



CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENDERS

IMPACT REPORT 2022

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IMPACT REPORT 2022

How does the work of Civil Rights Defenders influence the development of civil and political rights? A full overview of the Civil Rights Defenders' activities during 2022 can be found in the [Annual Report](#). This Impact Report provides a more comprehensive view of Civil Rights Defenders key aspects of work under the pillars of accountability and security.

Civil Rights Defenders is an international, non-profit, human rights organisation that is politically and religiously independent. For over 40 years, Civil Rights Defenders has been working to defend and promote people's civil and political rights and empower human rights defenders at risk around the world. We engage in advocacy activities and legal processes, work with security and capacity building, and provide information on and create engagement for the situations concerning human rights.

We are a global organisation with a presence on four continents. In 2022, Civil Rights Defenders continued its efforts to support human rights defenders in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Eurasia, and Europe. With a long-term perspective, Civil Rights Defenders collaborates with more than 300 human rights organisations in over 50 countries. Together with the human rights defenders in our network, we jointly champion a world of democratic societies where we all enjoy fundamental rights and freedoms.

CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENDERS' VISION

A world of democratic societies in which we all enjoy our civil and political rights

CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENDERS' MISSION

Our mission is to defend civil and political rights together with human rights defenders and to increase their security, capacity, and access to justice.

We work as a part of a global movement of human rights defenders and partner with those at risk. Through legal means and public advocacy, we hold states, individuals, and non-state actors accountable for human rights violations.

We advocate for the norms and values of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and other relevant human rights standards, as we encourage people to use these rights to promote democratic societies.

THEORY OF CHANGE

Civil Rights Defenders' Theory of Change centres on the strength of the human rights movement to alter oppressive power structures and to ensure that authorities are held accountable in respecting democracy and human rights.

Strengthening capacity and security creates organisational structures providing a platform for impactful human rights work. Through awareness raising and organising, people are empowered to collectively challenge oppression collectively through concerted efforts.



SECURITY

Through training, emergency assistance, and innovative security solutions, Civil Rights Defenders aims to support as many human rights defenders as possible, so they can continue their important work. Together with our partner organisations, we offer training in digital, physical, as well as psychosocial security, among other areas.



CAPACITY

A strong civil society is key to sustainable democracy. We partner with local human rights organisations and provide support in skills development as well as long-term financial support based on their needs to increase their capacity to drive change.



ACCOUNTABILITY

We work to ensure respect for people's fundamental rights and freedoms and demand accountability when this is not the case. On our own, or together with local human rights defenders, we evaluate laws and proposed legislation, as well as their implementation by the authorities. We also engage in legal processes and hold those in power to account when human rights are violated.



AWARENESS

Knowing one's rights is a precondition for being able to exercise them. Through information activities, public campaigns, and advocacy, we strengthen the knowledge of and engagement for democracy and human rights in Sweden and globally.

In our [Annual Report, page 12-28](#), you can read more about our work on Security, Capacity, Accountability and Awareness in all our regions.

THE LIMITATIONS AND TIME FRAME OF THE IMPACT REPORT 2022

The Impact Report covers one key subcomponent within of our work on capacity: Defenders' Days Conference. The Defenders' Days conference is one of Civil Rights Defenders' flagship events and is one of the largest conferences for human rights defenders in the world. The report also covers one component on security: the Emergency Fund, which provides rapid assistance to human rights defenders who are in danger.

This Impact Report follows Giva Sverige's new and improved guidelines for impact reporting. The report covers activities during 2022. To get a comprehensive overview of all Civil Rights Defender's activities during 2022, please see our [Annual Report, pages 12-31](#).

CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENDERS AND OUR RESOURCES

Organisation

Civil Rights Defenders has an independent, non-profit board of recognised human rights experts. The members of the board are elected during the Annual Meeting, which is the organisation's supreme decision-making body. The organisation has a secretariat led by the Executive Director, whose task it is to implement the decisions of the board and to handle the day-to-day operation of the organisation.

By the end of 2022, Civil Rights Defenders had 101 staff members stationed across the organisation's head office in Stockholm and our regional offices in Asia, Africa, Belgrade, Bogotá, Brussels, Istanbul, Pristina, Sarajevo, Tbilisi and Tirana.

Country programmes are managed and coordinated by five regional departments: Africa, Asia, Eurasia & MENA, Europe, and Latin America. The organisation has two thematic departments: the Legal Department, and the Security and Innovation department in addition to departments for Communications, Fundraising and Partnerships, and Finance.

Within the Legal Department and the Security and Innovations Department, at the centre of this Impact Report, is a team of over 20 staff members, specialised in diverse topics related to human rights including international law, safety, security, and innovative methods to support human rights defenders most at risk.

Partners

We cooperate with more than 300 human rights organisations across East and Horn of Africa, Europe, Eurasia, Latin America, Southeast Asia, and Sweden. We believe that local forces are best placed to be driving human rights work due to their permanent presence and closeness to those who face human rights violations.

Civil Rights Defenders works with different partners, which can be organisations or individuals with whom we engage in activity-based or contractual collaborations. This may refer to grant partners or collaborative partners within a legally binding or otherwise established project. These partners are referred to as our Activity Partners. Civil Rights Defenders also engages on regular basis with organizations and individuals for the purpose of sharing information, insights, analysis, cooperation, to strengthen our activities and advocacy. These may include similar non-governmental organizations, networks, umbrella organisations or other trusted contacts within formal bodies institutions. These partners are referred to as our Strategic Partners.

In the regions where Civil Rights Defenders works to increase the security and capacity of human rights defenders, we primarily engage with Activity and Strategic Partners that:

- Are human rights defenders or part of human rights-based organisations and communities.
- Are affected by and/or at risk due to policies and practices, which affect their civil and political rights.

- Have limited capacity to perform human rights work and/or formal structures – or partners that represent such actors.
- Have, or that have the potential to, impact on the human rights situation in the local or regional context.

In both the Defenders' Days programme and the Emergency Fund Civil Rights Defenders work closely with our partners, but also provide support beyond the already established partner networks of the organisation.

Funding

Civil Rights Defenders is a registered Swedish non-profit organisation with no religious and political affiliation. Our work is financed by governmental organisations and private funders, including foundations, corporate partnerships, and contributions from the general public. The support is essential to ensure our flexibility and ability to act quickly and to target actions where the need is greatest.

Public Grants

In 2022, Civil Rights Defenders' income from grants from public bodies amounted to a total of SEK 122,015 thousand, which corresponds to an increase from the previous year of SEK 40, 533 thousand or almost 50 per cent. The biggest grant-awarding bodies were Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), and the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, followed by the Swedish Inheritance Fund and the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society. Grants from state actors are important for maintaining long-term engagement, in Sweden and in the world.

Foundations and Organisations

Foundations and organisations are an important source of funding for Civil Rights Defenders. The biggest contributions came from the Open Society Foundations, National Endowment for Democracy, Civicus, and the Gerald and Monica Nagler Foundation.

Funds Raised from the General Public

During the year, Civil Rights Defenders raised SEK 9,691 thousand from private individuals, which corresponds to an increase of SEK 2,767 thousand or roughly 40 per cent. This increase is a clear result of several years of focusing on engagement, successful recruitment, and loyalty building from lead to donor. It is also a result of the great willingness of donors to support human rights defenders affected by the war in Ukraine, as well as a strong response from the public in the form of donations in connection with our review of the parliamentary elections in Sweden.

Companies

During the year, companies and organisations contributed SEK 22,572 thousand to Civil Rights Defenders, either through long-term partnerships or by making a one-off donation. In 2021, the corresponding income from companies was SEK 16, 414 thousand, which represents an increase of 38 per cent. Donations and grants from companies are of great importance for our ability to meet the challenges ahead, and the organisation will continue to

focus on strengthening its partnerships with companies and organisations. Since 2013, Civil Rights Defenders is a beneficiary of the Swedish Postcode Lottery, and in 2022 the organisation received SEK 10,000 thousand. Other important partners that supported our operations included, among others, Microsoft, Coca Cola, Grindr, IKEA, Tele 2, the Swedish Olympic and Paralympic Committees, Neptunia Invest AB, Weekday, and Twitter.

INCOME

Total operating income 2022: SEK 181,878 thousand (2021: SEK 124,871 thousand). The distribution of income is shown below:

- **Public bodies** – 67% (65%)
- **Foundations and organisations** – 16% (17%)
- **General public** – 5% (6%)
- **Companies** – 12% (12%)

The outer circle shows the distribution of income for 2022 and the inner circle for 2021. Despite an increase in income of almost 50 per cent from government donors between 2021 and 2022, the income distribution across different donors looks almost the same as the year before, which is a result of strong increases in income from other types of donors as well.



WHY IS CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENDERS' WORK NEEDED?

On the basis of the principle of equal dignity for all, Civil Rights Defenders works toward a world of democratic societies in which we can all enjoy civil and political rights. Conflicts and human rights violations increasingly pervade our world, and we believe that a well-functioning, strong, and local civil society is more important than ever. Civil Rights Defenders aims to contribute towards the expansion the space for human rights defenders by improving their security and capacity, and by increasing awareness and accountability in relation to civil and political rights.

This report will take an in-depth look at particular actions supported under the capacity and security pillar within Civil Rights Defenders work.

CAPACITY

Civil Rights Defenders believes that a strong local civil society is essential for long-term progress toward sustainable democracy. Strong human rights actors who are able to assert their rights are core actors and the key to long-term change. That is why we focus on partnering with and supporting local human rights defenders who are fighting for change in countries where their rights are not recognised. We work with human rights organisations in more than 50 countries and, based on their needs, provide security training, expertise, skills and organisational development, including leadership trainings and strengthening administrative capacity and financial routines. [Read more in our annual report page 16-17.](#)

Civil Rights Defenders also work with long term financial support to its partners through specific project grants, which is essential for them to be able to carry out their work. One

important part of our work is to create global digital and physical networking platforms for human rights defenders, where it is possible to safely meet and exchange experiences.

Defenders' Days Programme

Defenders' Days Programme strengthens the organisational capacities, supports cooperation, promotes and creates opportunities for networking and exchange of knowledge among partners of Civil Rights Defenders. Defenders' Days programme consists of three sub-components; Defenders' Days Conference, Defenders' Days Bootcamp, and Time to Act Partner Newsletter. During 2022, the Defenders' Days programme organised three bootcamp weeks and the biennial conference, as well as regularly supported the community of 500 partners and other human rights defenders via the Partner Newsletter. This report analyses the Defenders' Days Conference.

Table 1. Results chain for Defenders' Days Conference

Component	Resources	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact
Defenders' Days Conference	Internal resources from the whole organisation. Donor Funds to support the organisation of the conference	Civil Rights Defenders conducted a needs-based and gender responsive conference called Defenders' Days. The event had the objective of facilitating thematic and organisational capacity strengthening for partner organisations. Including activities such as - Identification of strategic theme for the conference - Identification of participants - Establishing a needs based agenda - Identification of relevant experts and trainers - Logistics for the event - Travel arrangements for participants	1) Number of participants trained in various thematic capacities. 2) Number of organisations strengthened in their organisational capacities. 3) Number of trainings and workshops were facilitated on topics such as digital security, sustainable leadership, burnout prevention, feminist practices, safety and inclusion.	Short-term outcome - Network of global human rights defenders was created or strengthened. - Individuals and partners adopt physical, digital and psychosocial security measures. - Individuals and partners gained skills to increase their advocacy effectiveness of their work - Individuals and partners adopt organisational best practices Mid-term outcome - Strengthened networks increased consensus building towards policy advocacy in favour of human rights. - Increased cooperation initiatives result from strengthened networks. - Partner organisations become more resilient and effective in their human rights work. Long-term outcome - A resilient human rights movement contributes towards policy changes in favour of human rights.	Increased accountability of duty bearers across various regions.

Defenders' Days Conference

Defenders' Days Conference is one of the world's largest conferences with and for human rights defenders. It is organised by Civil Rights Defenders takes place in Stockholm every second year. The first Defenders' Days Conference was organised in 2013. The purpose of the conference is to strengthen and support human rights defenders. It is also to create opportunities for networking, build alliances and exchange of knowledge between people who every day, despite risks to their own safety, fight for democracy, freedom of expression, and human rights. The Defenders' Days conference serves as a defender-centric community platform where Civil Rights Defenders' partners and their needs are in the centre of all activities.

In 2022 the Defenders' Days Conference was held in October. Civil Rights Defenders takes pride in working with a wide range of human rights defenders from different regions, active in different areas of human rights. 207 human rights defenders participated in the conference representing 143 organisations. 51 countries, covering five continents, were represented at the event.

During the three days of the conference, thematic sessions and 42 workshops were held by 27 leading international experts, on issues ranging from human rights, security and

organisational capacity to sustainable leadership, and management of stress and burnout. The workshops were all designed to provide a collaborative space and nurtured group learning and reflections. [See the full agenda.](#)

In order to provide a relevant conference for all partners, prior to the conference Defenders' Days conducted a deeper content needs assessment, as well as needs in terms of security and accessibility. The agenda was then developed together with Civil Rights Defenders partner community and was tested, and quality ensured (through Defenders' Days bootcamps) before the physical conference. All trainings were also gender responsive. Through an intersectional approach we acknowledge that there is a wide range of threats and vulnerabilities depending on factors including – but not limited to – gender identity, ethnicity, and sexual orientation, which was taken into account when designing the agenda and trainings.

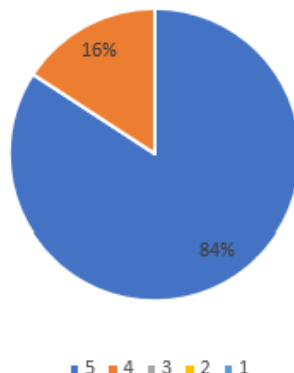
The underlying assumptions for the intervention relies, among other things, in the idea that the conference is effective in creating a safe space for knowledge exchange; that participants have the opportunity to engage in trainings in accordance to their personal needs assessment and; that access to knowledge results in changes regarding attitudes/behaviour/policies; and that knowledgeable and resilient human rights actors results in increased ability to demand accountability of duty bearers.

QUICK FACTS

Number of participants	207
Number of participants nationalities	51
Number of trainings/workshops	42
Number of international trainers	27

The vast majority was very satisfied with the conference on an over all level. 84 percent responded excellent (5). One participant said: "I liked that the organizers showed concern for the needs of each participant and participant.", another one said: "The Defenders Days were very amazing, and power since they availed opportunity and space to network, learn, relearn and create solidarity for and among Human Rights from around the globe."

Overall impression of Defenders' Days 2022



63 percent of the participants were completely satisfied with the topics and their choice of workshops, 32 percent was partly satisfied and only 5 percent was only satisfied to some extent. One participant said “The program is very interesting and rich. Pleased with an individual approach to time planning”. Most negative feedback was lack of time to attend more sessions “Very relevant and updated agenda. I wish I had time to attend every session.”, “It was a pity we cannot participate at all workshops”

Building networks and increased cooperation

One aim of the conference is to create a platform for new networks to be established and strengthen existing bonds between human rights defenders on a regional and global level. A short-term outcome was achieved as 91 per cent of the participants reported that they through Defenders' Days Conference had gained new contacts that will benefit their work by improving coordination on regional and global legal processes, social media campaigns, and strategies on working under sanctions and in increasingly repressive environments. Participants also reported meeting compatriot human rights defenders for the first time since in many contexts there is a significant number of organisations working in exile who might not otherwise have had the opportunity to connect to their peers in a safe space.

“It was a great pleasure to meet and communicate with colleagues from Latin America, especially from Venezuela, some of whom also work in [X country¹]. The exchange of experiences on working under sanctions and repression was very helpful and supportive. It was also incredibly nice to meet my compatriots, activists and journalists from [X country]. We didn't quite know each other before. The communication turned out to be very inspiring and giving strength to continue my work. I am pretty sure that it will lead to new collaborations between [X civil society members].

Mid-term outcomes was observed when more than 10 joint activities were initiated through partners and activist participating in the conference. One example was when three women human rights defenders from different countries, working in established feminist organisations as well as in grassroot initiatives, in the same region connected at the conference. They secured additional funding on the spot, from a donor also invited to the conference, for their

¹ Due to security considerations for participants living under threat, some countries of origin are not disclosed.

future collaboration on a public event under 16 Days Campaign. This attracted further cooperation offers from other non-governmental organisations in the region, as well as journalists and feminist bloggers, looking to cover their work towards ending violence against women, as well as structural and social risks facing women human rights defenders in the region.

Adopting new measures and becoming more resilient

Short-term outcome was observed as 95 per cent of the participating human rights defenders reported that they gained new tools or methods that they will use in their work, which raised their professional and activist capacity.

Participants reported that their self-perception of security planning has increased through adopting better practices in daily digital security routines in their organisation, such as use of VPNs and multifactor authenticators, physically or digitally secure and encrypted data storage.

During 2022 more human rights defenders suffered from blocked websites and many human rights defenders expressed concerns about surveillance in general. At the conference, in collaboration with Citizen Lab over 200 phones were checked for spyware, if spyware was identified additional security measures were taken.

Participants reported that they adopted physical, digital and psychosocial security measures, such as developing risk assessment framework and mitigation plans, security policies, as well as feeling more prepared to manage verbal communication, conflicts and sensitive information in situations that pose a threat to their own or their organisation's safety and security.

One participant said: "I gained new tools and these include: the risk assessment matrix, the digital security tools (VPN). The voices from defenders were so inspiring and has increased the resilience in me." Another one said "Yes, Encryption of organization data, physical and this has enabled the organization question and develop both the Risk Assessment Framework and policy as well as The ICT Security Policy that will inform and mitigate any uncertainties." Yet another one said: "I got a VPN that I use to freely communicate online without the fear of being arrested."

Advocacy effectiveness

During the conference participants gained skills to increase their advocacy effectiveness of their work, but also 91% highlight that they through Defenders' Days Conference gained new contacts that will benefit their work by improving coordination on regional and global legal processes, social media campaigns, and strategies on working under sanctions and in increasingly repressive environments. One participant said: "I attended a workshop on how I can use videos as a tool to advocate. I have not worked with that before, but now I can start using video as a tool in my work.", another one said "I learnt a lot of things such as how to advocate about rights of others and lobby for change or reform of policies and laws." Yet another said workshops "Help[ed] identifying drivers and signals influencing social changes. To see other perspectives about the future of defence of human rights."

To measure and draw learning from the intervention a full evaluation on both output and outcome level is conducted after every Defenders' Days Conference. To collect data a comprehensive participant satisfaction survey is conducted. Answers in the survey indicates that some of the mid-term outcomes have already been promoted through the intervention.

[Read more stories about and testimonials from participants of Defender's Days on our website "Voices from Defenders' Days"](#)

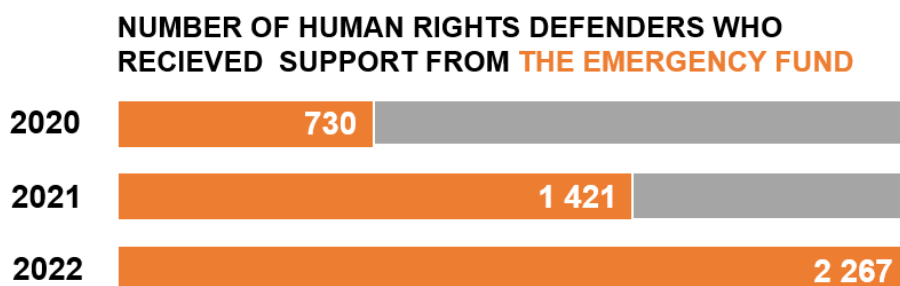
SECURITY: THE EMERGENCY FUND IN 2022

In recent years, being a human rights defender has become increasingly dangerous. Many on the frontlines face daily threats to their lives and safety. Persecution, surveillance, harassment, smear campaigns, arbitrary arrests, disappearances, attacks on offices, and interrogations by the security services – the list of risks faced by human rights defenders is long. Living and working in a hostile environment is often detrimental to both their physical and mental health.

Civil Rights Defenders works with a combination of protection, emergency support, provision of security tools, and a comprehensive programme of preventive security trainings for human rights defenders. This way, we ensure that our partners are equipped with the necessary knowledge and tools to improve both their physical, digital and psychosocial security. The synergies created by a combination of different measures are essential to strengthening their overall security. This report analyses the flexible, rapid response granting initiative: Emergency Fund.

Emergency Fund

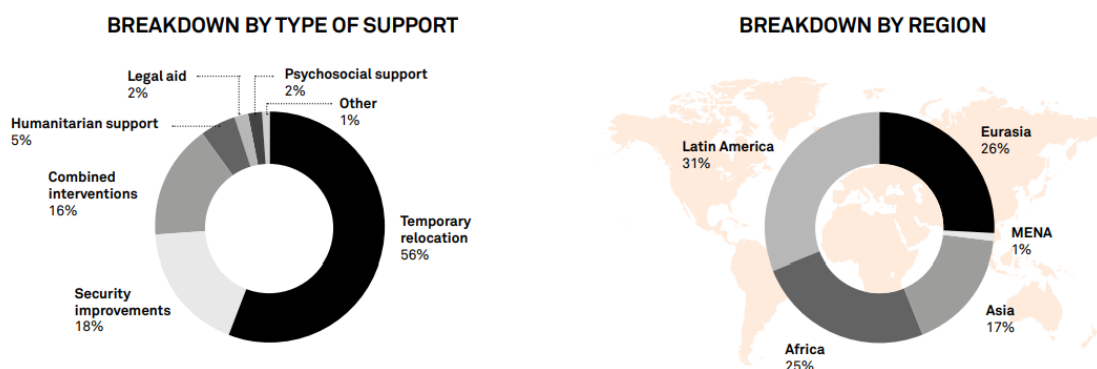
In many parts of the world, defending human rights is becoming increasingly dangerous. Many human rights defenders experience risks and threats on a daily basis. Civil Rights Defenders' global Emergency Fund provides rapid support and assistance to human rights defenders and their families at risk. The Emergency Fund programme facilitates reactive and preventive measures such as temporary relocation, psychosocial support, legal aid, medical aid, support to family members, capacity building, and humanitarian support to defenders and organizations at risk.



The Emergency Fund has seen and reacted to the continuous global backsliding of democracy and emerging conflicts in 2022. During 2022, we received the highest number of applications for support since the Emergency Fund was established in 2012. We provided support to a total of 2,267 human rights defenders and/or members of their families in 34 countries across 5 regions. This constitutes a 60 per cent increase of emergency support, compared to 2021. Since 2012, we have in total supported 5 759 human rights defenders worldwide.

The war in Ukraine, the aftermath of the military coup in Burma, the backlash for human rights defenders in Uganda, the increase in conflict-related violence in Colombia, and the constant attacks on civil society through “foreign agent” laws in various countries such as Nicaragua

and Venezuela, are just some of the events that have continued to worsen the security situation for human rights defenders during 2022.



In the past year, we received a large influx of applications from journalists, media outlets and human rights defenders working with freedom of expression in Burma and Ukraine. Particularly, the Emergency Fund extended support to a total of 450 human rights defenders in Ukraine. Many of these have been independent journalists covering the war from the frontlines, lawyers documenting war crimes, and LGBTI+ activists working in some of the most vulnerable areas of the country. Emergency support has, for example, been used for insurance, medical equipment, protective vests and helmets, mobile power plants and satellite internet, urgent evacuations, office relocations of staff and psychosocial support – all with a focus on making it easier for them to stay in Ukraine and continue their important work.

In Colombia, we have witnessed an intensification of violence in many parts of the country, especially in rural areas of the Pacific region and along the Colombian-Venezuelan border where armed groups compete for territorial control. Human rights defenders, particularly those working on the implementation of the peace agreement in rural areas and the protection of the land and environment, often become targets for armed groups. Many face violence and death threats, making Colombia one of the most dangerous places in the world for human rights defenders. During 2022, we provided support for temporary relocations and security improvements, among other types of support, to 222 human rights defenders.

Type of support

Temporary relocations remained the most requested type of support. The primary goal of a temporary relocations is to provide human rights defenders with the possibility to relocate for a short period of time, within their country or abroad, while the threat level de-escalates enough for them to return and continue their human rights work. This year, however, we have seen that for the majority of relocated defenders, return is no longer possible as violence and threats remain and even continue to increase. [Read more about relocations](#)

This is particularly the case for human rights defenders from Burma, Afghanistan and Nicaragua, who might face detentions, imprisonment and even torture upon return. Many defenders also face additional risks in the country of relocation, as many governments around the world continue to apply restrictive migration policies, making it hard to relocate or settle in a safe place. These situations increase the need for longer and additional support for defenders and their families.

This year we have also witnessed a surge in requests for humanitarian support from both human rights defenders and their families, mainly because of the war in Ukraine, and other conflict-related violence. Requests for psychosocial support and legal aid have also increased due to the heightened trend of arbitrary arrests, imprisonment, harassment, and persecution.

Table 2. Results chain for the Emergency Fund

Activity	Resources	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact
Emergency fund	Internal resources from the Security and Innovation Department Donor funds supporting the Emergency Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case assessment and verification • Type of support and budget definition • Internal approval • Fund disbursement process • Reporting and internal audits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitation of legal aid, psychosocial support, humanitarian support, medical aid • Changes in knowledge about coping mechanisms; physical and digital security related practices • Bringing people to safety through temporary relocations 	<p>Short-term outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased ability to identify and address risk factors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective use of coping mechanisms • Self-reported increased sense of safety • Increased personal and digital security <p>Mid-term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A human right defender that feels empowered to continue their work in human rights <p>Long-term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased resilience of human rights movements 	Empowered human rights base

Many human rights defenders cannot keep on working for human rights and democracy without additional support. The aim with the Emergency Fund is for human rights defenders to feel safe enough to continue their work. Assumptions include that risks are mitigated, that the intervention is sufficient to neutralize significant risks from violence exerted by State and non-state actors.

As part of the reporting and internal audit process, information is systematically collected regarding each organisation's or individual's perceived benefits of the intervention and potential changes and future perspectives of their human rights work. Mid-term outcomes was achieved as, according to the reporting, approximately 91 per cent of all grantees have been able to continue their work after receiving support. Democracy and human rights cannot be achieved without human rights defenders. Through the Emergency Fund we ensure that they have better prerequisites to continue their work. The support and the possibility to continue the work will contribute to a more resilient human rights movement in the long run.

THE COSTS OF CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENDERS' OPERATIONS

Civil Rights Defenders total operation costs for 2022 was SEK 185,946,420. The total operating expenses include project expenses (SEK 172,269,482), fundraising expenses (SEK 7,175,411), and administrative expenses (SEK 6,501,527). Project expenses are those that are directly associated with the fulfilment of Civil Rights Defenders' purpose according to its statutes, including expenses for personnel engaged to carry out activities, expenses for opinion-shaping and information activities regarding Civil Rights Defenders' mission. The monitoring, reporting, and auditing of projects are also classified as project expenses.

Fundraising expenses are expenses intended to generate external income in the form of donations and grants from all donors and grant-awarding bodies, i.e. both private individuals and companies.

Administrative expenses are those required to manage and run the organisation i.e. expenses not related to projects or fundraising are classified as administrative expenses.

Examples of such expenses relate to board meetings, accounting and annual reports, the handling of payroll and social security contributions, VAT and tax declarations, audits of the organisation itself, as well as administrative systems such as accounting systems.

MULTI-YEAR COMPARISON

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Total income incl. interest income and similar profit items (SEK thousands)	189,793	126,198	101,771	89,042	91,454
Operating income	181,878	124,871	101,771	88,954	91,125
Profit/loss after financial items	3,836	5,626	2,772	-1,335	-2,384
Project expenses/total income	95%	88%	86%	90%	91%
Fundraising expenses/total income	4%	6%	5%	4%	5%
Administrative expenses/total income	4%	3%	6%	7%	7%
Equity ratio	20%	11%	7%	8%	11%

For more details, see Annual Report 2022 page 39.

The activities mentioned in the Impact Report for 2022; Defenders Days programme and Emergency Fund are supported through funds from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Meta, OSF and the Swedish Postcode Lottery.

LESSONS LEARNED AND HOW CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENDERS MEASURE ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

Civil Rights Defenders is engaging in a continuous process to incorporate monitoring, evaluation and learning frameworks to better understand the effectiveness of the institution's interventions. As mentioned above, the two different components have built in reporting and evaluation systems. We are constantly trying to develop our tools and methods for evaluation and leaning, For example, through understanding broader advocacy and social listening indicators.