

The foundation

Life & Peace Institute

Organisation no. 817602-2302

Annual Report for 2023

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Management report

General Info on the Organisation

Headquarters of the Foundation	The Life & Peace Institute is located in Uppsala, Sweden.
Functional Currency	The functional currency of LPI is Swedish Krona (SEK)
Purpose (as stated in the Foundation Statutes)	The purpose of the Foundation is to conduct scientific research, primarily from a Christian-ethical perspective on questions of international conflict, and on the possibilities for collaboration among nations.

The Institute's Vision and Mission

The Life & Peace Institute (LPI) is an international institution for peace research and action. *LPI believes in a world where people work together to transform violent conflicts, create sustainable environments, and build inclusive, just, and peaceful societies.*

LPI's mission: *LPI works with partners and other allies to support all stakeholders to play an active role in preventing and transforming violent conflict and promoting inclusive and sustainable societies through a combination of action and research.*

Organisation

An international Board governs the Institute. The Board conducts at least five meetings annually to ensure the organisation adheres to its legal obligations in all the various countries where it operates. It also oversees the organisation to ensure it achieves its mission through appropriate management and responsible policies reflecting its values guiding its form and behaviours. It also reviews and accepts the annual budget and adopts the annual implementation plan. The Christian Council of Sweden (CCS) appoints the Board members for a four-year term. The membership of the Board is constituted to provide balanced representation, reflecting interreligious membership, gender, and expertise in peace and conflict studies, political science, and other relevant areas. The Board appoints the Executive Committee annually to be of service between the board meetings. A Finance and Risk Committee (FARCom) meets before each board meeting and reports to the Board.

LPI board members 2023 (* Executive Committee member).

Revd. Gustaf Ödquist*	President of the Board (Jan-May) Church of Sweden
Eva Christina Nilsson*	President of the Board (from June). Director. Church of Sweden/Uppsala diocese.
Dr. Angela Muvumba Sellström*	Senior Researcher, Nordic Africa Institute (NAI)/ Uppsala University Department of Peace and Conflict Research.
Mr. Stig Lundberg*	Chair of FARCom Church of Sweden (retired)

Revd. Dr. Myra Blyth	Research Fellow, Regent's Park College, University of Oxford, England
Dr. Njoki Wamai	Assistant Professor, International Relations Department, United States International University in Nairobi (USIU), Kenya.
Ms. Shamsia Ramadhan	Program Management Specialist, Peacebuilding & PCVE, USAID, Kenya.
Dr. Nada Mustafa Ali	Women's and Gender Studies Department and Faculty Fellow, Center for Governance and Sustainability, University of Massachusetts Boston
Mr. John Katunga Murhula	Dispute Resolution Specialist with mediation services in West Africa, Compliance Advisory Ombudsman (CAO), International Financial Corporation (IFC), World Bank.
Rev. Stein Erik Horjen	Senior Advisor on Multilateral Cooperation, Norad Church of Norway

The overall responsibility for planning, coordination, and administration rests with the Executive Director, who is supported in her work by the Executive Team (ET) composed of the Director of Programmes and the Director of Finance & Administration. A Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) advises the ET, composed of the Director of Programmes, Director of Finance & Administration, Team Leaders for Africa Country Programmes and Global Policy, and two Senior Advisors – one for Strategic Processes and one for Sweden Engagement. In addition, LPI has country managers for its Kenya, Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan, and DRC programmes, as well as a focal point for its Horn of Africa Regional Programme (HARP).

The Institute has five main offices located in Uppsala, **Sweden**; Nairobi, **Kenya**; Bukavu, **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)** Addis Ababa, **Ethiopia**; and Mogadishu, **Somalia**. LPI had a functional office in Khartoum, **Sudan** until 15 April 2023. The Nairobi office supports the Sudan and Somalia programmes. Each office has a functional Senior Management Team (SMT) that reports to the Executive Team. Many of the strategic functions of the Uppsala office have now shifted to the Nairobi office. However, the Executive Director and a small Finance Unit remain in Uppsala. In addition, LPI continues to support some activities in Sweden.

In 2023, activities were carried out under eight peacebuilding programmes – Ethiopia, Kenya, DRC, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, HARP and Inclusive Peace in Practice (IPIP).

Significant events during the year

- Outbreak of war in Sudan on 15 April 2023, including massive displacement both within Sudan and to neighbouring countries (especially Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, Uganda).
- Drought and flooding in several parts of the Horn of Africa and over 32 million people facing high levels of acute food insecurity across Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia.
- The wars in Ukraine and Gaza have shifted attention, and resources, from other parts of the world, including the regions where LPI works.

- Eritrea rejoined the Inter-governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) while Sudan suspended its IGAD membership.
- The Swedish government launched a reform process for Sweden's international aid and has made significant changes to the budget.

Strategic Priorities

LPI's new Strategic Plan (2023-2027) commenced in 2023 with an update of some of the language and focus.

Strategic Priority 1: Inclusive engagement for peace

Civil society actors and community members play a critical role in the systemic transformation of conflict to sustainable peace at all levels of society. LPI support civils society and other actors through collaborative joint engagement in research, action, policy influencing, and capacity enhancement.

Strategic Priority 2: Policy engagement and awareness-raising

Policy frameworks and legislation play a critical role in shaping institutional behaviour and people's lives to bring about sustained peace in societies. Engagement and informed linkages between all levels—local, subnational (state or province), national, regional, and global—are crucial for creating systemic change. LPI engages directly and in collaboration with others on raising awareness among policymakers. We do this by supporting inclusive policy development processes on issues affecting peace and conflict in people's lived experience. We encourage and motivate influential actors to fulfil their responsibilities to promote peace and address potential grievances and drivers of conflict through this engagement. We enhance awareness of civil society conflict transformation processes and raise pertinent policy issues deriving from the work in the field.

Strategic Priority 3: Collaborative learning to enhance practice and policy

Through learning and documentation, we both improve our practice and share our knowledge and experience with relevant stakeholders. The experience of participants at all levels and in multiple forms is critical for knowledge generation. We seek to establish strategic partnerships between conflict-affected communities and link them to relevant local, regional, and international researchers, policymaking organisations and institutions, academic actors, peacebuilding practitioners. Simultaneously, we gather relevant concepts, research findings, and experiences from other contexts, sectors, and organisations to communicate this information to LPI staff and partners.

Programme implementation 2023

LPI's engagement in 2023 has focused on support to local civil society organisations (CSOs) and universities, as well as building strategic partnerships with national, regional and international organisations and networks, and strengthening links with donors and international actors to support environments conducive to nonviolent conflict transformation. Participatory research plays an essential role in LPI's approach, both as a precondition for understanding the context of engagement and as a vehicle for transforming conflict.

LPI applies several mutually reinforcing strategies in its civil society support and broader conflict transformation work:

- **Promoting inclusive community-based peacebuilding processes with a long-term view**, with engagements driven by local partners and technically accompanied (and in many cases financially supported) by LPI.
- **Capacity strengthening**, including processes and methodologies of conflict transformation—such as Participatory Action Research (PAR); research methodology and methods; Sustained Dialogue; Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning (PMEL); mediation, negotiation, and organisational development—such as financial management and accounting, administrative skills and procedures, human resource management, leadership, organisational governance, resource mobilisation, including donor relations. Capacity strengthening responds to expressed and well-analysed needs of partners.
- **Policy engagement** particularly at the local, national, regional and global levels, either by LPI alone or in collaboration with local, regional or international partners.
- LPI also has a specific commitment to **learning and reflection**, not least through its third Strategic Priority, knowledge and learning, and investment in documentation and monitoring and evaluation, which is being pursued across LPI's programmes.
- Implementation of peacebuilding programmes in the contexts where we work needs **flexibility and adaptive programming** related to continuous context assessment of risks, challenges, and opportunities. A commitment to both **conflict sensitivity** and **results-based management** necessitates adaptive programming to ensure efforts continue to make effective and efficient contributions towards to overall goal of the programme.

A selection of **highlights** from LPI programmes in 2023 include:

- LPI facilitated a series of trainings for Act Church of Sweden partners in South Sudan.
- The capacities of (technical and organisational) 15 Ethiopian emerging peacebuilding CSOs were strengthened.
- Application of the Sustained Dialogue methodology among diverse youth in Sweden.
- Adaptation of LPI's Sudan Programme in light of the outbreak of war in Sudan.
- Publication of a case study documenting the innovative, participatory micro-grant LPI piloted in informal settlements in Kenya and cross-organisational exchange and learning on participatory, power-aware "Small Grant" funding modalities.
- LPI brought together policy actors with youth leaders from informal settlements in Nairobi using an innovative "Knowledge Café" model to discuss sustainable funding approaches which provide funds directly to community-based organisations. Another Knowledge Café was held with a range of civil society and institutions working in and on Sudan to explore obstacles and options for supporting Sudanese civil society in the context of the war.
- Formation of a peacebuilding civil society network to support the connection of community voices into the National Reconciliation Framework implementation process in Somalia.
- Development of the Karamoja Cluster (Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, Uganda) civil society network and provision of innovative small grants, in partnership with Sida and

the United Nations (UN) Development Programmes African Borderlands Center, to advance social cohesion in border communities.

- Completion of the African Union Transitional Justice Policy (AUTJP) Training programme – a five-part training programme working with civil society from the Horn of Africa to socialise the AUTJP and understand how this resonates with community approaches to transitional justice, in partnership with the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR) and Center for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation (CSV).
- Support to the Government of Kenya and the UN Resident Coordinator Office in the implementation of the Kenyan Peacebuilding Architecture Review process through supporting methodology and engagement of diverse voices.

The Institute worked formally and informally alongside 75 local, national, and regional organisations (including four universities) as well as over 20 international organisations, to engage with local communities in long-term peacebuilding processes across over 20 states/regions/counties in Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan, DRC, Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, and Sweden, and engaged constituents, communities, government at different levels, and other conflict stakeholders.

Future Developments

In 2024, LPI will continue to strengthen its internal systems and procedures, including automating several processes such as travel plans and declaration of expenditure reports, updating Risk Register documentation and processes.

Some of the key programmatic areas where LPI expects to see growth in 2024 include:

- Regional peacebuilding and policy engagement with Sudanese actors.
- Cross-border engagement including on peacebuilding and livelihoods across the Moyale Ethiopia-Kenya border.
- Commencement of a new research initiative with American University funded by Carnegie Corporation to expand rigorous peacebuilding evidence bridging the gap between academia – policy and communities.
- Engagement in the 2025 United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture Review to bring unheard voices into the global policy process.
- Building on LPI's longstanding history of working in urban contexts, undertake research into the implications of climate related migration to second cities, with a focus on Kenya and Somalia.
- Working in collaboration with IGAD to support the implementation of the Informal Cross-Border Trade – Cross-Border Security Governance policy framework to advance greater integration and mobility in border communities.
- Launching of a participatory micro-grant to civil society actors in the Horn of Africa working on transitional justice. This will be the first Fixed Amount Grant provided by LPI directly to CSOs and offers an opportunity to further interrogate how we can best adapt our processes to meet the needs of the actors we work with.
- Engagement with private and public donors and international organisations who are

working to innovate in the provision of quality funding to community actors, to further support actions that uphold the localisation agenda.

- Continued work to innovate and pilot new approaches to policy engagement to bring unheard voices into policy processes and advance better peace outcomes.

Donors and partners

LPI would like to express its deepest appreciation for its 75+ partners who have allowed us to work alongside them as they respond to violence and conflict in their communities.

LPI also expresses its warmest gratitude for the funds received and project support from its donors. In 2023, these included:

- Carnegie Corporation of New York
- Chemonics
- Church of Sweden
- Church of Sweden, International Department
- Church collections/donations
- Childrens Mission (Barnsmissionen)
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
- DT Global
- European Commission
- Freidrich Ebert Stiftung
- Fryshuset
- Global Affairs Canada - Peace and Stabilisation Operation Programme
- Saferworld
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)
- Swedish Institute
- Swedish Mission Council (SMC)
- Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Peace and Human Rights Division
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Staff

LPI values and attaches critical importance to engaging a diverse staff reflecting different cultures, backgrounds, gender equity and expertise in its various offices. Over the course of 2023, LPI had 66 staff, 40% of whom were women and 60% men. Staff numbers include employees on fixed-term contracts and permanent contracts as well as long-term consultants and short-term interns.

LPI would like to express its gratitude to all its employees, interns and consultants for their excellent work in 2023. We sincerely appreciate our staff's outstanding commitment and positive attitude who continue to work in the challenging and often risky environments where LPI's programmes are implemented.

The financial development of the foundation

All figures in thousands Swedish Kronor

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Income	40 153	34 814	44 131	59 208	73 320	56 875	60 834	92 254	75 615
Expenditure	39 898	36 335	44 714	61 005	72 301	56 395	60 399	90 474	74 024

Equity	8 144	6 680	6 616	5 150	6 341	7 838	6 311	7 989	11 670
Statement of Income and Expenditures						Note	2023		2022
Income									
Project Grants					2			74 359	91 329
General Grants					3			1 253	921
Collections/Donations					4			3	3
Other Operating Income									
Total Income								75 615	92 253
Expenditures									
Appropriation of Funds								-15 430	-25 703
External Costs								-22 331	-23 585
Personnel Costs					5, 6			-36 263	-41 186
Other Operating Costs								0	0
Total Expenditures								-74 024	-90 474
Operating Result								1 591	1 779
Other Financial Posts									
Exchange Differences								1 767	- 159
Interest Income								323	58
Total Financial Posts								2 090	- 101
Net Result for the year								3 681	1 678

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Balance Sheet	Note	2023-12-31	2022-12-31
Assets			
Current Receivables			
Other Receivables		156	443
Prepaid Expenses and Accrued Income	7	3 393	4 407
Total		3 549	4 850
Cash and Bank		50 530	14 921
Total Current Assets		54 079	19 771
Total Assets		54 079	19 771
Equity and Liabilities			
Equity			
Earmarked Equity		2 000	2 000
Restricted Equity		10	10
Unrestricted Equity		9 660	5 979
Total Equity		11 670	7 989
Provisions	8	1 083	1 215
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable		67	257
Other Current Liabilities		924	1 133
Liability received not used grants	2	37 959	7 722
Accrued Expenses and Deferred Income	9	2 376	1 455
Total Current Liabilities		41 326	10 567
Total Equity and Liabilities		54 079	19 771

Change of Equity

	Organisational Capital	Unrestricted Equity	Restricted Equity	Total
Opening Balance 2022-01-01	10	4 301	2 000	6 311
Net Result for the year		1 678		1 678
Closing Balance 2022-12-31	10	5 979	2 000	7 989
Opening Balance 2023-01-01	10	5 979	2 000	7 989
Net Result for the year		3 681		3 681
Closing Balance 2023-12-31	10	9 660	2 000	11 670

2/10

Note 1 Accounting and valuation principles

Amounts in 1 000 SEK

Accounting Principles

The annual report has been prepared in accordance with the Swedish Annual Accounts Act (1995:1554) and the general recommendation of the Swedish Accounting Standard Board BFNAR 2012:1 (K3).

The accounting principles are unmodified from previous year, unless otherwise stated.

Receivables

Receivables are recorded with the amount that after an individual evaluation is expected to be paid

Fixed assets

Fixed assets are declared at acquisition value, minus any depreciation and devaluation. Costs that can be directly associated with the acquisition of an asset are included in the acquisition value. Costs for maintenance and upkeep are booked as expenses.

Inventory, machinery and other equipment bought in projects are expensed at time of purchase. Inventories whose acquisition value is below 50% of the price base amount are, based on assessment of materiality, direct expensed.

A depreciation analysis always occurs for such assets that no longer fulfill the requirements to be defined as fixed assets. According to K3, no reclassification shall be done.

Fixed assets are depreciated systematically over the asset's estimated lifespan. When the amount of depreciation is calculated, the assets residual value is considered. Depreciation is linear.

The following depreciation times are used:

Other inventories – 5-10 years

Interest

Interest credited donors is accounted directly as debt and is not booked on the statement of income and expenditure.

Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised to the actual value of the consideration received or receivable.

Gifts and donations are income obtained without agreement with the donor and where the donor does not require formal reporting.

Grants are income as a result of a contract and the donor usually require some form of feedback.

Gifts are usually recorded on a cash basis. To the extent that there are promises known at the balance sheet date of grants/gifts, they are recognised after individual assessment.

The project grants include grants that are destined for specific programmes/projects and associated with a condition requiring repayment obligation if the condition is not met.

The other contributions include contributions that are not bound to specific programmes/projects

Revenue recognition of grants is made when the foundation with reasonable certainty determines that repayment will not happen.

Provisions

The provisions referred to are obligations on the balance sheet date that is certain or likely but uncertain in amount or to the time when they are realizable.

Appropriation of Funds

This relates to expenses incurred by partner organisations within Life & Peace Institute-run projects.

Other currencies

Assets and liabilities in currencies other than SEK are valued at the exchange rate for the day of closing the books.

Restricted Equity

The post Restricted Equity consists of donations not yet utilized and other restricted equity. See the Change of Equity Report.

Note 2 Project Grants

Project Grants Utilized during the year

	2023-12-31	2022-12-31
Sida, Sweden	48 123	69 887
European Commission	10 628	6 804
Canada MFA	4 955	2 788
Swedish Mission Council	3 242	6 538
GIZ	2 219	0
Church of Sweden, International Department	1 314	1 000
UNDP	1 222	2 747
DT Global	831	0
Swedish Institute	500	0
Chemonics	432	0
Switzerland	419	0
Friedrich Ebert Foundation	188	42
Other Grants	285	1 418
Somalia Stability Fund	0	88
SOAS	0	17
Total	74 359	91 329

Balanced Grants and Grants to be Repaid

	2023-12-31	2022-12-31
Sida, Sweden	11 712	446
European Commission	22 385	3 751
Swedish Mission Council	1 565	82
Swedish Institute	0	427
GIZ	75	0
Switzerland	306	0
Friedrich Ebert Foundation	0	85
Children's Mission	0	1
UNDP	1 855	0
Grants to be repaid	60	2 929
Total	37 959	7 722

Project Grants have been used for

	2023	2022
Kenya programme	-5 581	-10 087
Horn of Africa Regional programme	-14 083	-17 927
Somalia programme	-13 714	-20 683
Ethiopia programme	-14 559	-11 103
DRC programme	-18 674	-23 350
Global Policy programme	-3 300	-3 964
Sudan programme	-3 795	-3 339
Sweden-based programmes	- 652	- 876
Total	-74 359	-91 329

Note 3	General Grants	2023	2022
	Church of Sweden	300	300
	Church of Sweden, International Department	0	0
	Swedish Mission Council	388	434
	Other	566	187
	Total	1 253	921

Note 4	Collections/Donations	2023	2022
	Other Collections/Donations	3	3
	Total	3	3

Note 5 Salaries and Other Remuneration by Country

Salaries and other remuneration by country

	2023	2022
Sweden		
Executive Director	838	824
Other Employees	4 545	5 705
Ethiopia		
Employees	5 757	7 000
Kenya		
Employees	1 769	2 416
Somalia		
Employees	2 740	3 845
DRC		
Employees	5 418	5 479
Sudan		
Employees	1 579	1 270
Pension Costs	1 359	1 576
Social Fees	2 545	3 138
Total Salaries and Remunerations	26 551	31 252
Other Personnel Costs	9 712	9 934
Total Personnel Costs	36 263	41 186

Note 6 Average Number of Employees by Country

	2023			2022		
	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total
Sweden	3	5	8	8	7	15
Ethiopia	7	11	18	9	13	22
Kenya	9	8	17	12	8	20
Somalia	1	4	5	1	5	6
DRC	5	9	14	7	9	16
Sudan	3	2	5	3	2	5
Total	28	39	67	40	44	84

Gender balance of the Board and Senior Leadership

	2023			2022		
	Number on Closing Date			Number on Closing Date		
	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total
Board Members	6	3	9	5	4	9
Strategic Leadership Team	5	2	7	5	2	7

Note 7 Prepaid Expenses and Accrued Income

	2023-12-31	2022-12-31
Prepaid Rent	120	141
Accrued Income	1 935	2 743
Transfers to Partner Organisations	550	893
Other Items	788	631
Total	3 393	4 407

Note 8 Provisions

	2023-12-31	2022-12-31
Provision for severance payment in Ethiopia	821	953
Provision estimated taxes employees abroad	262	262
Total	1 083	1 215

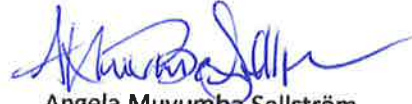
Note 9 Accrued Expenses and Deferred Income

	2023-12-31	2022-12-31
Accrued Holiday Pay including Social Fees	436	601
Other Items	1 940	854
Total	2 376	1 455

Uppsala 2024-



Eva Christina Nilsson
President



Angela Muvumba Sellström



Myra Blyth



Stein Erik Hørjen



Stig Lundberg



Emmah Njoki Wamai



Shamsia Ramadhani



John Katunga Murhula



Aisa Abdulkadir

Our audit report was submitted 2024-06-07



David Axelson-Fisk
Auditor

Öhrlings PricewaterhouseCoopers AB



Maria Wigenfeldt
Authorised Auditor