

Building equal relationships

More than 13,000 Dutch people rang the alarm bell in 2022. They are concerned about the growing division and hardening in our society and signed our manifesto against polarisation. We spoke to the minister and motivated politicians to take an active stance on this issue. And we saw this as a mandate to become active in the Netherlands as well. Our biggest challenge for 2023!

In 2022, we worked with our cooperation partners in Asia, Africa and Latin America to examine the undercurrents in conflicts. How do you get people to behave differently? In difficult circumstances, such as poverty and political tensions, or when people prefer to stay among like-minded people and see 'the other' as a threat. Our goal? To develop a ten-year plan, so that we work systemically to bring people together to prevent violent conflict. A tough challenge, and one in which we do not shy away from discussing difficult topics, such as equality of religion. Because we believe that openness and actually wanting to listen to each other is the route to lasting peace.

In this annual report, you can read about a number of highlights from

2022. About activities that stimulate an open mind and cooperation and help to start the dialogue. Because violence stops when people start talking to each other.

RICK VAN DER WOUD Director Mensen met een Missie



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COLOPHON

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OUR PROGRAMMES

ACTIVITIES 2022

Deeply rooted beliefs about each other result in conflict, oppression, discrimination and exclusion in many places. In 2022, in collaboration with our local partners in Asia, Africa and Latin America, we initiated all kinds of activities to bring together people who oppose each other. Here are some of the highlights of 2022.

SOUTH SUDAN

PARTNERS	ACTIVITY PARTICIPANTS	REACHED LEADERS	INDIRECT REACH TARGET GROUP
5	6.000	100	28.000

The Federation of Women in Juba spoke to more than 20 local government officials about compliance with laws designed to prevent and combat violence against women and girls. More than 1,000 South Sudanese girls, women, boys and men took part in a protest march calling for a stop to the violence against women.

CAMEROON

PARTNERS	ACTIVITY PARTICIPANTS	REACHED LEADERS	INDIRECT REACH TARGET GROUP
14	6.080	1.021	42.929

Our local partner received numerous enquiries for socio-legal support after 10 radio programmes on land rights. 70 community leaders learned how to properly oversee and record land transactions to prevent land-related conflicts.

INDONESIA

PARTNERS	ACTIVITY PARTICIPANTS	REACHED LEADERS	INDIRECT REACH TARGET GROUP
14	6.000	330	24.000

In the East Nusa Tenggara region, 25 young people learned how to use social media to warn peers about unsafe labour migration in order to prevent human trafficking. Our partner also drew attention to violations of the human rights of migrant workers at a UN meeting and at the G2O summit in Bali.

BOLIVIA

PARTNERS	ACTIVITY PARTICIPANTS	REACHED LEADERS	INDIRECT REACH TARGET GROUP
15	5.570	291	238.000

Via radio and social media, young people and women from El Alto reached 30,000 people with their campaign against violence. Young men from different regions also called for the unlearning of macho behaviour and the establishment of equal and non-violent relationships.

INDIA

PARTNERS	ACTIVITY PARTICIPANTS	REACHED LEADERS	INDIRECT REACH TARGET GROUP
10	10.700	450	17.660

During an interfaith pilgrimage, 46 women of different religions visited each other's places of worship and exchanged experiences. For most of them, this was the first time they had been to a different house of worship. This created a close bond and was a strong impetus for better interfaith relations.

UGANDA

PARTNERS	ACTIVITY	REACHED	INDIRECT REACH
	PARTICIPANTS	LEADERS	TARGET GROUP
11	10.000	1.100	50.000

In Uganda, 1,210 men and women affected by gender-based violence received social, psychological and legal assistance. In fatherhood groups, 348 men from 14 communities learned how to build a harmonious relationship with their wives.

PHILIPPINES

PARTNERS	ACTIVITY PARTICIPANTS	REACHED LEADERS	INDIRECT REACH TARGET GROUP
7	1.630	157	17.645

Making art brought together 655 young people from different religious and cultural backgrounds. Through exhibitions and collaboration with entrepreneurs, religious leaders and governments, they reached many communities with their message of connection.

COLOMBIA

PARTNERS	ACTIVITY PARTICIPANTS	REACHED LEADERS	INDIRECT REACH TARGET GROUP
3	2.437	111	11.943

In four cities in Colombia, 131 female survivors of human trafficking received psychological and spiritual support. In addition, they learned skills to be economically independent. We also trained 164 women, local community leaders and government officials to recognise human trafficking and support victims.

BUILDING PEACEFUL COMMUNITIES

IN THE THREE PROGRAMMES JISRA, MANU AND FORB, WE COLLABORATE WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS TO REDUCE EXCLUSION, DISCRIMINATION AND VIOLENCE. THESE PROGRAMMES ARE FINANCED BY THE DUTCH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COORDINATED BY US AS CONSORTIUM LEADER. THE CONTENT OF EACH PROGRAMME HAS BEEN DEVELOPED IN CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL PARTNERS. WHAT DID WE ACHIEVE IN 2022?

JISRA: JOINT INITIATIVE FOR STRATEGIC RELIGIOUS ACTION

RELIGION AS A DRIVER OF CHANGE

Billions of people around the world feel connected to a religion or a religious community. Yet religion or belief is often ignored in the search for solutions to conflicts and the prevention of violence. The five-year JISRA programme sees religion as a positive force for change.

JISRA operates in Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria and Uganda. At the heart of the programme is the encouragement of interfaith cooperation. Women, young people and religious leaders play an important role as catalysts of change. In addition, we focus on local, national and international lobbying and advocacy.

CONTRIBUTING TO CHANGE

In an online campaign, people from the seven countries shared their stories about conflicts, religious beliefs and inequality between men and women and the contribution that JISRA can make to change. In Indonesia, we spoke about women's rights at a gathering of 1,600 female religious leaders and scholars. In addition, JISRA partners conducted a lobbying campaign in the run-up to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of Indonesia by the UN Human Rights Council. As a result, this Council made recommendations that urge the Indonesian government to tackle oppression of (religious) minorities.

After violence broke out in Kenya following the previous elections, JISRA partners worked closely with public authorities, religious leaders and the embassy to ensure that the 2022 elections and the transition to the new government would proceed peacefully.

In the Netherlands, we contribu-

ted to various policy documents in the field of religious and human rights. We also campaigned to highlight the positive role that religious leaders can play in a (potential) conflict situation. •



In April, JISRA partner Lian Gogali received the prestigious Dutch Four Freedoms Award for the work she does to promote freedom of religion in Poso, Indonesia.



ACTIVE ROLE FOR WOMEN IN PEACEBUILDING

Burundi and DR Congo have a long history of conflict. Women in particular are victims of this. They are considered inferior and not involved in local decision-making and governance. When in fact, women can play a significant role in resolving and preventing conflict.

With the Peace, Women and Security programme (Mwanamke, Amani na Usalama), we ensure that women and girls can play an active role in building peace and security. We provide leadership and advocacy training and encourage boys and men to support women's rights and equality. We are also committed to better protecting women and girls against violence and injustice. We do this in a consortium with partners CARE Nederland and the Congolese women's network SPR and work in collaboration with six Congolese and Burundian organisations.

INCREASING EQUALITY

In 2022, 90 female conflict mediators were trained. A number of women were appointed to decision-making positions in their communities or invited to security meetings. In a number of communities, it is now possible to discuss important social norms. Slowly we are seeing changes, such as women now sometimes being given an inheritance, although it is not yet equal to men; more girls going to primary school, and women being elected village chief. Thanks to our training, fifty couples are an example of how you can live together on an equal footing. They are now helping other couples in situations of strife and violence. •

FORB III: FREEDOM OF RELIGION AND BELIEF PARTICIPATION MAKES A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

Since 2020, Mensen met een Missie has been working with the Freedom of Religion and Belief III (FoRB III) programme on religious tolerance, social cohesion and the reduction of radicalisation in Northern Cameroon and on the island of Mindanao, in the southern Philippines.

Together with our eight local partners and the Dutch partner organisation Human Security Collective, we are building good interfaith relationships and mutual trust in communities where people distrust each other.

The activities are very varied. From meetings for interfaith dialogue and awareness raising in schools, to dialogue sessions between women and authorities, and training for young people to set up community projects. Courses for religious leaders, police and local officials are also part of the programme. In total, around 13,000 people participated in one or more activities in 2022.

BUILDING TRUST

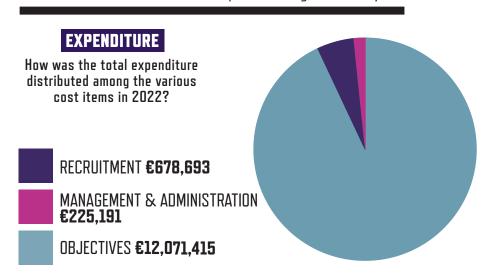
Groups that lived side by side and avoided each other are now engaging in activities together. These activities are at the local level and sometimes seem small. But for people who were afraid of each other due to violent conflicts in the past, learning to trust each other and participate together already makes a world of difference. Because trust forms the basis for a strong community in which people work together to tackle problems. •

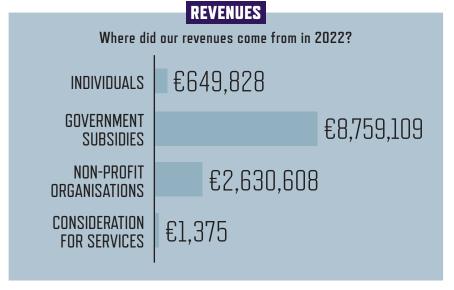
This is how we spent your contribution in 2022

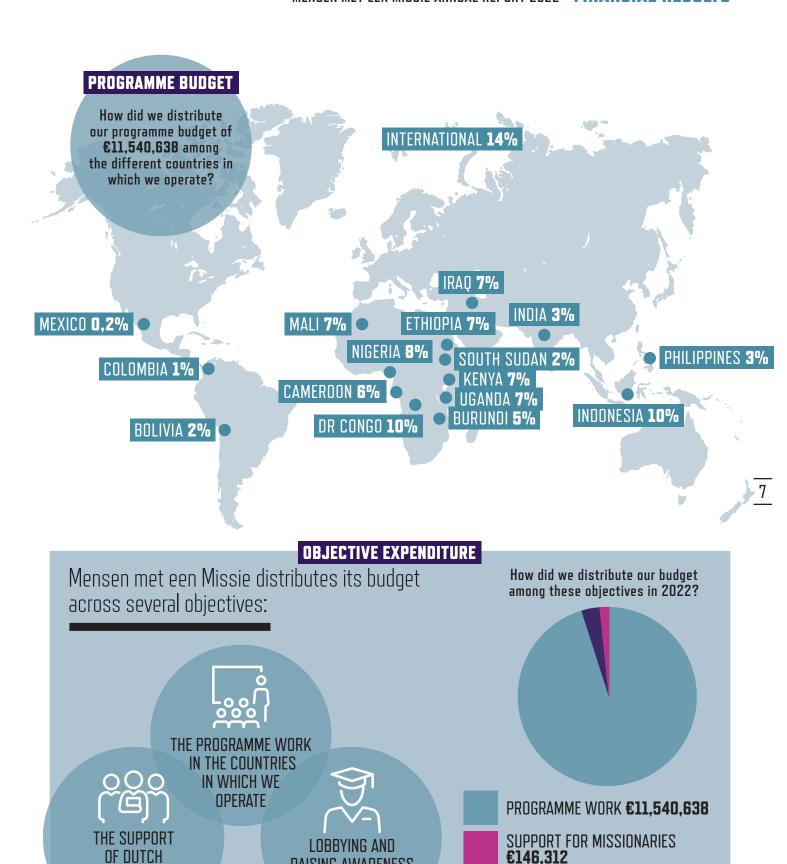
In 2022, total revenues decreased by 27% compared to 2021. This decrease is mainly due to the fact that subsidies for activities have been shifted to the coming years due to the after-effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Revenues from private donations increased from $\[\in \]$ 436,904 in 2021 to $\[\in \]$ 649,828 in 2022. This is mainly due to additional revenue from bequests. The revenue from funds and foundations increased as well, by more than six percent. We are also grateful that we can still count on support from the congregations.

It is and will continue to be a challenging task to connect new private donors to our work for a longer period of time. That is why further efforts were made in 2022 to connect content, communication and fundraising. The campaign against polarisation generated a lot of attention and attracted new donors. Awareness and positioning are also important when raising monies from funds, foundations and institutes. If these revenues were €49,000.00 in 2022, that amount will already be substantially higher in 2023. The manifesto against polarisation, which we presented to the Minister of Social Affairs and Employment in September, was an important impetus for the prudent establishment of a programme in the Netherlands. Mensen met een Missie aims to spend at least 75% of its revenue on the objective. In 2022, we spent 100% of our revenue on the objectives. Mensen met een Missie also incur costs for management, administration and fundraising. In 2022, these costs were financed from designated funds and reserves. Mensen met een Missie does not want the costs of management and administration to exceed 8% in relation to the total costs. In 2022, this percentage was 2%. The costs of the fundraising compared to the total revenue was 6%.

We have listed the most important figures for you.







Mensen met een Missie meets the requirements of the Good Governance Code for Charities. Mensen met een Missie is a charity recognised by the CBF (Netherlands Fundraising Regulator). In 2022, a full CBF reassessment took place with positive results. For a comprehensive financial overview, please refer to our certified financial statement, drawn up in accordance with Directive 650 for fundraising organisations. This can be found at www.mensenmeteenmissie.nl/en.

LOBBYING & AWARENESS RAISING

€384.465

RAISING AWARENESS

MISSIONARIES

ABROAD

