also produced good results.



ADULT EDUCATION IN BANGLADESH

Reba Begum, 30, was denied the opportunity to go to school as a child. Due to this, she could neither read nor write. The young mother, who worked as a domestic worker, was keen to learn.

Reba is studying in an adult education programme, which is run by Fida and Fida's partner organization, Ashirbad, across Bangladesh.

Reba is happy to have learned to read and write. Now she can also support her own children's schooling and help them learn.

Reba is an example to others of how education can change families' lives and help build a better future.



According to an external evaluation, Fida's development cooperation in Tanzania is effective. This success is due to the commitment of the local churches to work for the good of their communities.

According to the evaluation, Fida and the Tanzanian Free Pentecostal Church's country programme is well aligned with the development objectives of the Tanzanian state and has a positive impact on the rights of children and youth with disabilities in particular.

Fredrick Eliatz, who leads the activities in the Mwanza area, says that the cooperation is an opportunity for the Mwanza church to reach out to the local people.

- Our work has created good relations between churches, the state and communities. We reduce poverty and raise awareness on domestic violence prevention, hygiene and sexual and reproductive health, Eliatz sums up.

Tarisisi Lukande, the school authority in the Lindi area, describes the cooperation with Fida and the Pentecostal Church like this:

- When we have organised recreational activities, such as football and other games, the number of dropouts has fallen. At the same time, we have been able to educate communities about the harms of child marriage and teenage pregnancy.





FOOD SECURITY AND INCOME FROM MUSHROOM FARMING

A Bhutanese village community grows oyster cuttings with the help of Finnish funding. The mushrooms provide a valuable addition to the diet and new income for the villagers.

Chongaykhan village is located on the border between India and Bhutan, in a remote area where villagers rarely receive visitors from the main town of Thimphu. Fida's Country Programme Coordinator **Riina Happonen** visited the oyster mushroom cultivation, which is supported by the Finnish Ali and Tuja Nylund Foundation, in addition to Fida.

- We chose this village for the project because the villagers were very active. The community wanted to improve the life of their village by growing a more varied diet and by creating a livelihood for themselves through mushroom cultivation, Happonen explains.

The training has also affected the caste system in the village. Women who were earlier considered inferior have not been able to actively participate in village development and activities, but thanks to Fida's work, they were able to participate in the training and earn money with their new skills.

Although mushroom growing was initially new and challenging, the villagers now continue to grow the crop all year round. The mushrooms are grown organically, which is a sustainable and climate-friendly way of producing food.

Villagers are now planning the future together with Fida. Packaging has been developed to make it easier to sell agricultural products on the market.

Fida's Bhutanese partner organisation RENEW will also organise human rights training in the village. The aim is to promote equality, children's rights and sexual and reproductive health.

Fida and RENEW have been working together in Bhutan for more than ten years. The aim is to help local communities develop and create sustainable livelihoods for themselves. Fida is the only Finnish NGO working in Bhutan since 2011.

In 2023, 303 people received entrepreneurship and livelihoods training with Fida's support in Bhutan. As a result of our work, eight new small businesses were started in Bhutan.

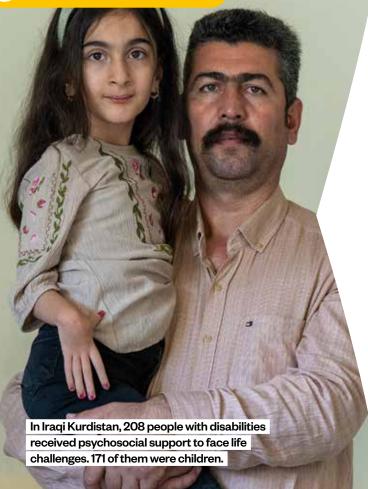


In Bhutan, the provision of specific vocational training for people with disabilities was a particular success which has enabled people with disabilities to be involved in provincial decision-making for the first time.

Riina Happonen,

Bhutan Country Programme Coordinator

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION



SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN WITH **DISABILITIES IN KURDISTAN**

Badam Mandhar Ali works as a teacher in Halabja, Iraqi Kurdistan. His 11-year-old daughter, Raz, lives with a leg injury known as cramp.

Clubfoot does not cause pain, but turned legs can make it significantly more difficult to move. Unfortunately, despite his father's best efforts, Raz has not been able to get help.

- Our community does not treat people with disabilities equally. People do things out of pity. It's uncomfortable, Mandhar says.

Mandhar Ali's family receives support from the Halabja Disability Organisation, Fida's partner in Iraq. It organises activities such as summer school for children with disabilities. The month-long school brings children with disabilities together to learn and play. The summer school is also an opportunity for families to get together. Raz was a star pupil at the summer school last year, which makes her father very proud.

- I want to be a doctor when I grow up, so I can help others, Raz says of her future plans.

Father Badam says that, in addition to support, Raz would need care. Rehabilitation could help Raz to walk. ■

NEW LEARNING CENTRE IN MYANMAR

Myanmar's Ma Kay Zin Win and Saw are now keen schoolchildren. In their home village, they previously had no access to school. There were no proper facilities for education and parents encouraged their children to work instead of going to school.

When the learning centre set up by Fida and the Myanmar AoG Church opened its doors, hope was awakened in the community. Children now had the opportunity to study in their own village. For Ma Kay Zin Win, 10, the opportunity to go to school means a lot.

- For me, the right to education means being able to go to school regularly.
- I told my parents that I wanted to put school before housework and work, she says firmly.

Saw, 10, says the new learning centre has made him a hard-working student.

- Before the learning centre came to our village, I had a hard time going to school. It was hard for me to concentrate and my family couldn't afford the school fees. Now I love school. My school performance has also improved.





AGRICULTURE AND SMALL BUSINESS IN NEPAL

In Nepal, Fida's partner organisation promotes organic farming and entrepreneurship. The work improves women's livelihoods.

Fida's partner organisation Relative Nepal, based in Bateshwor province, develops livelihood opportunities for local families. The people in the area are farmers, so the best way to improve their livelihoods is to find new ways to make farming more efficient.

Relative Nepal organises agricultural training courses to learn about organic farming and business. The aim is to learn about soil and plant species, as well as how to prepare organic fertiliser and home-made pesticides.

Participants will also learn how to market their own products. By the end of 2023, seven training courses were completed in the Bateshwor region. 193 people participated in the trainings.

One of them is **Phul Kumari Mahato**. He has his own plot of land where he grows chilies and other vegetables. Mahato believes that trainings are important because they increase the community's agricultural skills.

- The training taught me how to prepare the soil and seeds for sowing. Organic fertilizer is a better alternative to chemicals, Mahato explains.

Phul Kumari Mahato is also active in supporting children's schooling in his home village.

- The training has improved both my skills and my income. Now I can earn an income by selling my chilies, he says happily.

NEPAL

- >> 354 families received training in agriculture and small business
- >> 330 families saw their incomes improve

12 FIDA'S ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES 2023



WOMEN'S POWER – THE PATH FROM VICTIM TO SURVIVOR

The use of rape as a weapon of war wreaks devastating destruction. In the Democratic Republic of Congo, Fida and the CEPAC Church support victims on their path to survival.

In the decades of conflict in Congo, sexual violence has been used as a tool of warfare on a massive scale.

Fida and the CEPAC Church offer support groups for those who have experienced violence. Participants also receive peer support to help them make ends meet.

The Panzi Hospital, founded by worldrenowned doctor and Nobel laureate **Denis Mukwege**, organises a four-step recovery model program for victims of sexual violence. In addition to physical treatment, it focuses on psychosocial support, coping skills and legal assistance

Fida's role in this cooperation is to offer counselling to survivors of sexual violence, guide them to services and organise psychosocial support.

Women who have experienced violence are also supported through training to help them return to normal life.

COOPERATION HELPS MORE WIDELY

Fida works in partnership with other organisations, regional health services and the Panzi Foundation. This extensive cooperation enables professional support for rape victims and their families.

Fida's programme offers workshops and discussion groups in the villages to find everyday tools for a non-violent and safe life. To tackle the root causes of the problems, strong advocacy work is involved to break the cycle of violence.



This is not just a humanitarian crisis. This is a crisis of our humanity. It is our common responsibility to help these survivors who have been denied the protection they need.

Denis Mukwege, Nobel Peace Prize Winner, Gynecologist

A MORE HOPEFUL FUTURE FOR BATWA VILLAGE

In the past, a teacher would send a child home for a wet textbook. In the indigenous village of Batwa in Burundi, roofs no longer leak, and children can go to school. The work Fida supports is eliminating inequalities.

The village of Rutambwe is a good example of Burundi's multiculturalism. The village has a progressive atmosphere, even though its inhabitants are among the most disadvantaged in society. With the support of Fida and the Pentecostal Church of Burundi (CEPBU), the children of Batwa have access to education.

IN BURUNDI

More than 2,400 children got better access to pre-school.

357 teachers participated in training on child-centered education for children with disabilities.

Some of the houses in Rutambwe are made of branches and leaves, according to the traditional construction method. Now locals have built weatherproof brick houses in many villages with the support of Fida and CEPBU. Rutambwe is one of these villages.

Home has an impact on many things. A home made of brick is protected from the rain. One mother told me that in the past, teachers would send children home from school when homework books got wet after water leaked through the roof.

Through Fida Child Support Programme, Batwa children are supported in their schooling, for example by being provided with school uniforms. Education, in turn, opens new doors for the Batwa and improves equality between different ethnic groups.



Last year, 30 schools in Burundi were made more accessible. Ramps were built to make it easier for pupils in wheelchairs to access school facilities.

14 FIDA'S ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES 2023

FIDA'S ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES 2023



TRANSFORMATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN 2023

63 Communities

13 Countries

13,247

people received direct support and work indirectly affected an estimated number of about

47,000 people.

2,400 child supporters for children



I am happy when I see that parishes

ference. Communities are complex

and the work is challenging. Change

are making a lasting positive dif-

is happening by supporting one

generation into school and work with the support of Finnish Child Supporters. Fida already has a long

experience of this.

Sina Urmas,Diaconal Programme
Manager

The aim of transformational development is to strengthen poor communities so that children can thrive. Our dream is that exclusion will be reduced as churches act as advocates for the most vulnerable.



In Bulgaria, 100 Roma families receive regular food aid. It helps families keep their children in school.



In Bangladesh, we reached over 670 families in six communities. We started work in two new communities.



In Albania, 20 young people found jobs through our vocational and entrepreneurship training.



In Pakistan, Fida's child supporters support a Christian school. Polio is still present in the area. Thanks to Fida's child supporters, polio vaccines have been administered in the surrounding neighborhood with the support of the school.



In Cambodia, Fida equips churches to work for children. A football team for local youth was set up in Kampot County. In just a couple of months, the team had 40 enthusiastic players! In addition to football, the volunteers taught the youth life skills and Christian values. Soon 18 young people wanted to be baptised and join the Kampot church.

THE ROMA COMMUNITY IN POLJICE TAKES STEPS TOWARDS CHANGE

Poljice is the poorest Roma community in the Tuzla County, where people live from hand to mouth. 30% of the village's inhabitants collect scrap metal for a living, while the rest collect smaller recyclable materials or go begging. Schools, shops and health services are difficult to reach.

When Eldina Grabovic and El-vira Kušljugić-Bijelić from the Tuzla Evangelical Church come to the village to hold a club, the children run to meet them. They eagerly await what they will do together. They enjoy drawing, playing and doing arts and crafts. Eldina believes that the children also enjoy the loving atmosphere in the clubs.

- There are many children in this village. They are the new generation that will inherit all that we do.

With the support of Fida child supporters, pupils of Poljice receive clothes, school meals, supplies and transport. At the same time, their school performance is monitored, and they get help with homework. Eldina says that the results of the work, which started three years ago, are already visible.

- All children start primary school in the village. They have good grades and no longer are held back a grade.

> I believe that there will be a church in this village, where the Roma can praise God with all their hearts and witness how God can change a person. - Eldina Grabovic, Child Support Officer

A YOUTH CENTRE FOR SOMALI PEOPLE **OPENED IN KENYA**

Fida opened a youth centre in a Somali neighbourhood in Nairobi. It was up to the local youth to define what they wanted the centre to offer. It now offers a range of courses, including job-search support.

Ramla, 20, was one of the first participants. She would like to study computer science and enter the world of work.

- At the Youth Centre, I have learned a lot in a short time. I have realised that by changing my thoughts I can make a difference in my life. I used to start my mornings sad, thinking that I was bored, that I couldn't go to university or find a job. Now I think every morning that maybe tomorrow will be a better day, maybe everything will be even better.

For example, I have learned how to write a CV. The training has revealed a lot of completely new things and perspectives that I would probably never have heard about at home or from friends," the young woman says.







THE STORY OF THE ROMA COMMUNITY IN KISELJAK IS ENCOURAGING

In the early 2000s, the Roma community in Kiseljak was still living in extreme poverty, without water, electricity and the fulfillment of basic rights. 60% of the children did not go to school, child marriages were common and begging was the most common livelihood.

Fida started working for children's education in Kiseljak in 2005. Elvira Kušljugić-Bijelić, the coordinator of the Roma work in the Evangelical parish of Tuzla, says that after about 10 years of work, the results in Kiseljak began to show. There was a new generation of school leavers who wanted to be involved in changing their community. This did not go unnoticed by the school, social workers or other authorities.

- We and the impact of our work became appreciated, and many official bodies asked us to share our work experiences among the Roma community, says Elvira.

As a result, a community centre was set up in Kiseljak a few years ago, where city actors and Fida project experts work together

for the Roma community. Elvira describes the current situation in Kiseljak.

Many families have at least one member who works or is a small entrepreneur. All the children in the community are attending primary school and an increasing number of them are continuing their studies, which is a welcome development, especially for the girls, as the number of early marriages is decreasing as they continue their studies.

Mothers are more actively involved in activities such as training courses.

- We work every day to improve the living conditions of Roma. The electricity and water problem is decreasing and the sewerage and waste water problem is being addressed. As a result, the number of infectious diseases in the community will decrease even more.

Although there is still work to be done in Kiseljak, Elvira is delighted with the good fruits of her labour: - Today we can say that we are writing a story with a happy ending in Kiseljak.



DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION
Ministry of Foreign Affairs suppo
Child Support donations
Donations (e.g. Red Nose Day,

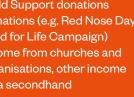
	10
rt	5,2
	77
	317
	040

78 %

12 %









-5,127,241 €

-145,384€

-20,969€

2023

0€

2023

-23,978,467€

23,501,142.25 €

-477,324.43 €

-23,978,466.68€

-4,039,918 €

2023

8,681,673€

9,603,857€

3,624,827€

706,444€

884,341€

23,501,142€

2022

7,956,259€

8,572,602€

4,511,338 €

651,790€

843,294€

-4,617,411 €

-143,010 €

-7,811€

2022

0€

-3,691,254 €

-22,723,335 €

22,535,282.57€

-22,723,335.46 €

-188,052.89€

2022

22,535,283 €

OTHER INDICATORS

FIDA'S RETURNS IN YEARS

Donations and bequests

FIDA'S EXPENSES IN YEARS 2023

Grants (MFA)

Retail

Total

Churches

Other income

Actual Activity

Fundraising

Staff costs

Depreciation Other expenses

Investment and

SUMMARY OF

Total revenues

Fund transfers

Surplus/deficit for the financial year

Total expenditure

financial activities

Total expenditure

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

2022

Liquidity, Quick Ratio	1,4 (good)	1,6 (excellent)
Equity/solidity ratio	59,3 % (excellent)	67% (excellent)
Number of members/ community members*	192	190

^{*} Fida's member churches had around 44,000 members.

FIDA STAFF IN	2023	2022
Number of staff	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
Home country, head office	37	38
Home country, Fida stores	131	116
Abroad*	36	35
Total staff	204	189
Total staff costs	-8,236,688 €	-7,608,932 €

^{*} Only employees employed by Fida are included in the foreign headcount. This figure does not include seconded workers employed by Pentecostal churches.

	Donations (e.g. Red Nose Day, Food for Life Campaign)	317,061	5 %
78%	Income from churches and	219,983	3%
	organisations, other income	100.014	0.0/
	Fida secondhand	132,914	2 %
	Total	6,725,678	100 %
0,2%			
3,3%			
11,3%	HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE	TOTAL	%
	Support from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs	3,401,673	85,2 %
	Donations	449,034	11,3%
85,2%	Fida secondhand	132,914	3,3%
	Revenue from churches,	9,002	0,2%
	other revenue		
	Total	3,992,623	100 %
3% 			
0*	TRANSFORMATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	TOTAL	%
	Child Support donations	1,033,321	68 %
9%	Income from business partners	214,974	14 %
410	Revenue from churches and	135,955	9%
14%	associations, other revenue		
00%	Fida secondhand	88,609	6 %
	Donations	45,746	3 %
	Total	1,518,606	100 %

