

ANNUAL REPORT

2023

CONCORD

European Confederation of NGOs working on sustainable development and international cooperation



Claiming meaningful civil society space



ABOUT CONCORD

CONCORD is the European Confederation of NGOs working on sustainable development and international cooperation. We are made up of 58 member organisations representing more than 2600 NGOs and are supported by millions of citizens across Europe.

We are the main interlocutor with the EU institutions on sustainable development policy and international cooperation. We are a member-led organisation which means that the members give the strategic direction of the Confederation.

More at: concordeurope.org

WHAT DO WE DO TO ACHIEVE TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE?



ENGAGE



CHALLENGE



INNOVATE



EVOLVE

WHO WE ARE

26

**NATIONAL
PLATFORMS**

25

NETWORKS

07

**ASSOCIATE
MEMBERS**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD FROM THE PRESIDENT	4
PRIORITIES	5
a. Regional Alliances	5
b. Gender Equality	6
c. Global Citizenship Education	7
d. Civil Society Power	7
e. Digitalisation	8
f. EU Elections Task Force	9
g. Financing and Funding for Sustainable Development (FFSD)	9
h. Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development	11
i. Inequalities and a Sustainable Economy	12
COMMUNICATION	14
SUPPORTING OUR MEMBERS	15
GOVERNANCE	16
PUBLICATIONS	19
FINANCE AND ANNUAL ACCOUNTS	20
PARTICIPATION INSIGHTS 2023	26
ANNEXES - MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS	30

FOREWORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear colleagues,

In 2023 CONCORD celebrated its 20-year anniversary. It was a great opportunity to meet old colleagues, friends and partners and take a moment to appreciate civil society power. With the birth of CONCORD and closing of the Liaison Committee (predecessor of CONCORD), we heard quite a lot of criticism from EU institutions about civil society and its demands of the EU's role and responsibility globally. "You are only free birds," one Commissioner told us.

He was right in one way: civil society is and must be free to act, react in urgent cases and create solutions through its own will and existence. In another way, he was wrong to think that we can't cooperate, work together or create meaningful change.

Civil society participation in Europe and globally has been a red line throughout the year. We have worked with good practices for real participation of civil society, equity in digitalisation, forging a meaningful engagement mechanism for civil society within Global Gateway governance and in the AU-EU partnership. Our key demand to the EU has been to take its role in supporting civic space globally more seriously. That is a fundamental element of democracy which is needed in stable and healthy societies.

Reflecting on the work and successes of 2023, we have worked on both traditional and newer policy areas. One of the important longstanding areas has been the EU's funding for development. Our report, 'Who holds the lion's share?' looks closer at Global Europe funds for CSOs and will feed in our advocacy work in 2024 in light of the midterm evaluation of Global Europe and midterm review of its programming.

We have increased our focus on policy coherence, an area on which we did considerable work in CONCORD's early years and has returned to the forefront of our advocacy. CONCORD was represented at the EU's first ever Voluntary Review on its progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. CONCORD and our partners succeeded in having the 'leave no one

behind' principle reflected in Council Conclusions.

As global and inter-connected challenges emerge, an increasingly complex world calls for systemic and coherent solutions from all actors.

Politicians are one group of actors who have important role to play and with this in mind, in 2023 we started our work for the next European elections to bring candidates on board with our campaign messages. This undertaking is also a good opportunity for all CONCORD members to act nationally.

This work wouldn't be possible without the great cooperation of CONCORD members. The huge expertise, knowledge and common interests amongst members to work with other stakeholders and partners have been the reasons behind the successes in 2023. The Secretariat of course has been fundamentally important to keep the pace up and I want to sincerely thank all of you for that. Current strategy guides us to fly freely but focusing together to fight against inequalities globally and hold the EU accountable to its citizens.



Rilli Lappalainen
CONCORD President

PRIORITIES



Our principal focus was to **promote civil society’s role in the relationships between Africa and Europe**. CONCORD and its members provided input to the draft **‘Instrument for stakeholder participation under the new OACPS-EU Partnership Agreement’** developed by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Building on the achievements of 2022, further interest, support and endorsement was generated for a **Civil Society Engagement Mechanism (CSEM) embedded in the AU-EU Partnership**, involving European Union and African Union decision-makers.

a. REGIONAL ALLIANCES

In 2023, the Regional Alliances workstream strove to positively transform European Union civil society partnerships and to provide innovative leadership for CONCORD’s engagement with its partners.

CONCORD coordinated a group of some 70 civil society volunteers from both continents to develop a **draft proposal/concept note** for a CSEM in the AU-EU Partnership. The volunteers met regularly to exchange experiences on topics relevant to the AU-EU Partnership; CONCORD was proactive in sharing



AU-EU Staff Exchange on Civil Society and Youth Engagement, brainstorm on CSO and youth engagement in AU-EU partnership.

information, **opening spaces and opportunities to access EU decision-makers and processes**, including via the newly launched Global Gateway CSO-LA Dialogue Platform.

CONCORD contributed to **creating an enabling environment for dialogue with African civil society and people's organisations (CSOs/POs)** by organising several webinars — including one on food security and systems — which heard the diverse voices, opinions and concerns of those most impacted by the AU-EU Partnership. As a result, **partners' priorities were put at the centre of CONCORD's advocacy on food systems and agriculture**. Not only were **'CONCORD's Recommendations for Food and Agriculture in the AU-EU Partnership'** drafted in co-creation with partners, but they also integrate concerns that cut across CONCORD's work streams, putting an emphasis on tackling the **structural defects and inequalities** of the globalised food system. Joint advocacy on food security and food systems based on this work was carried out at the 5th African Union (AU) – European Union (EU) Agriculture Ministerial Conference.



b. GENDER EQUALITY

In 2023, the Gender Equality group in CONCORD continued to monitor the implementation of the Gender Action Plan III (GAP III). The group paid particular attention to framing discussions on external gender equality policies in particular local contexts.

The Gender Equality workstream launched its shadow report **'Implementing the EU Gender Action Plan III: Turning ambition into impact?'**, reviewing GAP III implementation in three carefully chosen local contexts: Morocco, the Philippines and

Kenya. It focused on how the new and potentially transformative aspects of GAP III had been applied in practice. Hosted by the then upcoming Spanish EU presidency, the report was discussed with a range of different policy-makers and civil society stakeholders, contributing to shaping the discourse surrounding GAP III and driving critical conversations forward.



Panel debate from GAP III joint mid-term report launch.

CONCORD has long advocated for the GAP and the Multiannual Financial Framework to be aligned so that the GAP objectives can be effectively integrated into the programming of EU projects. CONCORD therefore welcomed **the news** that the GAP III would be extended until 2027 to facilitate alignment with the next MFF. This was announced by the European Commission when publishing the **GAP III joint mid-term report** in November 2023.

At the launch event of the GAP III joint mid-term report, CONCORD was invited to provide reflections on the implementation of GAP III. Céline Mias, CARE, represented CONCORD and highlighted the vital role of women and CSOs in advancing gender equality globally, especially in the face of increasing conflicts and backlash. CONCORD focused on the need for enhanced efforts at both EU and Member State levels, including greater inclusion of women's rights organisations in decision-making processes and increased allocation of resources to gender equality programmes.

Our engagement with the European Commission to shape civil society dialogue on GAP III implementation has been instrumental in fostering meaningful exchange. CONCORD remained an

active member of the Steering Group, which organised **the GAP III Structured Dialogue 2023** together with representatives from country level organisations working to advance gender equality in different regions. For the first time since the GAP III structured dialogue started in 2021, **the European Commission committed to taking forward a set of recommendations emerging from the discussions at the dialogue** (which this year focused on the care economy).

At the Structured Dialogue, CONCORD provided the introductory speech alongside Commissioner for International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen. CONCORD critiqued the lack of self-reflection and concrete measures in the mid-term report to address implementation challenges and improve outcomes. CONCORD highlighted key areas of concern, including the need for better integration of intersectionality principles, increased funding for gender-targeted actions, and improved accessibility of funding for local organisations.

In 2023, the group continued to explore different aspects of an EU intersectional feminist foreign policy, preparing a discussion paper to be presented in 2024.



c. GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

In 2023, the Global Citizenship Education (GCE) workstream was focused on advocating for sufficient and consistent levels of funding, especially that provided by the European Commission's Development Education and Awareness Raising (DEAR) Programme.

Following the publication of the DEAR call for proposals in September 2022, GCE members

coordinated their work on project applications and the GCE Steering Group collected data and **applicant feedback** on the selection and grant allocation process. The outcomes were presented during the Multi-Stakeholder Meeting organised by the European Commission in November in Brussels, with further dialogue planned.

To assess the GCE funding trends in the EU, the Steering Group initiated an update of the **previous study** from 2018, this time focused on GCE investment available from the European institutions. The findings should be published in 2024.

The group has maintained contact with the Global Education Network Europe (GENE) to support the implementation of the Dublin Declaration on Global Education in Europe to 2050. It also worked towards mainstreaming GCE among CONCORD members, especially as part of the Learning and Exchange Forum in March and by contributing to the European Elections Task Force.



d. CIVIL SOCIETY POWER

In 2023, the Civil Society Power workstream focused on developing a **position on civic space** which will be at the centre of our advocacy work for the current strategy period.

The group also sought to strengthen its connections with our civil society allies. In particular, we worked together with Civil Society Europe (CSE) and its members to monitor and respond to shrinking civic space inside the EU, and to build a stronger narrative on the importance of policy coherence in the EU's internal and external action to protect and promote civic space globally. We followed the development of the Defence of Democracy



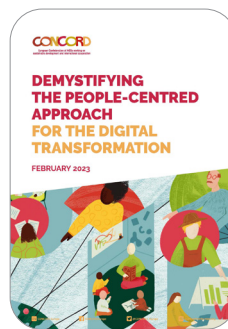
package and communicated with our contacts in DG INTPA, DG ECHO and the EEAS to raise awareness about the risks of a specific initiative on foreign interference for civic space. We also joined forces with CSE to influence the European Parliament report on the transparency and accountability of NGOs funded by the EU budget.

We made preparations for the European Parliament elections, both as part of the coalition behind the **Civil Society for EU** campaign, and by supporting our own election task force's manifesto to include a priority on democracy and civic space, building bridges with the work of CSE and with our **new position** on safeguarding civic space worldwide. Finally, we continued to support other CONCORD groups through our **7 Practices paper**: our monitoring tool indicated that in 2023 the paper was used on 12 separate occasions by various CONCORD workstreams, as well as by our Director in high-level meetings with INTPA stakeholders including the Commissioner for International Partnerships. So the 7 Practices paper contributed to opportunities such as the GAP III structured dialogue, the shaping of CSO mechanisms at EU level (for example drafting the ToR of the Global Gateway CSO Advisory Platform, and in the D4D Hub CSO and Academia Advisory Group), the Policy Forum for Development, and the work of EU Delegations through the annual EUD focal points seminar. We had the opportunity to present the paper to FORUS and the Human Rights and Democracy Network and discuss common challenges in securing meaningful engagement in decision-making processes.



e. DIGITALISATION

In 2023, in line with its objectives, the Digital Community continued to focus on promoting a people-centred approach for the digital transformation, a huge part of which involved claiming space for civil society and opening it to our partners.



In February we launched our paper '**Demystifying the people-centred approach for the digital transformation**', which is the result of several exchanges with partner organisations. We disseminated the paper widely and by building further on this work we sought to involve partners and allies

in opportunities to promote these messages in the EU space. We helped to shape the session 'Towards a sustainable and inclusive digital transformation' at the Global Policy Forum for Development in September and secured invitations on the panel for two of our partners. As a result, the **event's report** recognises the importance of putting people at the centre of the digital transformation, and more specifically, to close the digital gender divide which has been a priority of the Digital Community since its inception.

The meaningful involvement of civil society in decision-making is a priority of the people-centred approach. CONCORD contributed to the creation of the Civil Society Advisory Group of the D4D Hub (CSAAG), by providing inputs to the group's terms of reference using our 7 Practices paper. The CSAAG was officially launched in July and our contribution to brainstorming activities focused on the people-centred approach and further capacity strengthening for civil society to engage in digital policy-making. Beyond this platform, we shared our experience and

recommendations on engaging at EU and UN levels, during the panel ‘Strengthening CSOs’ role and contribution in the design and implementation of digital policies’ at the Transform Africa Summit.

Finally, highlighting our partners’ expertise allowed us to create more connections with other CONCORD workstreams: for example, we organised an exchange with Superr Lab on a digital feminist foreign policy to support our Gender Equality group. At the end of 2023, we prepared a resources package to strengthen ties with other workstreams in the future.

- Consistent action for sustainable development to ensure the EU’s external action contributes to the 2030 Agenda and the reduction of global inequalities, with no negative impacts or contradictory actions.
- Defending democracy and civic space at home and abroad, including via equal, fair and meaningful partnerships and Regional Alliances.
- Sufficient and transparent funding for the 2030 Agenda with a democratic and civil society oversight.



**Shaping the world we want
starting from the EU**

European Elections 2024
#EU4GlobalJustice

CONCORD

PRESIDENCY PROJECT
EU 2024

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Following National Platform consultations during an Open Space in April and dedicated sessions as part of the General Assembly in June, the ETF continued the preparatory work focused on refining methodologies and developing joint action. With the support of the EU Presidency Project, a toolkit and website were developed to support CONCORD’s advocacy activities before and after the elections.

Throughout 2023, the ETF met on a monthly basis, with key decisions made during its hybrid meeting in November in Brussels.

f. EU ELECTIONS TASK FORCE

The European Elections Task Force (ETF) started its work in early 2023, following a consultation with members during the Policy Forum in December.

The first half of the year was devoted to building the internal momentum in the network and preparing strategies ahead of the elections. The Learning and Exchange Forum (LEF) in March was the opportunity to set out the objectives of the Confederation’s collective action which were later developed in the joint direction document. Throughout the spring, CONCORD workstreams discussed their key political demands related to the elections. The Board prioritised these proposals which were then compiled into a list of four priorities revolving around the aim of ensuring the EU’s commitment to reduce global inequalities under the theme *EU for Global Justice*. The four priorities are:

- An EU intersectional, feminist and rights-based foreign policy to put marginalised people at the centre of policy-making and promote gender equality, collaborative approaches, European accountability, human rights, sustainability, social justice and inclusion.



g. FINANCING AND FUNDING FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (FFSD)

In pursuit of its 2023 objectives, the Funding and Financing for Sustainable Development workstream made significant progress in influencing EU budget reviews and programming processes.

A pivotal undertaking has been to research and publish ‘Who holds the lion’s share?’, a study



conducted on the ongoing mid-term review (MTR) of the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation – Global Europe instrument (NDICI-GE). The report is an evidence-based analysis of EU funding allocated to CSOs under the NDICI-GE geographic component and

aims to inform and support CONCORD's advocacy work on NDICI-GE implementation.

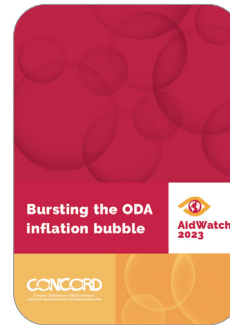
CONCORD was involved in key EU policy and programming processes, such as the evaluation of the previous and current financial instruments, including the NDICI-GE, and is committed to challenging and improving existing practices of CSO engagement in meaningful policy dialogue. CONCORD provided input to the Open Public Consultation on 'Financing for European action outside EU borders – evaluation of the instruments 2014-2020 & 2021-2027' and made several contributions to the Policy Forum on Development (PFD) regional and thematic programming consultations. These covered the MTR of NDICI-GE programming and raising CSO concerns about the shifts in the EU international cooperation funding landscape for CSOs.

Ahead of the Strategic Dialogue (July 2023), CONCORD participated in a public hearing at the AFET/DEVE committee on the implementation of the NDICI-GE, disseminating its messages on improving CSO funding diversity and transparency. CONCORD exchanges with the European Parliament (EP) have been fruitful as CSO recommendations have been successfully included in the EP's report on the implementation of the NDICI-GE instrument.

CONCORD continued its dialogue with the Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA) Legal Affairs, advocating the reduction of administrative burdens for CSOs with respect to the newly integrated processes in the new e-Grant Management System and Model Grant Agreement. CONCORD participated in a workshop organised co-jointly by DG INTPA and the Directorate-General Budget, resulting in agreement on the simplification of administrative processes, current barriers for CSOs' access to funding.

Finally, our efforts to strengthen our members' capacity resulted in the organisation of training on 'Connecting national-EU advocacy.' This initiative focused on creating links between advocacy initiatives at national and EU level, aligning with our broader strategy for effective advocacy.

AIDWATCH 2023 – 'Bursting the ODA inflation bubble'



As in previous years, the **2023 AidWatch report** was released in October, aiming to hold the EU and Member States (MS) accountable for their development assistance commitments. However, the 2023 edition can be considered a turning point and a call for greater coherence on how EU

MS and EU institutions report Official Development Aid (ODA) expenditures. CONCORD adopted a new methodology which explores how ODA can reduce inequalities and investigates the impact of ODA on the Human Development Index (HDI). The report provides a particularly robust definition of the concept of "inflated aid", but also considers ODA from an equality perspective.

ODA is one of the most powerful tools for enabling both governments and CSOs to support those left furthest behind. However, to make it effective, it is not only the quantity of ODA, but also its quality and capacity to reach those who are most in need that is important. Our message is clear: **Reduce ODA inflation and improve the contribution of ODA to economic development and welfare, to make sure it reaches the communities and organisations that need it the most and address the root causes of inequalities.** Reducing inequality contributes to creating a healthier, stronger and more dynamic civil society. The AidWatch 2023 report paid particular attention to possible changes to ODA reporting rules to be made by the OECD.

The launching of the 2023 AidWatch report was attended by more than 50 people, including both CONCORD members and external stakeholders. Two panels were organised, the first one debated the challenges created by the increasing ratio of inflated ODA and the second responded to these challenges, with proposals as to how the EU and MS could support change to make ODA a more meaningful tool to address inequalities. Panellists emphasised that countries and institutions from the Global

North have a moral and financial obligation towards partner countries as they are struggling to respect the promises made in the 1970s to allocate at least 0.7% of GNI to ODA.



h. POLICY COHERENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SIGNIFICANT EU SUPPORT FOR CHANGES TO HOW POLICY COHERENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IS ADDRESSED.

In 2023, the EU adopted its first Voluntary Review (EUVR) for the UN High-level Political Forum on sustainable development. The activities and achievements of the workstream were linked to influencing the EU's position going into the Voluntary Review and the overall institutional changes needed to improve Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development (PCSD) in the EU institutions. The workstream identified the need for greater political commitment to PCSD within both the European Commission and the European Parliament after the 2024 European elections.

CONCORD was invited to brief the EU MS (Council) Agenda 2030 working party three times over the course of 2023 both under the Swedish and Spanish Presidencies and gave input to the consultations led by the European Economic and Social Committee. Informally CONCORD was actively in contact with MEPs also working on the European Parliament's SDG report. In follow-up to the EUVR and as an EU Presidency Project activity, CONCORD organised a roundtable dialogue for the MS, the European Commission and other key



Agenda 2030 at halfway – Strengthening policy coherence for the Sustainable Development Goals

stakeholders such as the European Parliament, OECD and think tanks. As a result, the three sets of conclusions produced by Council broadly adopted CONCORD's recommendations, as did the European Parliament in two own-initiative reports on SDGs and PCSD respectively. These activities helped to increase support for PCSD among CONCORD's friends and allies in 2023. The tools are now in place for advocacy in 2024 to re-establish a multi-stakeholder space on the SDGs, for better political ownership and coordination of PCSD in both the European Commission and the European Parliament after the elections. All parties agree on the need for a new strategy to achieve the SDGs, but also appreciate the need to wait until a new Commission is in place.

BRINGING THE EU'S IMPACT ON PARTNER COUNTRIES INTO HIGH-LEVEL DEBATES

A highlight of the year was CONCORD's participation in the EUVR in New York itself. CONCORD proposed Ms Brenda Akankunda, an Independent Trade, Investment and Sustainable Development Policy Analyst from Uganda, to speak as a civil society voice at an official HLPF side event. She spoke about civil society's experiences and expectations regarding the EU's impact on partner countries and their efforts to achieve the SDGs. Her participation was so well received that she has since been invited by both the European Parliament and European Economic and Social Committee to talk about policy coherence.

The CONCORD President had meetings with Commissioner Urpilainen, senior MEPs and other figures on a number of issues including PCSD, Global Gateway and alternative economic futures. CONCORD was able to learn more about different

stakeholders' perspectives on how GDP could be developed and used as more than a simple measure of growth; GDP could be adapted to encompass inclusivity and environmental considerations. CONCORD made practical suggestions on the next steps forward, particularly to MEPs wishing to support the SDGs.



i. INEQUALITIES AND A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

In 2023, we reaffirmed the commitment made in our strategy to consider equality as “the lens through which we address all themes”.

We held our first ever **Equality Day**, which brought together around 70 representatives from policy-making, civil society and academia to answer one key question: are the EU’s international partnerships a gateway to equality? We explored the issue through enlightening keynote speeches, panel discussions and breakout sessions that involved policy-makers, CONCORD members, allies and partners from Zimbabwe, Ecuador and Niger.

Commissioner Jutta Urpilainen opened our event with **a speech** in which she presented for the first time in public the EU’s new Inequality Marker, officially launched later in the year. Our event encouraged the Commission to further commit to tackling inequalities and positioned CONCORD as a key partner to do so. **A workshop on inequalities** hosted by MEP Udo Bullmann later in October at the European Parliament was conceived as a follow-up to our event and included a presentation from the Commissioner and our Director.

The EU’s Inequality Marker is definitely not the end point, nor the ultimate solution to tackle inequalities, but does have the potential to position the issue more prominently among the EU’s priorities. In 2023 we played our part in monitoring its implementation, including as members of the EU-AFD Research Facility on Inequalities, where we sit as a CSO representative together with the Commission and EU MS.



Panel discussion at our first ever Equality Day



Fisani, an Executive Members of South Africa's National Shelter Movement, with two collaborators at the Mpumalanga Shelter Movement.

THE HUMAN FACE OF INEQUALITIES

Tackling inequalities is central to our work given their extremely damaging impacts on communities around the world. We have first-hand knowledge of this through case studies we produced on South Africa, Paraguay and Bangladesh. Our Equality Day was the perfect opportunity to bring the human aspect of inequalities to the fore with the launch of our report **'What makes the difference for equality? Voices from South Africa, Paraguay and Bangladesh on what the EU can do'**. An accompanying **video** with statements from people we had interviewed opened our event.

This work brought us into direct contact with local communities and our CSO partners and helped us better understand their perceptions of inequalities and the role they expect the EU to play. DG INTPA has used our work as training material on inequalities for EU Delegations. Ongoing dialogue with EU officials and delegations enables us to continue sharing the message that tackling inequalities must be a top priority for the EU.

FIGHTING FOR A DIFFERENT APPROACH TO THE ECONOMY

The way our economy is shaped has a direct impact on inequalities within and beyond Europe. The focus on GDP growth is at the root of the climate crisis and global inequalities, so we urgently need alternatives. And 2023 was rich in developments for the promotion of alternative economic solutions. Most significantly, we co-organised the **Beyond Growth** conference hosted by the European Parliament on 15-17 May.

Together with MEP Marisa Matías, we organised a panel on **'Beyond Growth beyond Europe: What policies and partnerships?'**. Widely regarded as one of the most noteworthy discussions of the conference, our panel brought together four international leading experts. We had a full room of over 100 participants and many more followed the session online. Our panellists called on Europe to change course and end neocolonial practices perpetuated by the economic system, to abandon the focus on GDP growth in order to create space for partner countries to pursue their own sustainable development. Their thought-provoking remarks resonated powerfully throughout the European Parliament and reasserted our determination to pursue advocacy for alternative economic models.

COMMUNICATION

One of the CONCORD's key goals in 2023 was a revamp of our internal communications. Following a survey conducted among members in June, the Secretariat produced a **redesigned newsletter**, launched in October, which embodies our commitment to clarity, ensuring that content is easily accessible for members and external stakeholders alike. This reflects our dedication to fostering transparent and inclusive communication practices throughout the Confederation.

The Learning and Exchange Forum in March was the first opportunity for the communications professionals of our Confederation to meet in person. This event provided a platform for networking and collaboration and also kick-started our preparations for the 2024 European elections.

In an ever-changing landscape, our communications continue to adapt and evolve, as we aim to develop new ways to promote our messages. This is the case of CONCORD's **Equality Day**. We used the event to conduct interviews with policy-makers and civil society representatives and to produce videos which **were disseminated** across our social media platforms, broadcasting our messages on tackling inequalities.

In 2023, we also started drafting CONCORD's first ever Communication Strategy. By maximising each communication opportunity, tailoring messages to resonate with stakeholders' needs and focusing on constructive solutions, CONCORD aims to strengthen its influence and impact on decision-makers and the media.



CONCORD celebrating our 20th anniversary at our 2023 General Assembly.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF CONCORD

2023 marked CONCORD's 20th anniversary. To celebrate this milestone, we organised a party for all the people who have contributed to this journey, both past and present. We were joined by colleagues from the European institutions, as well as from across the whole spectrum of civil society. The event was a joyous occasion to revel in our accomplishments, reminisce about

cherished memories and redouble our efforts for the future.

During the party, we also shared a moving moment watching a heartwarming video produced with the help of many allies, partners and members.

SUPPORTING OUR MEMBERS

The CONCORD Secretariat prioritised two areas in regard to the Confederation’s membership in 2023 – the first ever CONCORD-wide membership strategy and closer cooperation with the Confederation’s National Platforms.

Following the approval of the Confederation’s current strategy **To Get There. Together.** the CONCORD Board, together with the Secretariat, took the decision to implement a more strategic approach to the Confederation’s membership. To identify areas for improvement and explore potential solutions, the Secretariat developed a membership SWOT analysis and launched a series of membership questionnaires. The answers guided the drafting of CONCORD’s first ever membership strategy for the Confederation. The first steps in implementing this strategy have been taken, resulting in more efficient onboarding processes for newcomers and changes in internal communications.

To further support its National Platforms, CONCORD organised a series of visits to EU MS and one Open Space for National Platforms in each half year. While visiting members in Malta, Latvia and Germany, the CONCORD Director focused on promoting the importance of the National Platforms and strengthening their role vis-à-vis local political actors and towards the Platform’s own members. During the visits a specific focus was given to bolstering the National Platform’s engagement in the Confederation, either through their secretariat or through their own members.



Session with members at CONCORD’s 2023 General Assembly.

GOVERNANCE

2023 was an important year for CONCORD's governance as we had to thoroughly update CONCORD's Statutes in order to remain compliant with Belgian legislation. We therefore took the opportunity to reflect CONCORD's new four-year strategy, "To get there. Together", adopted during the 2022 General Assembly, in the Statutes provisions. After many months of work, three Board discussions and two Delegates' webinars, the updated Statutes and Internal Regulations were adopted by the 2023 General Assembly.

The Board and its Executive Committee also focused on implementing the new strategy in all areas of CONCORD's work and ensuring that it was transposed into the 2024 advocacy plans and the new membership strategy.

Finally, the 2023 General Assembly marked the 20th anniversary of the Confederation (see box on our 20-year celebration) and focused on advancing CONCORD's preparations for the 2024 EU elections campaign (see box on EU Elections). During the meeting, the Confederation re-elected Rilli Lappalainen as CONCORD President and two Board Members, Marta Iglesias Lopéz (La Coordinadora) and Ida Ragnarsson (CONCORD Sweden). Jeroen Uytterschaut (World Vision) was elected for the first time after having been co-opted in 2022.

BOARD MEMBERS



PAOLA BERBEGLIA

CONCORD Italia
Italian National Platform



BLANDINE BOUNIOL

Humanity & Inclusion



JAVIER GARCÍA DE LA OLIVA

ActionAid



CATHERINE GIBOIN

Coordination SUD
French National Platform



MARTA IGLESIAS LÓPEZ

La Coordinadora
Spanish National Platform



RILLI LAPPALAINEN

FINGO
Finnish National Platform



CÉLINE MIAS

CARE international



IDA RAGNARSSON

CONCORD Sweden
Swedish National Platform



JEROEN UYTTERSCHAUT

World Vision

BOARD MEMBERS CO-OPTED IN 2023



JOÃO MARTINS

ADRA

BOARD MEMBERS WHO STEPPED DOWN IN 2023



BRANKA JURAN

CROSOL
Croatian National Platform

SECRETARIAT

TANYA COX

Director



ANNE MALAUD

Governance & Events Officer



PAT

POLICY & ADVOCACY TEAM



BORJA ARRUE ASTRAIN

Senior Policy & Advocacy
Adviser ISE



CELIA CRANFIELD

Head of Advocacy



LUR FERNÁNDEZ SALINAS

Policy & Advocacy Adviser
Aidwatch



SALOMÉ GUIBRETEAU

Senior Policy & Advocacy
Adviser



JAIMIE JUST

Senior Policy & Advocacy
Adviser RA



GEORGIA PAPOUTSI

Senior Policy & Advocacy
Adviser FFSD



ALEXANDRA ROSÉN

Senior Policy & Advocacy Adviser
PCSD & Gender Equality



MICHAŁ RYBACKI

European Parliament Elections
Coordinator

MOCT

MEMBERSHIP, OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION TEAM



SOLEDAD BRIONES

Head of Engagement



MARION COAT

Knowledge Management
Coordinator



AOIFE COYNE

Communications Officer



CAMILLA FALSETTI

Communications & Media
Officer



BÁRA PLECHÁČKOVÁ

Membership & Outreach
Officer

FINANCE

FINANCE TEAM



FLORENCE DE CANNIERE

Financial Analyst



ADRIEN SERAFIN

Accountant



VALÉRIE MOENS

Head of Finance

HR

HUMAN RESOURCES



KATE CARPENTER

Head of Human Resources

TRAINEES

ROCIO BALLESTA ORTA
Policy & Advocacy Assistant
– until February 2023

MARTINA PONZIANI
Policy & Advocacy Assistant
– until March 2023

MARGHERITA DACQUINO
Policy & Advocacy Assistant
– until June 2023

GIOVANNI PENNA
Policy & Advocacy Assistant
– until August 2023

SERINA TAYLOR
Policy & Advocacy Assistant
– until August 2023

CÉLINE T'JOEN
Policy & Advocacy Assistant
– until September 2023

FERNANDO SANZ OCANA
Internal Communication Assistant
– from February 2023 until February 2024

SOREN LUBRANI
Policy & Advocacy Assistant
– from September 2023 until February 2024

LAURA MASCHIO
Policy & Advocacy Assistant
– from September 2023 March 2024

ANNA GIULLA
Policy & Advocacy Assistant
– from October 2023 until April 2024

FORMER AND INTERIM COLLEAGUES

CECILIA ROLLAND
Membership and Outreach Coordinator
– until January 2023

RICCARDO ROBA
Senior Policy & Advocacy Adviser RA
– until April 2023

KATARZYNA KROK
Communications and Media Officer
– until July 2023

EVA LUNA MAES
Policy and Advocacy Adviser (maternity cover)
– from March 2022 to August 2023

LOUISE MARTY
Policy and Advocacy Adviser (maternity cover)
– from December 2022 to August 2023

SALVATORE NOCERINO TELLERIA
Policy and Advocacy Adviser Aidwatch
– until October 2023

ROCIO BALLESTA ORTA
Policy & Advocacy Adviser Gender Equality
(maternity cover) – from August 2023 until
December 2023

PUBLICATIONS

PUBLICATIONS	TYPE	DATE
<u>Demystifying the people-centred approach for the digital transformation</u>	Guide	February 23, 2023
<u>Funding local women’s rights organisations for transformative change</u>	Position Paper	March 8, 2023
<u>What makes the difference for equality? Voices from South Africa, Paraguay and Bangladesh on what the EU can do</u>	Report	March 21, 2023
<u>Funding for civil society organisations in the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe</u>	Position Paper	May 15, 2023
<u>Annual Report 2022: Shaping our stories</u>	Report	June 14, 2023
<u>Implementing the EU Gender Action Plan III: Turning ambition into impact?</u>	Report	June 21, 2023
<u>CONCORD Recommendations for Food and Agriculture in the AU-EU Partnership</u>	Position Paper	June 27, 2023
<u>Who holds the lion’s share? A closer look at Global Europe Funds for CSOs</u>	Position Paper	October 12, 2023
<u>AidWatch 2023 – Bursting the ODA inflation bubble</u>	Report	October 25, 2023
<u>Standing Strong in the Storm: an EU strategy to safeguard civic space worldwide</u>	Position Paper	December 15, 2023

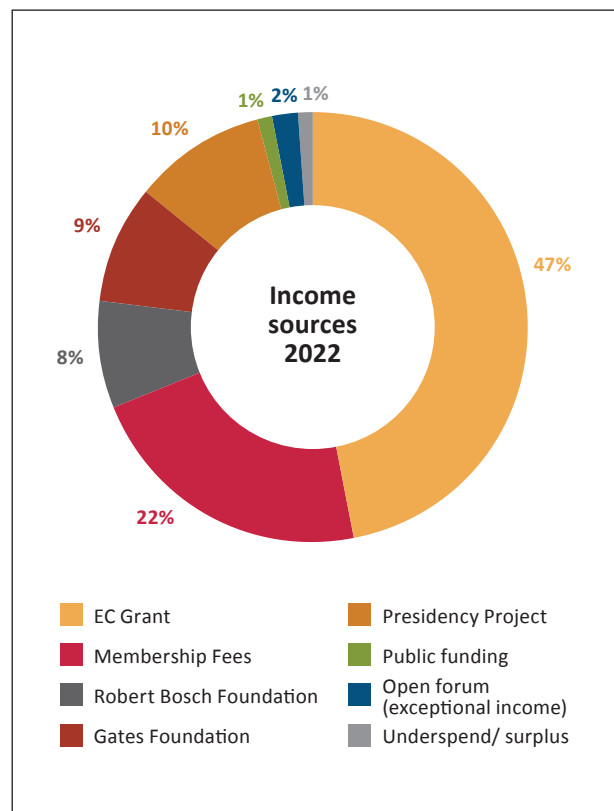
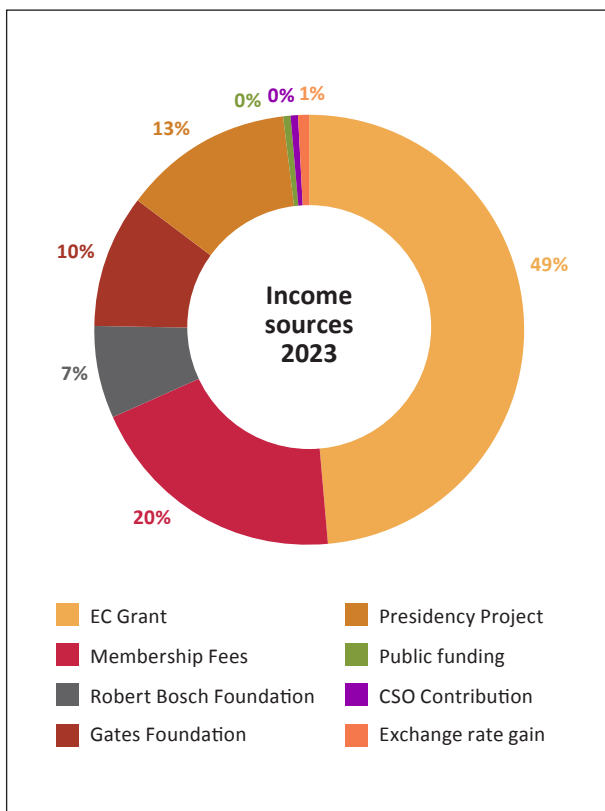
FINANCE & ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

- CONCORD’s financial records are expressed in euros and are maintained on a historical cost basis in compliance with international accounting standards and legislation applicable to non-profit associations in Belgium.
- CONCORD’s EC Operational Grant covers a considerable proportion of the running costs of the Secretariat and of the activity costs of the member-led working structures (workstreams, Committees, Board, General Assembly). Activities include reports, meetings, advocacy tools, studies, capacity-building and internal and external communication.
- As a general rule, and in line with CONCORD’s travel reimbursement rules, the budget enables at least one representative per member to participate per meeting, reimbursing travel and accommodation on request if the member organisation cannot cover these costs.

- CONCORD has currently five funding streams:
 - Operational Grant from the European Commission
 - EC-funded Presidency Project (in partnership with three of our National Platforms, corresponding to the Member States holding the rotating 6-month Presidency of the European Council. The purpose of this project is to promote European values and raise awareness of sustainable development objectives throughout the EU. Exceptionally, 5% co-financing was covered by Sweden’s government agency for development cooperation (SIDA).
 - Membership fees to co-fund the EC and Presidency Project grants
 - Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in the context of its More and Better Aid Project
 - Robert Bosch Stiftung to deepen its work on inequalities, with a focus on how digitalisation can affect inequalities.

In 2023, CONCORD had €22.500 in exceptional income related to an exchange rate gain on the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Grant.



SUMMARY OF RESULTS

In 2023, CONCORD's total income amounted to €2,186,719 (2022: €1,987,082) and our expenditure amounted to €2,168,612 (2022: €1,966,787) resulting in a surplus of € 18,107.

CONCORD's income was 18% higher than forecasted and the expenditure was 17% above forecast for reasons explained below.

INCOME

Overall income was €329,719 higher than projected in the Strategic Budget approved during CONCORD's 2022 General Assembly.

This is primarily owing to the additional income of €142,459 from the Robert Bosch Stiftung in 2023 that was not foreseen in the Strategic Budget, drawn up in April 2022. In addition, there was €125,000 supplementary income from the European Commission's contribution to CONCORD's operating costs and activities to cover increasing staff costs, €33,444 incremental income from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, €8,345 contribution from SIDA to cover the Presidency Project co-financing of activities, €6,500 contribution by different NGOs to help cover the costs of one of our reports. There was also an exceptional income of €22,500 as an exchange rate gain on the grant from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Unfortunately, membership fees dropped by (€3,688).

EXPENDITURE

In 2023, CONCORD's total expenditure amounted to €2,168,612 which was €311,612 higher than forecasted in the Strategic Budget.

As a result of the increased resources from the EU Presidency Project, Robert Bosch Stiftung and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation expenditure increased substantially for travel, communication and external experts compared to the Strategic Budget.

This has resulted in variances in the following areas of expenditure:

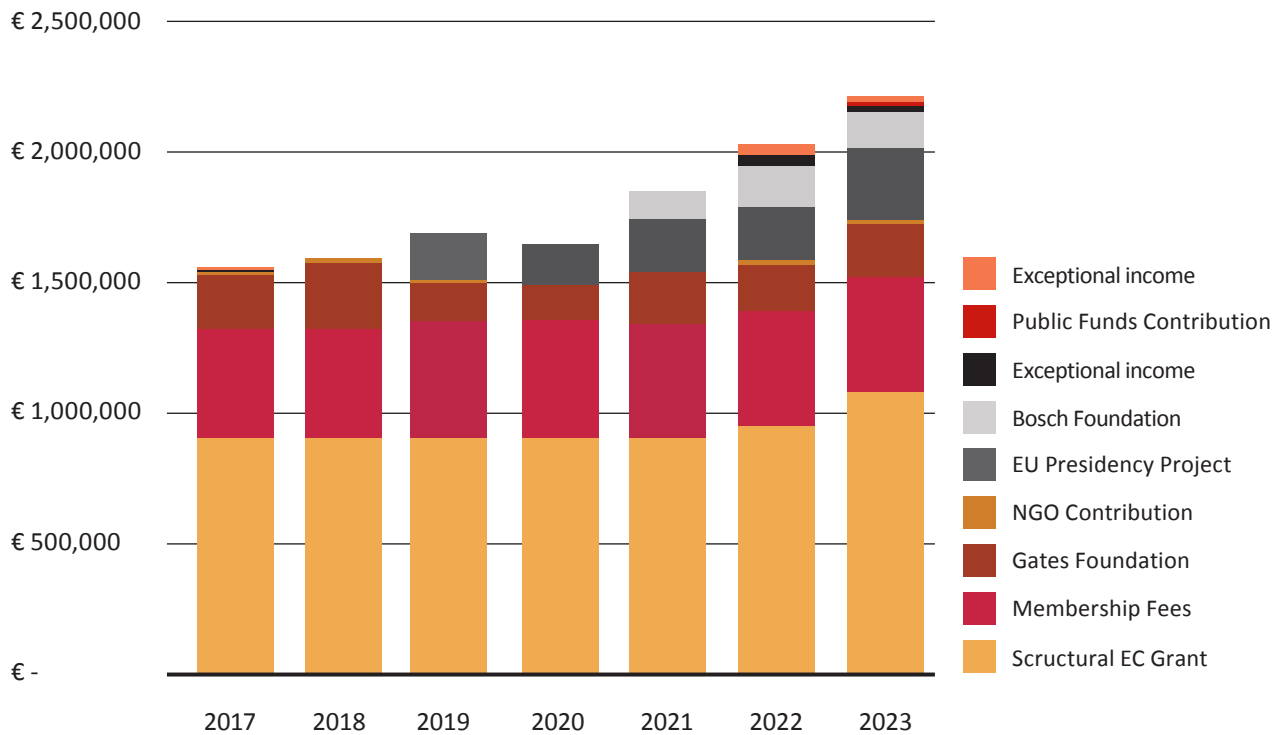
- Expenditure on travel and meetings (€ 125,182) saw an increase of €38,982 compared to the Strategic Budget. This was mainly due to meeting costs, as well as to extra activities under the various different grants.

- Investment in communication (€68,485) led to an overspending of €37,185. The exchange rate gain on the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation was spent on improving the writing of the Aidwatch report. Also, the expenditures under the Robert Bosch Stiftung were significant contributors to the increase and used to do videos for the Equalities Day and for case studies.
- An additional €91,930 was spent on external services. This led to a total spending of €204,930. This was due to an increase in spending on consultants (for example contributing to the Lion's Share report, the research into the Global Gateway initiative, drawing up a finance strategy, ...), the review of statutes, and activities under the EC-funded Presidency Project.
- Staff costs were €123,743 higher than foreseen in the Strategic Budget. This is due to higher than anticipated inflation (covered by the EC Operational Grant) and the availability of funding from the Robert Bosch Stiftung.
- Overhead costs were higher than the foreseen in the Strategic Budget (€16,006), due in large part to the increase of our IT support costs.
- Office costs were €4,348 higher than in the Strategic Budget.
- EC non-eligible costs were €582 below budget.

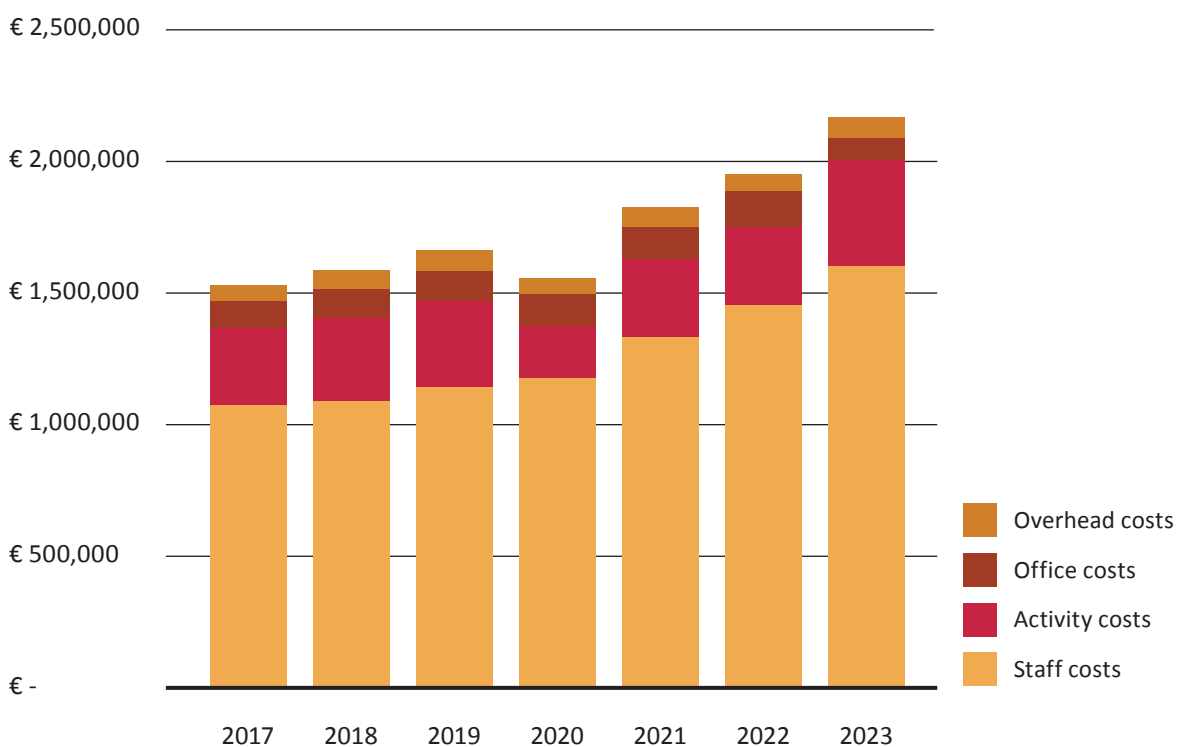
INCOME & EXPENDITURE

	2023 Budget	2023 Actuals	2022 Actuals	2021 Actuals	2020 Actuals	2019 Actuals	Variance from budget
Income							
Membership Fees	€ 435,000	€ 438,688	€ 437,478	€ 436,118	€ 454,218	€ 450,518	€ 3,688
NGO Contributions		€ 6,500	€ 10,935	€ -	€ -	€ 2,500	€ 6,500
Other contributions		€ 8,345					€ 8,345
	€ 435,000	€ 453,533	€ 448,413	€ 436,118	€ 454,218	€ 453,018	€ 18,533
Structural EC Grant	€ 950,000	€ 1,075,000	€ 950,000	€ 900,000	€ 900,000	€ 900,000	€ 125,000
EU Presidency Project	€ 251,000	€ 284,444	€ 208,866	€ 205,995	€ 150,982	€ 193,776	€ 33,444
	€ 1,201,000	€ 1,359,444	€ 1,158,866	€ 1,105,995	€ 1,050,982	€ 1,093,776	€ 158,444
Gates Foundation	€ 221,000	€ 208,783	€ 181,267	€ 201,838	€ 133,882	€ 141,378	€ (12,217)
Other Projects (Robert Bosch Foundation since 2021)		€ 142,459	€ 156,798	€ 98,554			€ 142,459
Exceptional Income		€ 22,500	€ 41,738				€ 22,500
	€ 221,000	€ 373,742	€ 379,803	€ 300,392	€ 133,882	€ 141,378	€ 152,742
Total Income	€ 1,857,000	€ 2,186,719	€ 1,987,082	€ 1,842,505	€ 1,639,082	€ 1,688,172	€ 329,719
Expenditure							
Travel and meeting costs	€ 86,200	€ 125,182	€ 57,798	€ 4,297	€ 24,068	€ 117,218	€ 38,982
Communication & logistics	€ 31,300	€ 68,485	€ 41,383	€ 34,093	€ 48,248	€ 69,398	€ 37,185
External services	€ 113,000	€ 204,930	€ 198,536	€ 258,138	€ 129,368	€ 135,996	€ 91,930
	€ 230,500	€ 398,597	€ 297,718	€ 296,528	€ 201,684	€ 322,611	€ 168,097
Staff	€ 1,483,000	€ 1,606,743	€ 1,456,344	€ 1,331,889	€ 1,175,910	€ 1,141,743	€ 123,743
Overheads	€ 54,000	€ 70,006	€ 58,920	€ 77,386	€ 57,069	€ 81,263	€ 16,006
Offices	€ 85,000	€ 89,348	€ 145,462	€ 122,380	€ 122,061	€ 116,695	€ 4,348
Others	€ 4,500	€ 3,918	€ 8,343	€ 11,223	€ 8,592	€ 4,470	€ (582)
	€ 1,626,500	€ 1,770,015	€ 1,669,070	€ 1,542,878	€ 1,363,631	€ 1,344,171	€ 143,515
Total Expenditure	€ 1,857,000	€ 2,168,612	€ 1,966,787	€ 1,839,406	€ 1,565,315	€ 1,666,782	€ 311,612
Surplus/Deficit	€ -	€ 18,107	€ 20,295	€ 3,099	€ 73,767	€ 21,390	€ 18,107

INCOME SOURCES FROM 2017 TO 2023



BREAKDOWN OF EXPENSES FROM 2017 TO 2023



BALANCE SHEET ON 31 DECEMBER 2023

The balance sheet shows CONCORD's financial situation on 31 December 2023.

The intangible assets (mainly the Client Relationship Management tool) were completely amortised as of 31 December 2022 and had no more impact on December 2023 figures. The tangible assets (mainly the purchase of IT equipment) have been further depreciated, with no new investment. This explains the decrease in the value of net assets.

The cash level increased substantially in 2023 compared to 2022, because the first payment tranche (€920,000) of our 2024 EC Operational Grant was already received in advance in December 2023. For 2023, this tranche had been received after January 1st 2023. The second payment tranche (€215,000) related to 2023 EC Operational Grant will only be received in 2024.

The debtor account is €257,099 in the positive. These are amounts to be received from various debtors: €215,000 from the last tranche for the 2023 EC Operational Grant, the last tranche of €40,382 on the third EU Presidency Project 3 and €1,000 outstanding membership fees.

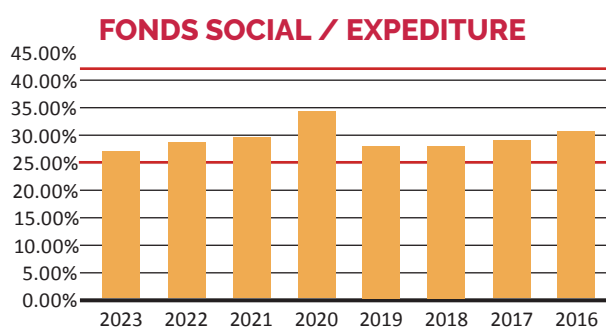
Deferred expenses are expenses that CONCORD paid in 2023 but that will also cover part of 2024. It includes our contract with Atlance for our Client Relationship Management tool, AG Insurance, Axa Insurance, STIB (public transport allowance), the Zoom licence and other small contracts for IT tools/software, such as Tableau licence and A2 Hosting. The deferred expenses are lower in 2023 than in 2022.

The short-term creditors position reflects the EC Grant money that has been received but not yet been spent. In 2023, this position increased substantially with regard to 2022, mainly because the 1st payment of the 2024 EC Grant was already booked on December 31st (€920,000), which was not the case the year before.

The deferred revenue position mainly reflects the other grant monies that had been received but had not yet been spent on grant-related activities. In 2023, this position increased by €24,863: the amount relating to the EU Presidency Projects

increased by €38,937.25 to €73,922. The amount linked to the Robert Bosch Stiftung increased by €37,541 to €77,189, while the amount for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation decreased by €50,258 to €127,561. The residual difference (€1,357.25) is due to 2023 expenses that will only be paid in 2024.

The total "fonds social" (reserves), amounting €582,850, represents 26.88% of annual expenditure. The ratio of fonds social compared to our expenditure has decreased by 0.83% from 2022, simply because our income has grown. It remains, within the recommended percentage bracket of 25% - 50%.



	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Intangible assets	€ -	€ 3,200	€ 6,401	€ 9,601	€ 12,802	€ 2,733	€ 9,956	€ 17,178
Tangible assets	€ 5,409	€ 13,173	€ 13,866	€ 16,547	€ 22,392	€ 5,708	€ 1,918	€ 3,279
Financial assets	€ 10,838	€ 10,838	€ 10,838	€ 10,838	€ 10,838	€ 10,838	€ 10,838	€ 10,798
Long term assets	€ 16,247	€ 27,212	€ 31,105	€ 36,986	€ 46,032	€ 19,279	€ 22,712	€ 31,256
Debtors	€ 257,100	€ 381,847	€ 180,912	€ 183,912	€ 207,835	€ 181,089	€ 188,811	€ 192,283
Cash	€ 1,738,455	€ 636,564	€ 1,474,889	€ 736,330	€ 449,848	€ 579,659	€ 640,871	€ 846,680
Accrued income / deferred expenses	€ 16,917	€ 22,463	€ 50,160	€ 33,021	€ 14,098	€ 14,301	€ 10,555	€ 9,997
Short term assets	€ 2,012,472	€ 1,040,873	€ 1,705,961	€ 953,264	€ 671,780	€ 775,049	€ 840,237	€ 1,048,960
Total assets	€ 2,028,719	€ 1,068,085	€ 1,737,066	€ 990,249	€ 717,812	€ 794,328	€ 862,949	€ 1,080,216
Short term creditors	€ 1,169,127	€ 242,790	€ 271,677	€ 270,515	€ 220,011	€ 204,103	€ 182,308	€ 175,299
Accrued expenses / deferred revenues	€ 271,333	€ 246,470	€ 903,158	€ 155,968	€ 3	€ 141,815	€ 230,189	€ 453,288
Short term liabilities	€ 1,440,460	€ 489,260	€ 1,174,836	€ 426,483	€ 220,014	€ 345,918	€ 412,497	€ 628,587
Provision for liabilities and charges	€ -	€ -	€ 17,782	€ 22,416	€ 30,216	€ 2,217	€ 6,146	€ 11,480
Capital Grants	€ 5,409	€ 14,082	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -
Fonds Social (Reserves)	€ 564,743	€ 544,448	€ 541,350	€ 467,582	€ 446,192	€ 444,306	€ 440,150	€ 491,699
Surplus/Deficit	€ 18,107	€ 20,295	€ 3,099	€ 73,767	€ 21,390	€ 1,886	€ 4,157	€ (51,549)
Total Fonds social	€ 582,850	€ 564,743	€ 544,448	€ 541,350	€ 467,582	€ 446,192	€ 444,307	€ 440,150
Total financing	€ 2,028,719	€ 1,068,085	€ 1,737,066	€ 990,249	€ 717,812	€ 794,328	€ 862,950	€ 1,080,216

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Fonds Social	€ 582,850	€ 564,743	€ 544,448	€ 541,350	€ 467,582	€ 446,192	€ 444,307	€ 440,150
Fonds social / expenditure	26.88%	28.71%	29.60%	34.58%	28.05%	28.13%	28.80%	30.68%

PARTICIPATION INSIGHTS 2023

CONCORD Participation Insights show similar trends in 2023 compared to the previous year, whether it be a primary focus on online meetings and events, average attendance, or composition of participants.

The Secretariat continues to track the number and type of people following and participating in our work on thematic priorities, attendance in internal and external meetings and events. However, with the nature of work and our own ways of working evolving, we have decided no longer to split the data based on a distinction between physical and online meetings (with most the meetings being online for the past four years), but instead focus on tracking our internal and external events separately. This means that although we continue to track in-person/online participation, it is no longer the most important criterion for analysing attendance and participation.

Our overall participation numbers have not changed much from 2022 to 2023 (a 5% increase), although some groups experienced more significant changes in the number of subscribers, e.g. the Gender Equality group grew by 25% over the course of the year. On average, CONCORD members subscribed to seven (out of 11) available mailing lists and actively participated in five of them. Nearly all CONCORD members (52 out of 57) continue to follow the work on FFSD. In comparison, many of CONCORD's thematic groups, e.g. Inequalities and Sustainable Economy (ISE), Gender Equality or Regional Alliances are followed by at least 60% of CONCORD members.

In February 2023, CONCORD launched a new task force, focusing on EU Elections and institutional renewal. This task force will be active until the end of 2024.

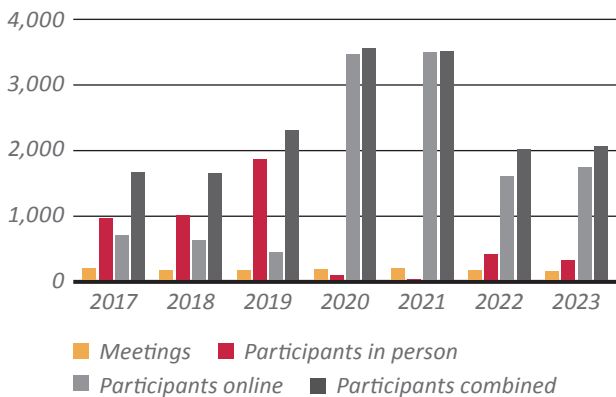
TYPE	NAME	# SUBSCRIBERS	# CONCORD MEMBERS
Thematic Working Groups	Financing and Funding for Sustainable Development	233	52
	Inequalities and Sustainable Economy	59	36
	Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development	51	29
	Gender Equality	74	34
	Global Citizenship Education	63	31
	Regional Alliances	54	35
	Civil Society Power	32	25
	Digital Community	33	20
Transversal Groups and Communities of Practice	EU Elections Taskforce	48	26
	Financial Advisory Committee	1	1
	Communication Community	91	43
	Eastern Neighbourhood	26	18
Governance bodies	Disability Inclusion	12	8
	General Assembly (Delegates)	112	57
	Board	10	10

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

INTERNAL MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Internal meetings and events form the base of CONCORD activities. As in 2022, CONCORD organised more than 150 meetings and events, with a total of 2063 participants. This includes participants both online and in-person. While these numbers remain lower than the number of meetings and participants during the two pandemic years (2020 and 2021), it is worth noting that they remain very close to the numbers reported in 2022 and only slightly lower than during the last pre-pandemic year of 2019.

Figure 1: Internal Meetings & Events – Comparison by Year

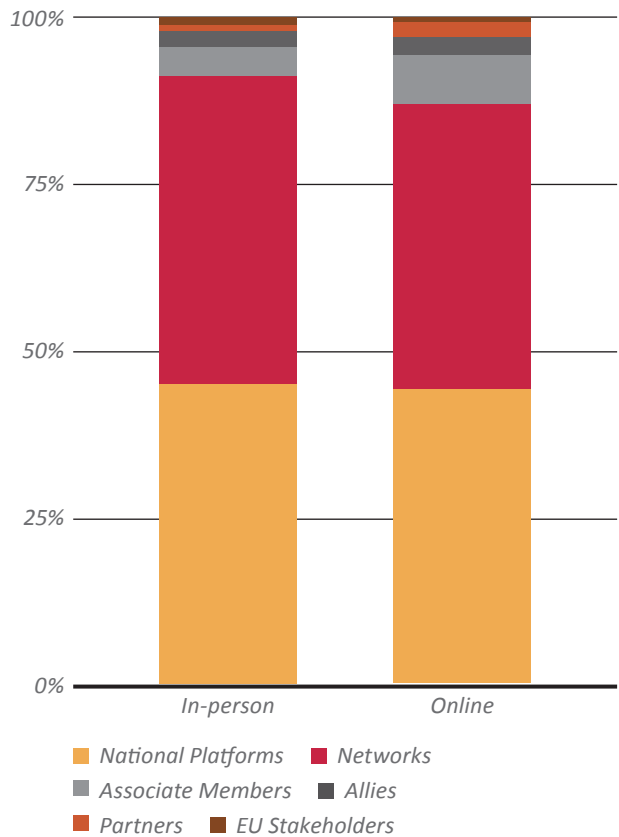


The ratio of in-person to online meetings and events remains the same as the previous year, with the vast majority of our activities taking place online. In 2023, CONCORD organised only five purely in-person internal events, meaning that most in-person participation occurred during hybrid meetings. This does not seem to have had any impact on the average participation per event, which has not changed significantly between the three comparable years (2019, 2022 and 2023).

Concerns that in-person participation would remain the domain mostly of Brussels-based CONCORD Networks, also proved not to be the case. On the contrary, the participation tracking tool showed that the ratio between Networks and National Platforms (i.e. not Brussels-based) was nearly identical whether the event was held online or in-person. Online events then mostly benefited partners (proving much more accessible given the participants’ geographic location) and Associate members. Although, their higher participation in online spaces is mostly driven by their participation in FFSD, which is CONCORD’s largest group with the

highest number of meetings per year and also a group organising most of its meetings online. (See Figure 2: Internal Meetings & Events - Composition of Participants).

Figure 2: Internal Meetings & Events – Composition of Participants

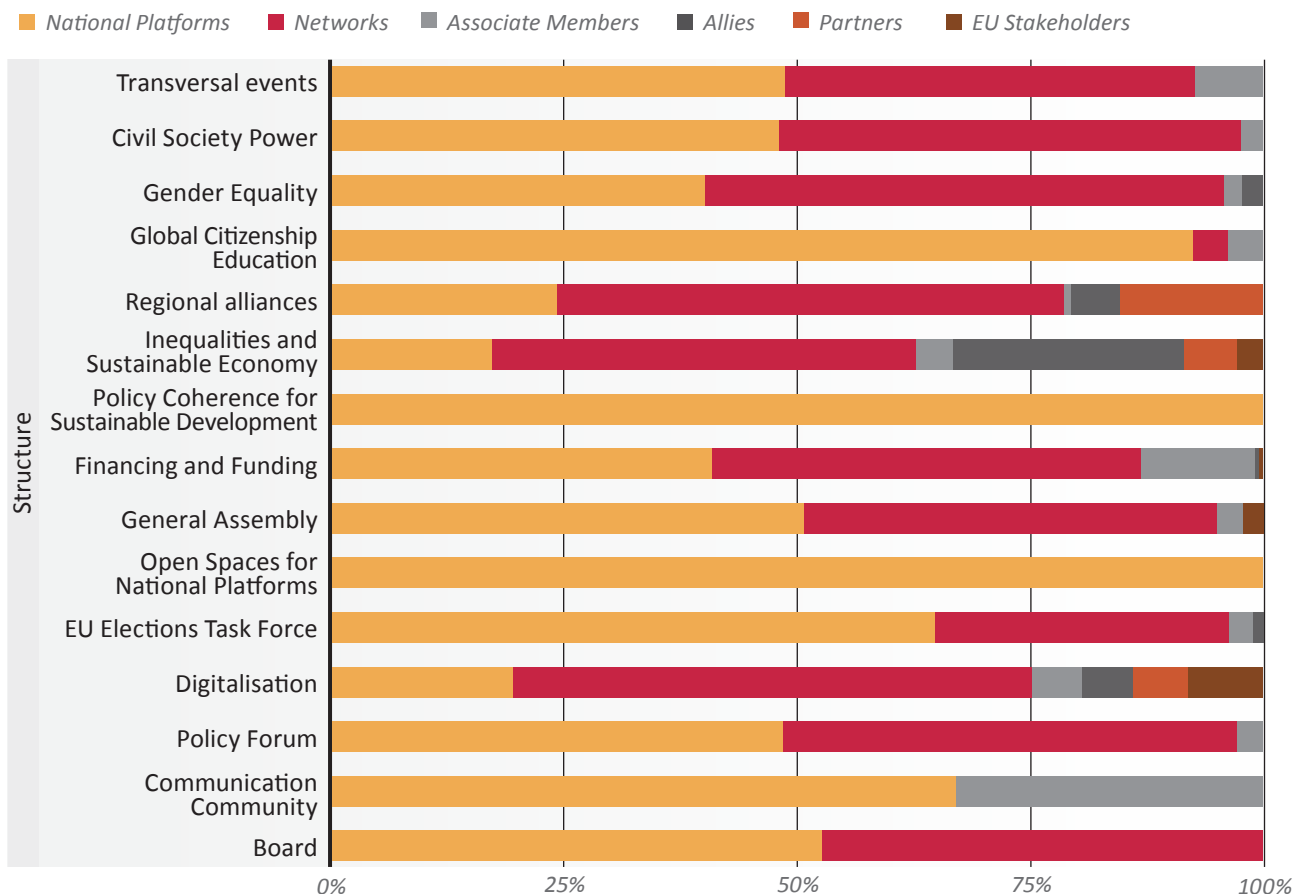


An improved balance between Networks and National Platforms is clear also when looking at the total participation in our internal meetings and events, with 44.5% of participants representing National Platforms (compared to 40.9% in 2022) and 43.1% of participants representing Networks (compared to 45.2% in 2022). The share of participants in other categories remained similar to that in previous years: Associate Members (6.9%), Allies (2.8%), Partners (2%) and EU stakeholders (less than 1%). Based on the data collected, the improved balance between participants from National Platforms and Networks is mostly due to an increased participation of National Platforms across all of CONCORD’s working groups, with the launch of the EU Election Task Force, which saw NPs attending in higher numbers (63% of participants were from National Platforms), only accentuating the increase in numbers.

There is, however, a greater variety in the composition of participants depending on the group meetings and events, where different groups seem to attract different audiences. For example, while the Civil Society Power group and FFSD attract National Partners and Networks equally, groups like

ISE, Gender Equality, Digitalisation, and Regional Alliances attract significantly more participants from CONCORD Networks. On the other hand, PCSD and GCE clearly remain the domain of National Platforms. (See Figure 3: Internal Meetings & Events - Composition of Participants per Working Group)

Figure 3: Internal Meetings & Events – Composition of Participants per Working Group

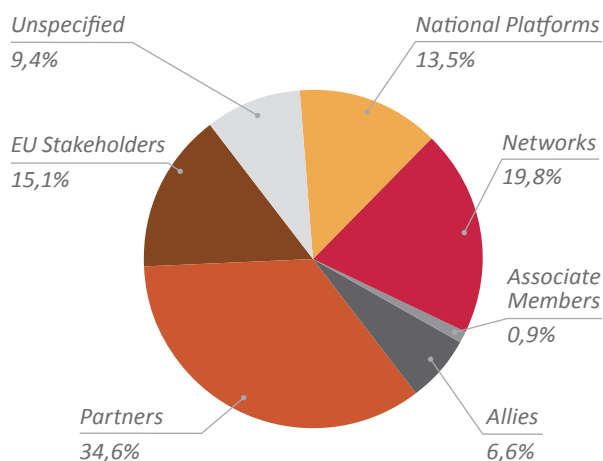


EXTERNAL MEETINGS AND EVENTS

In 2023, five working groups organised events focusing on external audiences and participants: Regional Alliances led a series of calls on the CSEM; the ISE workstream organised CONCORD’s first ever Equality Day; the Gender Equality group launched its GAP III report; and in the autumn CONCORD hosted first its annual AidWatch launch organised mainly by our colleagues from FFSD, and then in November a PCSD Dialogue event.

In total, these events attracted over 300 participants, predominantly from the ranks of our members (Networks, National Platforms, Associate members), partners, and EU stakeholders. (see Figure 4: External Events - Composition of Participants).

Figure 4: External Events – Composition of Participants



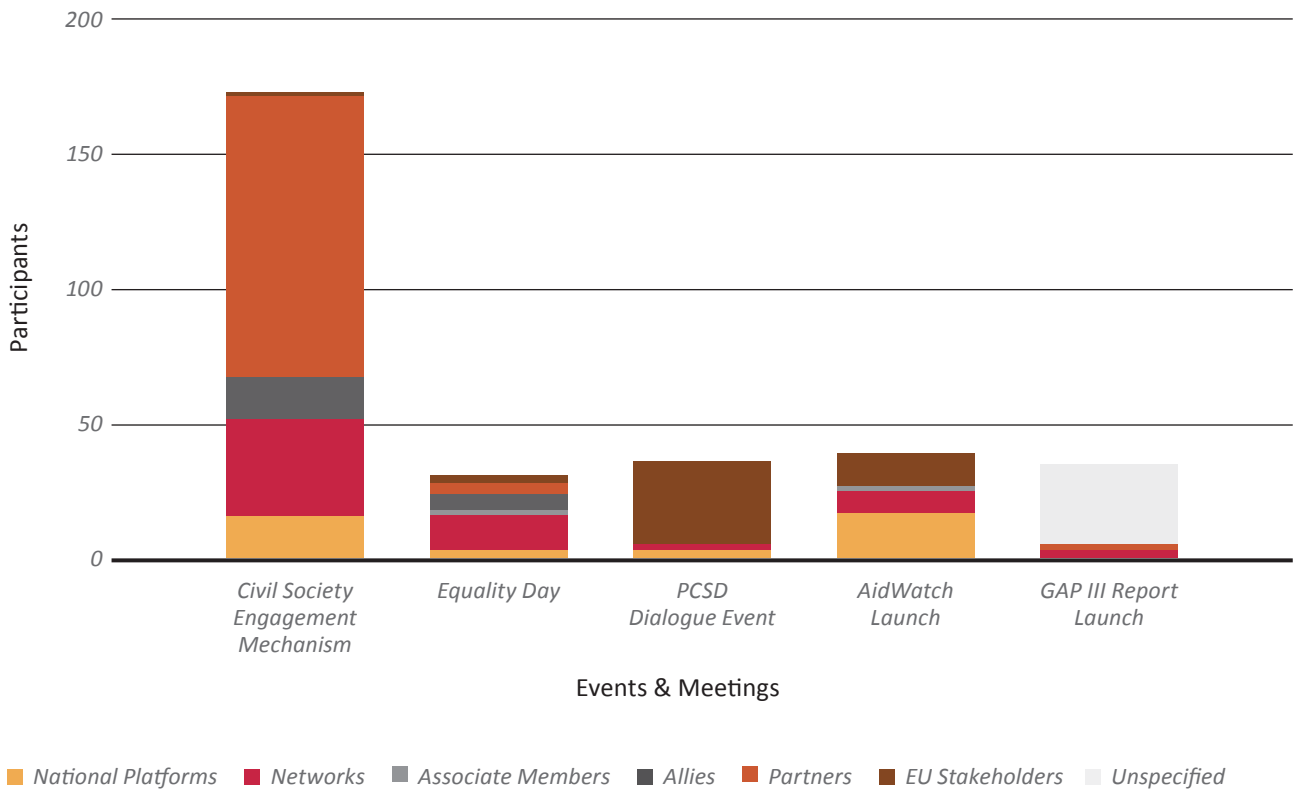
From a general perspective, the composition of participants seems equally split between our members (33.3%) and partners (34.6%), followed by EU stakeholders (15.1%), and Allies (6.6%). However, when we take a closer look at the events, it is clear that their composition reflects the aims and objectives of those activities.

The Civil Society Engagement Mechanism aims to mobilise and gather together various partners and therefore has a higher proportion of such participants, whereas the PCSD Dialogue event gathered mostly EU policy-makers. The other three events, CONCORD’s Equality Day, GAP III report launch and the AidWatch launch, aimed

for broader audiences and therefore saw a larger mix of participants (with Equality Day clearly attracting more CONCORD Networks than National Platforms, and the AidWatch launch vice versa). (see Figure 5: External Events - Composition of Participants per Event).

This shows that while CONCORD made some significant steps towards higher participation of partners, their participation remains limited to Regional Alliances. A closer analysis of non-event collaboration would have to be made to understand the true extent of Partners’ (and Members’) participation in the Confederation’s work.

Figure 5: External Events – Composition of Participants per Event



ANNEXES

– MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS

MEMBER	Fees 2022	Paid 2022	Fees 2023	Paid 2023
ACT Alliance EU	€16,000.00	€ 16,000.00	€16,000.00	€16,000.00
ActionAid	€16,000.00	€ 16,000.00	€16,000.00	€16,000.00
ADRA	€8,800.00	€ 8,800.00	€8,800.00	€8,800.00
ALDA	€2,800.00	€ 2,800.00	€2,800.00	€2,800.00
Alliance 2015	€3,000.00	€ 3,000.00	€3,000.00	€3,000.00
Globale Verantwortung (Austria)	€8,000.00	€ 8,000.00	€8,000.00	€8,000.00
CONCORD Belgium (Belgium)	€16,500.00	€ 16,500.00	€16,500.00	€16,500.00
BPID (Bulgaria)	€550.00	€ 550.00	€550.00	€550.00
Cardet	€500.00	€ 14,000.00	€1,000.00	€1,000.00
CARE International	€14,000.00	€ 500.00	€14,000.00	€14,000.00
Caritas Europa	€8,000.00	€ 8,000.00	€8,000.00	€8,000.00
Childfund Alliance	€4,500.00	€ 4,500.00	€4,500.00	€4,500.00
CIDSE	€18,000.00	€ 18,000.00	€18,000.00	€18,000.00
CROSOL (Croatia)	€1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€1,000.00	€1,000.00
FoRS (Czech Republic)	€2,500.00	€ 2,500.00	€2,500.00	€2,500.00
Globalt Fokus (Denmark)	€12,000.00	€ 12,000.00	€12,000.00	€12,000.00
EAEA	€1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€1,000.00	€1,000.00
EDF - European Disability Forum	€1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€1,000.00	€1,000.00
AKU (Estonia)	€1,200.00	€ 1,200.00	€1,200.00	€1,200.00
European Partnership for Democracy	€2,500.00	€ 2,500.00	€2,500.00	€2,500.00
EU-CORD	€7,500.00	€ 7,500.00	€7,500.00	€7,500.00
Fingo (Finland)	€16,000.00	€ 16,000.00	€16,000.00	€16,000.00
Coordination SUD (France)	€16,000.00	€ 16,000.00	€16,000.00	€16,000.00
Venro (Germany)	€22,000.00	€ 22,000.00	€22,000.00	€22,000.00
GNDR	€2,500.00	€ 2,500.00	€2,500.00	€2,500.00
Hellenic Platform for Development(Greece)	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00
Habitat for Humanity	€5,000.00	€ 5,000.00	€5,000.00	€5,000.00

HAND (Hungary)	€350.00	€ 350.00	€500.00	€500.00
Humanity & Inclusion	€5,000.00	€ 5,000.00	€5,000.00	€5,000.00
IPPF	€12,720.00	€ 12,720.00	€12,720.00	€12,720.00
IRC - International Rescue Committee	€10,000.00	€ 10,000.00	€10,000.00	€10,000.00
Dochas (Ireland)	€8,000.00	€ 8,000.00	€8,000.00	€8,000.00
CONCORD Italia (Italy)	€9,200.00	€ 9,200.00	€9,200.00	€9,200.00
LAPAS (Latvia)	€1,000.00		€1,000.00	€1,000.00
Light for the World	€5,000.00	€ 5,000.00	€5,000.00	€5,000.00
Cercle de Cooperation (Luxembourg)	€14,000.00	€ 14,000.00	€14,000.00	€14,000.00
SKOP (Malta)	€1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€1,000.00	€1,000.00
Partos (Netherlands)	€17,000.00	€ 17,000.00	€17,000.00	€17,000.00
Norwegian Refugee Council	€5,000.00	€ 5,000.00	€5,000.00	€5,000.00
Oxfam International	€9,660.00	€ 9,660.00	€14,000.00	€12,000.00
Plan Europe	€12,700.00	€ 12,700.00	€12,700.00	€12,700.00
Grupa Zagranica (Poland)	€1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€1,000.00	€1,000.00
Plataforma ONGD (Portugal)	€4,000.00	€ 4,000.00	€4,000.00	€4,000.00
FOND (Romania)	€1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€1,000.00	€1,000.00
Save the Children EU	€16,000.00	€ 16,000.00	€16,000.00	€16,000.00
Sightsavers	€9,000.00	€ 9,000.00	€9,000.00	€9,000.00
Ambrela (Slovakia)	€1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€1,000.00	€1,000.00
SLOGA (Slovenia)	€1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€1,000.00	€1,000.00
Solidar	€3,000.00	€ 3,000.00	€3,000.00	€3,000.00
SOS Children's Villages	€14,000.00	€ 14,000.00	€14,000.00	€14,000.00
CONCORD Sweden (Sweden)	€17,800.00	€ 17,800.00	€18,000.00	€18,000.00
Coordinadora ONGD (Spain)	€9,000.00	€ 9,000.00	€9,000.00	€9,000.00
Terre des Hommes International	€11,000.00	€ 11,000.00	€11,000.00	€11,000.00
Bond (UK)	€9,000.00	€ 9,000.00	€6,000.00	€6,000.00
Wetlands International	€1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€1,000.00	€1,000.00
Women Engage for a Common Future	€1,000.00	€ 1,000.00	€3,000.00	€2,000.00
World Vision International	€12,000.00	€ 12,000.00	€12,000.00	€12,000.00
WWF	€9,198.00	€ 9,198.00	€9,198.00	€9,198.00

OUR MEMBERS

