

A photograph of two women standing back-to-back against a red wall with white graffiti. The woman on the left is wearing a teal sari with a black border and a gold necklace. The woman on the right is wearing a yellow sari with a red border and a floral pattern. Both women are smiling and looking towards the camera.

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

2025

CONTENTS

Development Cooperation for Children's Rights ...	4
Supporting Education and Livelihoods	6
Significant Results Over Four Years	8
Humanitarian Aid in Crisis Areas	10
Support for Churches' Transformational Work...	12
Finances and Personnel	14



With support from
Finland's development
cooperation

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**Building a world
where everyone
has hope and a
future.**

”
**Through our
work, hope
reached
hundreds of
thousands of
people globally.**



Changes and Challenges

Paul calls us to be transformed by the renewing of our minds (Rom. 12:2). This call is timely. The world around us changes rapidly, requiring courage to find new ways of working.

For Fida, 2025 was a year of preparing for change. Development cooperation and humanitarian aid plans for 2026–2029 were finalised, and funding decisions from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs arrived in December. Development cooperation funding grew slightly, but humanitarian aid decreased significantly, leading to downscaled operations in three countries.

Challenges were also encountered in our circular economy operations. Fida has been a pioneer in reuse for decades, but intensified competition led to a projected deficit for 2025. In order for our valuable and long-term work to continue on a sustainable basis, changes were necessary.

In November and December, change negotiations were conducted to address the deficit. The organisation's financial situation was affected by unexpected costs, the declining performance of Fida Secondhand Shops, and a decrease in major donations and funding. These were not easy decisions, but they were made responsibly with the future in mind.

Despite the challenges, the year brought a great deal of good. Through our relief and development work, hope reached hundreds of thousands of people across the world. Children gained access to education, young people received vocational training, and women's economic status was strengthened. Those living in the midst of crises received food assistance, and children were provided with safe clubs and joy in their daily lives. It is with grateful hearts that we continue this journey together.

Harri Hakola,
Executive Director

233 000

Our development cooperation reached **233,000** people.

910 000

Our work indirectly impacted **910,000** people.

118 000

In our programmes, **68,000** women and **118,000** children received support.

76 000

The right to education was strengthened for over **76,000** children, including **40,000** girls.

45 500

The living environment of **45,500** children became safer.

375 000

We planted **375,000** trees.



We support children's and young people's access to education and work to improve the quality of education.



At the core of our work are also peacebuilding, improving family livelihoods, and food security.



Change is brought about by local communities, churches, and organisations.



Maikki Kuittinen
Programme Manager

” Sustainable change is born when people and communities themselves can influence their own lives and utilise their own expertise. In 2025, children's right to education and a safe life was strengthened: higher-quality education became possible for tens of thousands of children, and family livelihoods improved.

Significant progress has been made, particularly in promoting the inclusion of children with disabilities. We are grateful to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and our donors for their long-term support in helping to build a brighter future for children.

A School Where Every Child Belongs

► Hannu Happonen, Communications Specialist

In the Kalema Primary School in Tanzania, a visible change is gradually happening. Out of the school's 349 pupils, 57 are children with disabilities – about one in six.

– Previously, children with disabilities rarely attended school. They were not always considered capable of learning, says principal **Mariam Abdallah Kondo**.

In Kalema school, the thinking is different. According to the principal, every child has the right to belong. More and more children are getting the chance to find their place in the community.

– They need love, friends, and an opportunity to learn alongside others.

The change is the result of long-term work for the rights of children with disabilities. Fida cooperates with the Free Pentecostal Church of Tanzania, local authorities, schools, and families to eliminate prejudices.



During 2025, Fida's work in East Africa enabled education for more and more children with disabilities:

- 1,280 children with disabilities entered school.
- 1,050 teachers were trained in inclusive education.
- Accessibility was improved in 66 schools.

Entrepreneurship Enables Helping Others

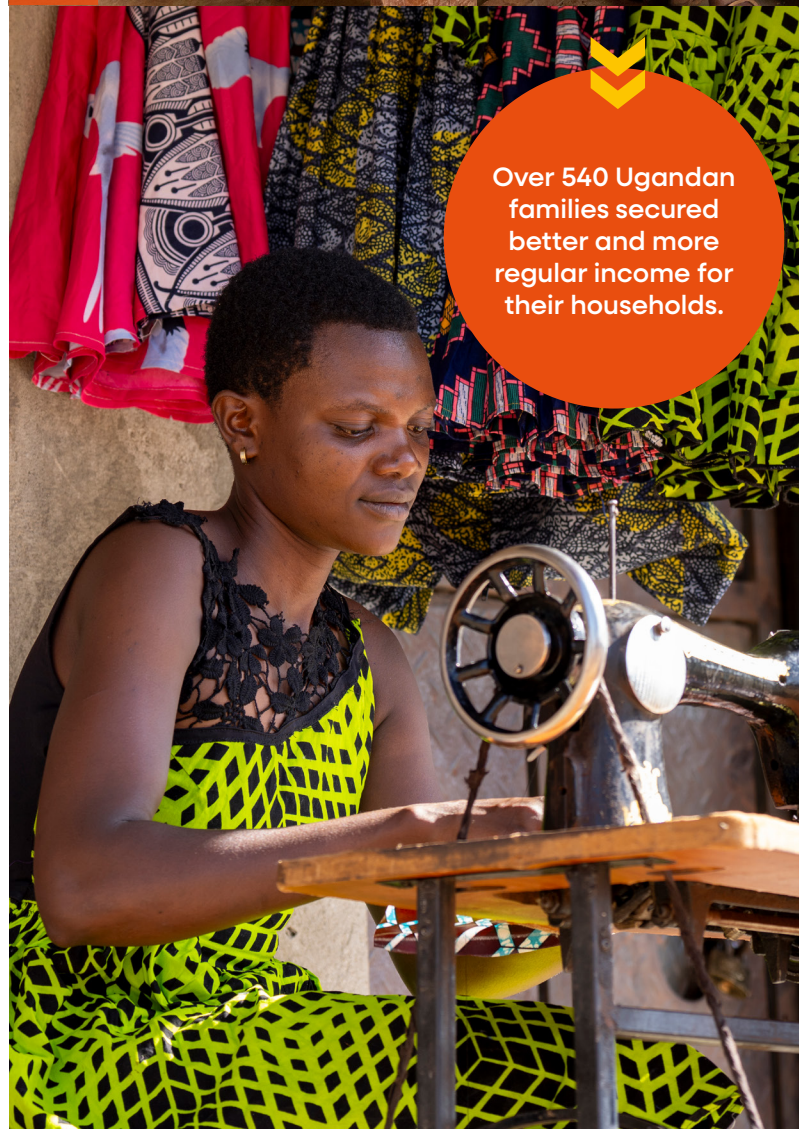
► Hannu Happonen, Communications Specialist

Betty is a young entrepreneur, living in Kosike village in the Karamoja region of northeastern Uganda. In her home area, 70 percent of the population has no education, and the unemployment rate is 33.2 percent, the highest in the country.

Previously, Betty's future seemed uncertain, as opportunities for education were almost nonexistent. Through friends, Betty heard about a Fida-supported vocational school in Kalya and decided to apply for the sewing programme.

Betty did not only learn to sew herself. After graduating, she began teaching students at Amudat Technical School. With a start-up grant, she established her own tailoring business and now earns a living by sewing school uniforms as well as traditional Pokot skirts and dresses.

– Work has changed my life. I can pay my rent, I have bought a piece of land, and I support my brother by paying his fourth-grade school fees. Working as a tailor made this possible. Now I work to make a living and am not dependent on others, Betty rejoices.



Over 540 Ugandan families secured better and more regular income for their households.



In Myanmar, over 230 children attended learning centers and clubs supporting their education.

Learning Center Brings Hope in Myanmar

► **Kirsi Koski-Kujala**, Communications Manager

The prolonged conflict in Myanmar has driven many families into distress. Living in the Yangon region, 38-year-old **Daw Kay** carries the sole responsibility for the daily lives of her seven children, as her spouse is seriously ill. One of the children has a disability and requires constant care.

The mother's days begin before sunrise. She works on a flower farm, but work is only available for part of the month and the wages are low. The family's livelihood is often precarious.

A turn for the better came when a learning centre was established in the village. At these centres, Fida and the Assemblies of God Church of Myanmar provide free learning support for children from vulnerable families. The children receive support with their schoolwork in a safe environment.

– Previously, our family was in a really difficult situation because I was the only one bringing income home. When our children started attending the learning centre and receiving support for their education there, it was a huge relief for us. Now, with my small wage, we are also better able to take care of my husband's and child's healthcare, Daw Kay says.



Mukwege and Fida's Petition to the Minister for Foreign Affairs

► **Joonas Haverinen**, Communications Specialist

Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Dr. Denis Mukwege visited Finland in June at Fida's invitation. He met with Members of Parliament and the President of Finland, spoke at the Pentecostal World Conference in Helsinki, and presented Fida's Congo petition to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, **Elena Valtonen**.

With the petition Mukwege, together with Fida, demanded action from Finnish decision-makers against violence and exploitation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. At the root of the country's decades-long conflicts is competition over valuable raw materials, which are needed for electric cars and smart devices, among other things.

Over 1,900 people signed the petition, which was open on Fida's website for two months. Upon receiving the petition, Foreign Minister Valtonen noted that Finland will continue to support the promotion of peace and justice in the Congo in the future.

School Enables Joy and a Future

► **Joonas Haverinen**, Communications Specialist

In **Halabja, Iraq**, mother **Barin Akram** shares that starting school has changed the life of her 11-year-old daughter.

- Previously, **Bafran** barely spoke at all. She was extremely quiet, Barin describes her hearing-impaired daughter.
- The school's special education teachers have supported my girl. It was also of great benefit to her when she was able to participate in a summer school before the start of the school year, Barin says.

For ten years, Fida's partner in the region was the Halabja Disabled Organization (HDO). The cooperation ended in 2025 as Fida's country programme in Iraq came to an end.

– I hope that through education, my daughter will become independent as she grows up. As a mother, however, I cannot support her forever, Barin reflects.

The daughter, **Bafran**, says herself that going to school has brought her friends and makes her happy.

– At school, I am treated better than before. Previously, I had challenges with writing, but now that is going well too, Bafran says.



The opportunity for education improved for over 1,300 children with disabilities in Iraq.

Vocational Training Provides Direction for Life in Ethiopia

► **Hannu Happonen**, Communications Specialist

In the town of **Holeta**, near Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa, the steady whirring of sewing machines can be heard. Colourful t-shirts and hoodies are being made in the bustling workshop.

Fida's cooperation with the garment workshop began when its founder, fashion designer **Ashenati Alemu**, was invited to teach sewing skills to young people. After the training, Alemu also hired some of the students to work in his company.

Within the framework of development cooperation between Fida and the Ethiopian Guenet Church, vocational training has been offered to unemployed youth and those at risk of marginalisation. Numerous young people have found employment as tailors, hairdressers, and IT specialists, among other professions. Through work, they have gained the opportunity to start building their own future.

For young women, such as 22-year-old **Elsinesh Demise**, sewing training has meant much more than just learning new skills:

– This is my first job. Before, I had no opportunity to earn an income. Now I can even support myself, says Elsinesh, who now dreams of opening her own tailor shop.



In Ethiopia, 7,800 people gained new skills to strengthen their livelihoods. Over 6,000 of them were women.

Development Cooperation Results 2022–2025

165 000

children's opportunities to
attend school improved.

6 000

teachers received training in
inclusive teaching methods.

6 000

small businesses
were established.

8 700

children with disabilities
saw their opportunity to
attend school strengthened.

20 000

families improved their
livelihoods.

5 400

young people participated
in vocational trainings.

174 000

people actively participated
in social cohesion and
peacebuilding initiatives.

10 800

families learned more
productive farming methods.



Anne Haverinen
Director of Development
Cooperation

”

We can be satisfied with the results of the completed 2022–2025 programme period. Long-term cooperation with our local partners has strengthened the sustainable agency and resilience of communities amidst crises. The right to quality education has been realised for tens of thousands of children, and family livelihoods have improved through vocational and entrepreneurship training. Food security and access to clean water have been strengthened in the most fragile regions.

Our work for a more just world continues so that every child and youth has hope and a future.

MISSION

Fida's development co-operation equips churches and partner organisations to act as societal advocates so that the rights of vulnerable children and youth are fulfilled.

WE CONDUCTED DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION IN THESE COUNTRIES:

Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burundi,
Democratic Republic of the
Congo, Ethiopia, Iraq, Kenya,
Myanmar, Nepal, Tanzania,
Uganda



“ This programme has strengthened the entire region's education system and the operational capacity of communities. It doesn't just help refugees, but the whole region.

– Asiku Abdul Mutalibu,
Yumbe District Leader

In Kuru Primary School, learning outcomes have improved significantly with the support of Fida's programme. Whereas previously only about half of the pupils passed exams, now over 90 percent achieve a passing result.

Sustainable Results in Northern Uganda

▶ Hannu Happonen, Communications Specialist

In four years, thousands of people participated in trainings and built livelihoods and new hope in Uganda's largest refugee settlement, Bidibidi. At the same time, dependence on external aid decreased significantly.

In Northern Uganda, representatives of local government, schools, communities, and organisations gathered to evaluate the results of Fida's development cooperation from 2022 to 2025. Fida's organisation coordinator **Jackson Musunguzi** presented impressive results: work in Bidibidi, one of the world's largest refugee settlements, has helped the community move from hopelessness toward self-sufficiency.

The programme strengthened education in many ways. 61 children received the opportunity to attend school with sponsor support, and 100 teachers were trained in contemporary teaching methods. Around 15,000 children learned about their right to education, and learning outcomes improved significantly: the share of those passing exams rose from 64 to 91 percent.

Mental well-being was also prioritised. More than 6,000

people received psychosocial support, and 45 volunteers were trained. Around 15,000 children learned about their right to education. Learning outcomes improved: the share of those passing exams rose from 64 to 91 percent.

Livelihoods were strengthened. 300 families developed their food production using sustainable farming methods, and 50 hectares of farmland were brought into use. 35 savings and loan groups were established in the area, whose combined savings grew from approximately 6,000 euros to 40,000 euros. Simultaneously, 75 new small businesses were created. The programme improved health and hygiene in Bidibidi: over 500 people received health education and 50 households built better latrines.

– The results show that sustainable change is possible even in fragile conditions when communities are at the centre of the change, Jackson Musunguzi summarised.

22 000

Fida's humanitarian aid reached **22,000** people.



We provided acute aid amidst crises in Yemen, Myanmar, and Ukraine.

5 700

In Ukraine, our work reached **5,700** people.

9 000

In Yemen, our work reached **9,000** people.

420 790

Finns donated **420,790** euros of aid through Fida.

2.34 MILLION

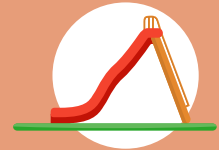
The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland supported our work with **2.34 million** euros.



Maija Saarni
Humanitarian
Assistance Manager

” In 2025, Fida worked amidst prolonged and often forgotten crises. In Ukraine, Yemen, and Myanmar, we were present together with our local partners and delivered aid to where the need was greatest.

Our work brought safe learning clubs for children and joy to their daily life, as well as food and opportunities for families to survive. At the same time, we protected the most vulnerable and strengthened the capacity of communities to build resilience in situations where crisis is not an exception but part of everyday life.



We create safe environments for children and families for play, learning, and peer support.



We strengthen the inclusion of persons with disabilities in communities.



We secure food and survival. We provide cash assistance in crisis situations so that people can take care of their basic needs.

In Yemen, Children Find Joy and Hope in the Midst of War

► Kirsi Koski-Kujala, Communications Manager

The **prolonged crisis** in conflict-torn Yemen places a heavy burden especially on children. Many lack a place where they can play, learn, and be safe. In the child-friendly space supported by Fida, children get the opportunity to relieve stress and find joy again.

One of the parents involved in developing the child-friendly space, **Mohammad**, has seen the change up close. According to teachers, absences have decreased and children's motivation to attend school has grown. The reason is simple: after the school day, children have a safe place to play and participate in guided activities.

According to Mohammad, it has been particularly touching to see how a child who had dropped out of school returned to education after receiving the opportunity for play and recreation.

Musa, who was involved in launching the activities, says that the child-friendly space started modestly but quickly grew into a place where children can experience safety and a sense of belonging. In just a few months, the children's self-confidence grew stronger, fears faded, and silence was replaced by laughter.

With Fida's support, a total of 9,000 people received aid in Yemen.



Donors' Support Brought Food Aid to Myanmar

► Kirsi Koski-Kujala, Communications Manager

Myanmar's prolonged crisis affected millions, but with donor support, aid reached those most in need. Fida's work brought relief to families in Yangon, Bago, and Kachin.

Food aid reached hundreds of families: 456 households received regular food baskets, while 745 families received cash assistance to buy food themselves.

Children's well-being remained central. A total of 1,330 children received a nutritious weekly meal to support their growth.

Mental well-being was also supported. Psychosocial assistance helped people cope with difficult circumstances, and most participants reported improved well-being. Children learned ways to manage difficult emotions, while communities gained new hope and mutual support.

After an earthquake, nearly 1,000 people received clean drinking water. Boreholes and water tanks also provided dozens of families with more permanent access to safe water.

With Fida's support, a total of 7,100 people received aid in Myanmar.



"Food aid has changed our daily life. Previously, I had to borrow money to buy groceries, but now there is enough food. Because of this, I have a little money left over, which I have been able to use to get necessary things for my children."

- A father from the Yangon region

11

Programme operated in
11 countries.

25 369

25,369 people received
direct support.

6 945

The lives of 6,945 people
improved in the slums of
Bangladesh.

23

In 23 communities in India, family
well-being, health, and children's
school attendance opportunities
were improved.

570

youth were reached at a
youth center operating in
the Somali area of Nairobi.

87

The school attendance of
87 poor children was
supported in Uganda.



Sina Urmas
Manager for
Transformational
Development

” The results of our work are impressive. Every child who gets to go to school, every girl saved from child marriage, and every community that experiences change shows that escaping the cycle of poverty is possible through the long-term work of churches.

In 2025, we took steps forward: we developed new tools for measuring impact, finalised plans for coming years, and launched the first EU-funded project for employing Roma people in Latvia.

A significant milestone was achieved in Kosovo, where after 12 years of work, the education and employment of Roma youth have strengthened to the point where Finnish support can end. This speaks to sustainability and the strengthening of local ownership.

Behind these results are committed sponsors, volunteers, and motivated cooperation partners. Warm thanks for building hope, inclusion, and permanent change with us!



We support impoverished communities in providing children with a safe living environment.



We support churches to act as social influencers so that the rights of children and youth are fulfilled.



We reduce marginalisation and speak up for those in the weakest positions.

Employment Project for Roma People in Latvia

► Kirsi Koski-Kujala, Communications Manager

The **HERO project** was launched in Valmiera, Latvia, supporting the employment of people with a Roma background. Another group started in Lahti, Finland. The EU-funded project builds individualized pathways to working life through education, guidance, and work practice. Ten people participated in Latvia and five in Finland in the first course.

For many participants, this is the first step toward more permanent livelihoods and inclusion, strengthening confidence and belief in the future.

HERO brings together local actors, employers, and communities, lowering barriers to employment. Early results show participants gaining concrete job-seeking skills and the courage to build their own paths.

The project is part of the EU-funded Interreg Central Baltic programme (2021–2027), which promotes cooperation in the Baltic Sea region. It is implemented by Fida and the Valmiera Development Agency.

Enthusiasm For Disability Work in Pakistan

► Ninarose Koponen, Communications Specialist

The **first training on disability work** was organised in Pakistan and attended by 41 teachers and church workers. For many, the topic was entirely new.

– The participants soaked up every word like thirsty soil drinks water, says trainer **Marjukka Anttila**. One participant said they had never previously thought about the situation of people with disabilities but now wanted to act.

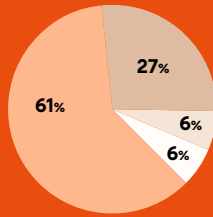
The training began with learning about children's basic rights. Discussions highlighted the shame associated with disability, which often excludes children from community life. Participants also learned inclusive teaching methods and explored how to involve people with disabilities in schools and churches.

The training sparked a dream of an accessible school. The current Fida sponsor school building does not serve everyone, but planning for a new one has begun.

One memorable encounter was a mother who carries her physically disabled son to school. His disability has not stopped his learning.

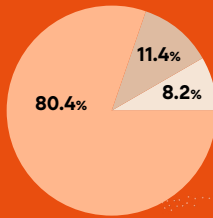


WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM



● Grants (MFA, EU)	7,796,576	61 %
● Donations & Child Sponsorships	3,411,730	27 %
● Bequest Income and Other Sources	774,346	6 %
● Income from Churches	779,414	6 %
Total	12,762,066	100 %

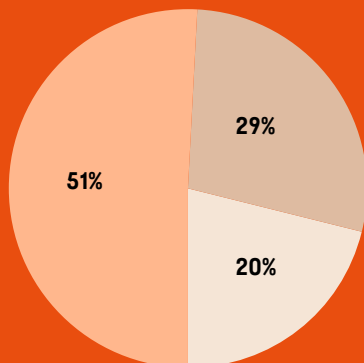
WHERE THE MONEY WAS SPENT



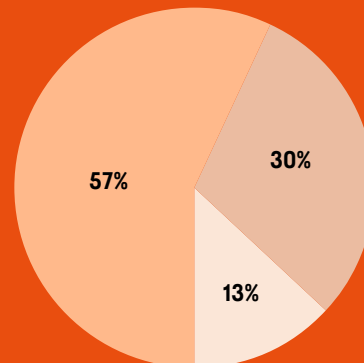
● International Work	10,604,293	80.4 %
● Governance	1,503,269	11.4 %
● Fundraising and Communications	1,076,627	8.2 %
Total	13,184,190	100 %



PROGRAMMES BY REGION



EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAMME



● East Africa, Middle East, and Central Asia
● Asia ● Europe

● Development Cooperation ● Humanitarian Aid
● Transformational Development

FIDA'S REVENUE**2025****2024**

Grants (MFA, EU)	7,796,576 €	8,226,328 €
Fida Secondhand Shops	9,365,799 €	9,488,250 €
Donations and bequests	3,412,262 €	3,487,302 €
Churches	779,414 €	711,910 €
Other income	787,229 €	803,369 €
Total	22,141,281 €	22,717,159 €

FIDA'S EXPENSES**2025****2024****Operational Expenses**

Staff costs	-3,344,038 €	-3,261,228 €
Depreciation	-260,350 €	-243,424 €
Other expenses	-9,488,982 €	-10,585,984 €

Fundraising

Staff costs	-5,472,044 €	-5,227,024 €
Depreciation	-191,037 €	-174,330 €
Other expenses	-4,118,669 €	-4,020,319 €
Investment and financial activities	-31,464 €	-5,662 €
Total expenditure	-22,906,585 €	-23,517,971 €

INCOME STATEMENT**2025****2024**

Total revenues	22,141,281 €	22,717,159 €
Total expenditure	-22,906,585 €	-23,517,971 €
Fund transfers	0 €	0 €
Annual surplus/deficit	-765,304 €	-800,812 €

OTHER INDICATORS**2025****2024**

Liquidity, Quick Ratio	1.2 (good)	1.4 (good)
Equidity/Solidity ratio	53 % (excellent)	52 % (excellent)
Members/Community members*	190	191

* Fida's member churches comprised approximately 41,000 members.

FIDA STAFF**2025****2024****Number of staff****31.12.2025****31.12.2024**

Finland, head office	38	36
Finland, Fida Secondhand Shops	133	123
Abroad*	39	40
Total staff	210	199
Total staff costs	-8,816,083 €	-8,488,252 €

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

The background of the entire page is a photograph of two young girls. The girl on the left is wearing a white jacket with a fur-lined hood and has her arms crossed. The girl on the right is wearing a blue t-shirt with a "TEAM AVENGERS" graphic featuring Iron Man and Hulk. Both girls are smiling at the camera.

**THANK YOU FOR
SUPPORTING
OUR WORK!**