

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

OUR 2016 IN SHORT

- We worked with more than 300 partners in 65 countries.
- We started implementing our organisational change project, *Going Glocal*, decentralising our operations and increasing cooperation between our offices.
- We rolled out *Wajibu Wetu*, our biggest programme in Kenya so far, reaching communities in the country's most marginalised areas.
- We received a medal of recognition from the Prime Minister of Cambodia for our work on the protection of natural resources.
- We built capacity among grassroots organisations in the conflict-hit Caquetá region of Colombia, to increase their involvement in the peace agreement.
- We developed a model with a conflict-sensitive, gender- and human rights-based approach to strengthen the peace-building capacity of community-based organisations.



Photo: Shutterstock

FORUM SYD

Is a religiously and politically unaffiliated not-for-profit aid organisation. Forum Syd's membership base comprises 149 Swedish civil society organisations.

OUR VISION

Is a just and sustainable world where all people have the power to effect change.

OUR PURPOSE

Is to strengthen marginalised people around the world who organise to claim their rights and to advocate for change that contribute to a just and sustainable world.

On the cover: Forum Syd supports vocational trainings for women together with Somaliland Youth Development Association. Photo: Rodrigo Arce, Forum Syd



Read more in our digital annual report: annualreport2016.forumsyd.org

CIVIL SOCIETY'S ROLE MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER

“A shrinking democratic space for civil society organisations limits the flow of unbiased information and increases fear,” said Swedish journalist and foreign correspondent Cecilia Uddén, normally stationed in Cairo, when she took part in a Forum Syd seminar at Sweden's largest political gathering in Almedalen last year.

Unfortunately, this is the reality in an increasing number of countries around the world. 2016 was a challenging year for civil society organisations – threats and restrictions against those who work to promote human rights, equality and diversity increased, and oppressive measures became more sophisticated.

Forum Syd together with our partners meet these challenges on a daily basis in our work to build capacity and advocate for a more just and sustainable world. In Cambodia, we experience how new legislation threaten civil society's role to hold duty-bearers accountable, thus undermining the freedoms of assembly and expression. In Colombia, we see how existing laws are used to prevent participation of civil society actors, and how violence against human rights defenders is increasing. In India, where Forum Syd's partner the Swallows India and Bangladesh is active, many organisations are stigmatized and deregistered following new legislation. Measures to limit civic space ultimately constitute a threat to democratic and just societies, as an open and dynamic civil society fills several functions indispensable to democracy.

In these challenging times, civil society organisations have to join forces and

mobilise to defend our role in ensuring transparent, responsible governments that respect all peoples' rights. Throughout 2016, Forum Syd reorganised its operations, with one of the main goals being to increase co-operation and synergies among member organisations that all work to achieve global justice. Together, we can find new and innovative ways to respond to growing intimidation. We look forward to further strengthening our role as a platform for Swedish civil society organisations, and working even more closely together to defend civil society's role in ensuring sustainable development globally, not least in the work to achieve the new global goals within the 2030 Agenda.

Another important goal with Forum Syd's organisational change project has been to decentralise our operations. Increased local strategic presence enables us to act rapidly and adjust to changing environments, deepens our local knowledge and improves our contextual analyses. Ultimately, this ensures that Forum Syd and our partners organise efforts in the most relevant and effective ways to achieve results that create long-term, sustainable impact.

Civil society organisations have a joint responsibility to convey unbiased information about the state of the world, which in many respects has never been in a better place. Even though civil society organisations meet many challenges in their day-to-day operations, we also see the great results to which our work contributes.

The number of people living in extreme poverty has decreased steadily since the

1980s – from 40 per cent then to less than 10 per cent now.

Even if global income inequality is still very high it is declining and has been doing so for the past decade. Growing numbers of girls are getting a fair education and a chance to choose for themselves what they want to do in the future. To ensure that people understand these positive developments and civil society's contribution to them, we need to become even better in communicating our results. Now more than ever, people need to receive unbiased information about the state of the world to understand that there are positive developments, and that they can contribute to supporting these trends.

Within civil society organisations, we need to take pride in our results, reiterate our contribution to positive development and revitalise for future efforts. For us at Forum Syd, when we hear testimonies from our projects such as: “Forum Syd is the reason I know what rights I have as a citizen and how to defend them,” and “...after working with Forum Syd, I have decided to become a politician to make sure that more women and girls know their rights,” we know that our work is contributing to sustainable, long-term change. It is these stories that inspire us to continue mobilising, continue advocating, and continue building capacity for a just and sustainable world where all people have the power to effect change.

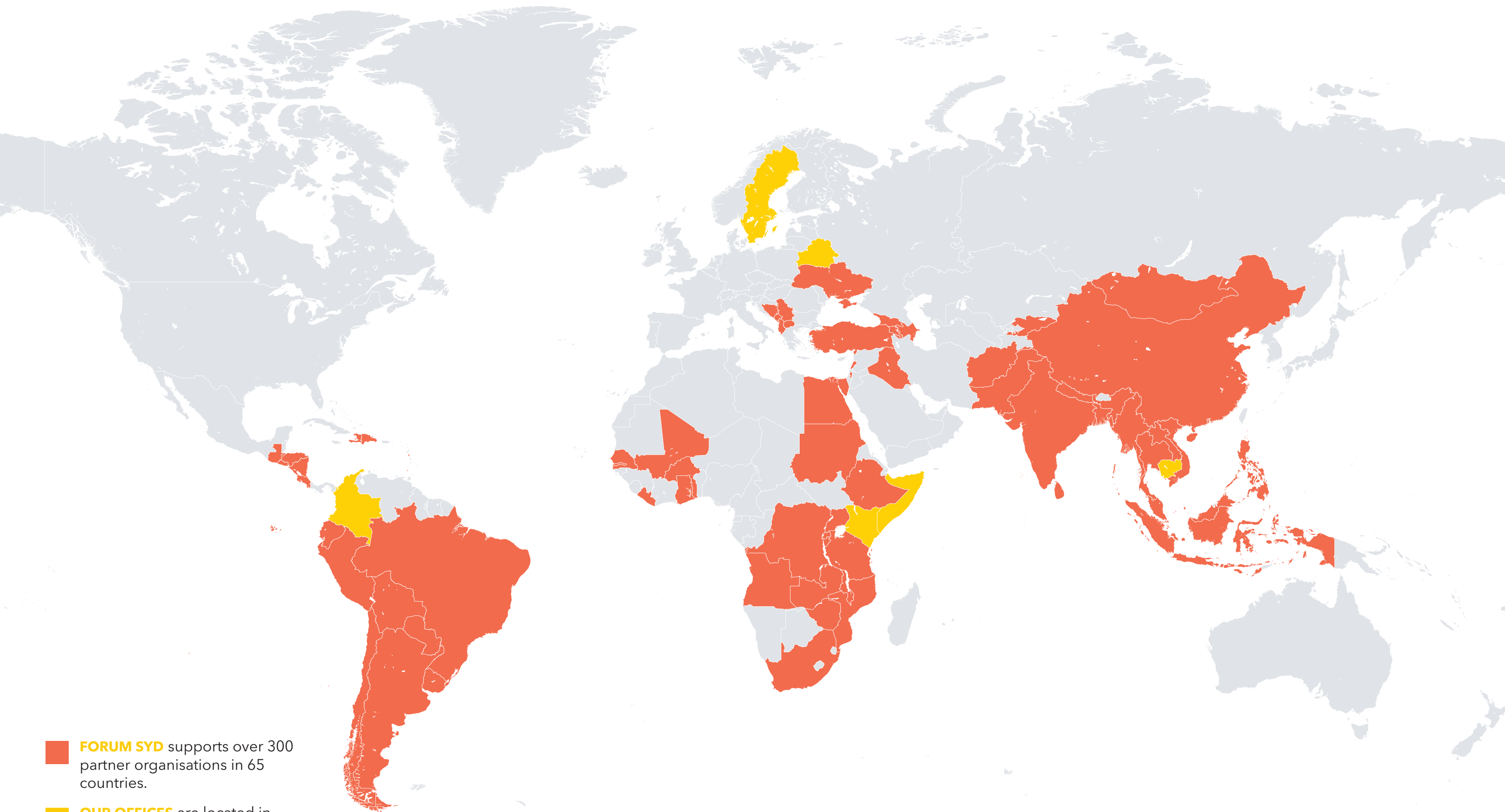


MANNE WÅNGBORG
Chairperson



LISA SJÖBLOM
Secretary General

FORUM SYD GLOBALLY



FORUM SYD supports over 300 partner organisations in 65 countries.

OUR OFFICES are located in Sweden, Kenya, Colombia, Somalia, Cambodia and Belarus (office located in Lithuania).

ADVOCACY

Forum Syd is an important voice in the debate on global sustainable development. We advocate for change that contribute to a just and sustainable world. Here is an overview of the advocacy work we engaged in during 2016.



Cerrejón Coal Mine. Photo: Oliver Balch



Sweden's Minister for International Development Cooperation and Climate, Isabella Lövin. Photo: Miljöpartiet

DEEPENED DIALOGUE ON THE EFFECTS OF COAL MINING IN COLOMBIA

Forum Syd investigates the effects of coal mining on local communities in Colombia, mainly at the Cerrejón mine. During 2016, Forum Syd has published the report *As Black as Coal*, which also included an investigation of the Swedish company Vattenfall's purchase of coal from Colombia. The dialogue with Vattenfall deepened throughout 2016 and Forum Syd participated in Vattenfall's seminar and round table during the Almedalen political week.

Forum Syd's work contributed to Vattenfall initiating a mapping of human rights risks in relation to their operations, and planning for an independent assessment visit to Colombia regarding their coal import.

A dialogue with the Swedish Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation was initiated and Forum Syd was invited to the Ministry to discuss the report's conclusion regarding state-owned companies.

CAPITAL FLIGHT - INCREASED SUPPORT FOR TAX TRANSPARENCY

In 2016, Forum Syd launched the *Capital flight - the World's Problem* and *Survival of the Richest* reports, which investigate Sweden and EU's actions against capital flight. Both reports have been discussed by members of the Swedish parliament, for example at a seminar that Forum Syd organised. Through the Eurodad network, Forum Syd has continued to push for increased transparency regarding country-by-country reporting and public

beneficial ownership. As a result of collaborative efforts there has been increased support for transparency in tax issues in the EU.

Forum Syd's work on capital flight and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) led to Forum Syd being invited to a meeting with the Swedish Tax Agency, which during the year suggested actions for companies to view tax as a sustainability issue.

FORUM SYD WELCOMES NEW POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Last year, the Swedish government launched a new policy framework on development co-operation.

Forum Syd, together with our members, provided the government with several consultation responses in the preparation of the framework. We appreciate the open and participatory process the government

adopted, and that the framework includes important rights-based perspectives as well as linkages to important international agreements.

PETITION FOR LAW ON CONFLICT MINERALS HANDED OVER TO EU COMMISSIONER

In a petition for a binding European law against conflict minerals, Forum Syd and 11 other European organisations gathered 42 000 signatures that were handed over to the European Commissioner for Trade, Cecilia Malmström. The advocacy

by European civil society organisations contributed to making the final agreement more ambitious than the European Commission's initial proposal and an important first step.



Representatives from the Stop Mad Mining project hand over the petition to EU Commissioner Cecilia Malmström. Photo: CIR

FORUM SYD AT THE ALMEDALEN POLITICAL WEEK



Manne Wängborg and Lisa Sjöblom in Almedalen. Photo: Mia Hedelius, Forum Syd

MIGRATION, A CRUCIAL ASPECT OF GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT



Rhoda Elmi and Abukar Omarsson at Forum Syd's seminar in Almedalen. Photo: Mia Hedelius, Forum Syd

At Almedalen, Forum Syd organised a well-attended seminar to discuss the worrying trend of shrinking democratic space for civil society globally, and how civil society organisations can come together to find new and innovative ways to co-operate in these changing environments. Civil society organisations, who work to promote human rights, equality and diversity, play an important role in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and restrictions against these organisations therefore constitute a threat to the fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Forum Syd and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) co-arranged a seminar on how migration contributes to sustainable development globally, and particularly the effects of migration from Somalia on Swedish development policy. At the seminar Rhoda Elmi and Abukar Omarsson, who both originate from Somalia, gave their perspectives on the opportunities and challenges authorities, civil society and the private sector should be aware of in efforts to rebuild the country.

AFRICA

Forum Syd supports projects in 24 countries in Africa. Our office in Nairobi implements the Wajibu Wetu programme, which supports media, arts, cultural and gender focused civil society organisations using innovative approaches to advance human rights work in Kenya. Forum Syd's Nairobi office also works with e-Learning, capacity building, and sub-granting to local partners.

Our Somalia offices implement the Somalia Diaspora Programme and the Somali-Swedish Business Programme (SSBP). Throughout 2016, Forum Syd has increased the local presence in Somalia.

FORUM SYD-SUPPORTED SERIES TUKO MACHO FEATURED AT TORONTO FILM FESTIVAL

In 2016, Forum Syd-supported web series Tuko Macho was featured at the 41st Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF). The series is produced by the Nest Collective, as part of Forum Syd's Wajibu Wetu programme. The series is a study of crime, political culture and belonging, and explores what happens when the common man decides to tackle crime in his city. - "Forum Syd believing in us and taking on this unconventional project was of great learning not only for us

but also for the creative ecosystem in Kenya. Through this partnership we developed a web series that was big on direct interaction with thousands of people via social media, and then later to millions on mainstream television, in engendering deep conversations around citizenship. We are glad our paths crossed and that we got to produce magic together," says Njoki Ngumi and George Gachara, Directors of The Nest.



Tuko Macho Cover. Photo: The Nest

A YOUTH AMBASSADOR FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Rosemary Mafumiko is a 20 year old youth activist in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. She is one of the United Nations Association of Tanzania's 50 youth ambassadors implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) locally.

With support from Forum Syd, our member organisation United Nations Association of Sweden works together with United Nations Association of Tanzania through the Global Goals programme.

"I am glad I was given an opportunity to become an ambassador and a youth leader regardless of my gender. I will use this platform to empower and campaign for more young women inclusion in leadership processes."

Rosemary Mafumiko demonstrates a sign depicting Sustainable Development Goal 5; to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Photo: Sanna Gustafsson, Forum Syd



These women get vocational training through Somaliland Youth Development Association and Forum Syd. Photo: Rodrigo Arce, Forum Syd

EMPOWERING WOMEN IN HARGEISA'S SUBURBS

With support from Forum Syd, Swedish organisation Surad Relief partners with the local organisation Somaliland Youth Development Association to champion women's right to education and, through that, to reduce gender inequality. The

organisations have worked together for five years to provide vocational training to housemaid girls in Somaliland, especially from the poor suburbs outside Hargeisa. The trainings support women to develop basic literacy skills, which is a prerequisite

to become engaged in income generating activities. In addition, women also become equipped with knowledge and skills necessary to apply for jobs, through courses on leadership, management, CV writing and interview techniques.

TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES HOLISTICALLY

"Climate change issues are like atoms creating a molecule: there are so many issues that interplay. To be able to create sustainable change, we need to adopt a holistic approach."

These are the words of Collins Ondiek, Coordinator of the Onyuongo Vision Youth Group, which works to raise awareness of climate change issues in Kisumu, Kenya. Forum Syd supports the group through the Global Action Local Empowerment programme, which is implemented by the National Council of Swedish Youth Organisations, LSU, together with the local partner Youth Alive! Kenya. LSU is also one of Forum Syd's member organisations.

Young people constitute a large part of Kenya's population, and many of them are unemployed. The agricultural sector constitutes the backbone of Kenya's economy, not least in creating jobs and in ensuring food security. But climate change threatens this source of livelihood on which many depend, especially in rural areas. It

is important to apply a youth perspective on projects that focus on climate and agriculture, to ensure that projects are not only designed to fit young people's needs, but also to be sustainable.

Last year, the group participated in trainings on Forum Syd's methodology Right(s) Way Forward. As a result of these trainings, Collins says that he has gained deeper insight into how climate change issues interplay. This is particularly important in Kisumu, as the county is facing multiple challenges related to climate change. Some of the county's areas are prone to severe drought, whereas other areas are affected heavily by flooding. Collins says that he will incorporate the tools and methods on how to tackle climate issues holistically that he gained from Right(s) Way Forward into his own trainings.

He is optimistic that the trainings will create ripple effects, as more and more community members become environmentally aware. "We see a decrease in the cutting down of trees now that more and more people are aware of the negative effects this has on our environment," Collins says.

Collins Ondiek, Chairman of Onyuongo Vision Youth Group. Photo: Sanna Gustafsson, Forum Syd





Yabalo Youth Group in Moyale is part of Forum Syd's Wajibu Wetu Programme. Photo: Fredrik Lerneryd

INNOVATIVE GARDENING COUNTERS CONFLICT

Forum Syd works with the Yabalo Youth Group through our Wajibu Wetu programme, together with the local partners Pastoralist Integrated Support Programme (PISP). The Yabalo Youth Group is part of the pastoralist community in Moyale in Northern Kenya that traditionally rear

livestock as a source of income. Northern Kenya is an arid area that has been hit hard by climate change. Severe droughts and lack of pasture and water sources have made livestock farming livestock more difficult and heightened tensions between communities through conflicts revol-

ving around access to natural resources. Yabalo Youth Group has therefore started farming vegetables, which they sell at the local market to secure a complementary income to their livestock farming.

"YOU CANNOT FIGHT A BAD IDEOLOGY, YOU NEED TO PRESENT A BETTER ONE"

Mohamed Abdirahman is a young Imam who works to promote peace in Mombasa, a county that is facing growing radicalisation and violent extremism, particularly among young people. He is a full-time Imam and dedicates his working hours to teaching his peers the Koran in a peaceful manner. Young people are a particularly vulnerable group due to the unemployment rate. Extremist groups take advantage of this and entice young people to join their ranks with promises of money.

Mohamed is a member of the Mombasa-based Generation of Peace Youth Group, a community-based organisation that aims to spread knowledge and

peace among Muslim youth in Kenya and East Africa at large. Forum Syd works with the organisation through our local partner Council of Imams and Preachers of Kenya, as part of our Wajibu Wetu programme.

Generation of Peace holds lectures, debates and organises activities in mosques and communities to promote cohesion among different religious groups and keep young people informed and activated, which reduces the risk of them being affected by extremist influences. This has in turn created a more stable and peaceful Mombasa with reduced incidents of insecurity and violent extremism.



Imam Mohammed Abdirahman in Mombasa. Photo: Augustine Karani, Forum Syd

PLANTING TREES HELPS FAMILIES SECURE LIVELIHOODS ON PEMBA ISLAND

Khamis Sihia is a farmer who lives in the Kengeja community on Pemba Island, Tanzania. His family has depended on cultivating rice for a living for generations. In recent years, salt-water intrusion has destroyed the soil on the family's rice farm. Salt-water intrusion is caused by rising sea levels that have hit Pemba hard and along with deforestation, is the main challenge that affects the income and food security of farmers and fishermen in Kengeja.

The Kengeja community is one of the target groups of the Global Goals programme, which is supported by Forum Syd and implemented jointly by the United Nations Association of Sweden and the United Nations Association of Tanzania. In 2016, community members were also trained

in Forum Syd's Right(s) Way Forward methodology, to further strengthen local community groups to identify methods to jointly fight climate change.

The community members of Kengeja have started to plant trees to counter the negative climate effects of deforestation and to secure income. Khamis' family has started to grow banana trees on their farm, which are not as affected by salt water intrusion, as a new source of income for the family. By planting trees and adapting practices to the changing environment, Khamis hopes to better feed and support his family in the future.

Khamis Sihia demonstrates the climate change effects on his land. Photo: Augustine Karani, Forum Syd



SHE IS BECOMING A POLITICIAN TO EMPOWER WOMEN AND YOUTH

Mercy Odera lives in Kisumu County in Western Kenya. She never completed her studies and had no set plan for what she wanted to do when she grew up, until she heard about Forum Syd through Youth Alive Kenya and Kisumu Progressive Youth (KPY). Now she is determined to build a career in politics.

"I never had an ambition to become a politician, but after I came in contact with Forum Syd, I learned that have the ability, I have the right; I have everything it takes to become a politician."

Mercy has taken part in Forum Syd's various projects in Kisumu for the past five years, and she explains how this has changed her. Mercy got involved with Forum Syd and KPY through a programme for young women leaders in which she was linked with female mentors in Kenya and Sweden that advised her on issues of democracy and women in leadership. She says that she learned a lot by being able to discuss her ideas with someone who had more work experience than her. Mercy has gained further insight into how politics works in practice through her role as a clerk at the Kisumu Youth Assembly, a project that KPY is currently implementing with support from Forum Syd's Wajibu Wetu programme.

Mercy says that she is now more self-assured and aware of the rights that she has under the Kenyan Constitution. This year, she is running to become a member of the County Assembly in Kisumu. As a politician, she wants to raise more attention to women and youth issues.



Mercy Odera in her garden in Kisumu, Western Kenya. Photo: Augustine Karani, Forum Syd

Forum Syd supports projects in 21 countries in Asia. Our office in Phnom Penh builds capacity among partners and rights holders, which has increased their awareness on climate change and environmental impact, and has enabled them to work with duty bearers to respond to challenges.

With Forum Syd's technical and financial support, local partners have contributed to various key policies and laws concerning social accountability, natural resource management, as well as the UN Guiding Principle on Business and Human Rights. Supported communities have become key co-ordinators by building strong networks and co-operation between rights holders and duty bearers. This has made duty bearers more engaged in community development and increased the participation of marginalised groups.

CITIZENSHIP STRENGTHEN THE RIGHTS OF MARGINALISED GROUPS

Lacking citizenship means lacking rights. For the indigenous Red Lahu in Thailand this means discrimination, abuse and restricted access to health care, education and travel. With support from Forum Syd, Kids Future and Development Quality of life Lahu Association (DLA) co-operates on a project that aims to strengthen human rights for the Red Lahu, with particular focus on women and young people.

The goal is to ensure citizenship for the Red Lahu people.

DLA is strengthening the right-claiming capacities of the Red Lahu by raising awareness about human rights and Thai citizenship and assisting in application processes. DLA's results can be seen in how the increase in a village's number of citizenships has caught the attention of public officials, which has led to more

areas getting roads and electricity.

"I can't read and write and it is very difficult for me to travel and find work in other areas. I have to ask permission every time and it is hard to get treatment. Since I got the Thai ID I'm very proud that now I'm Thai and I can travel to any place I want and get treatment from hospital. Also my children they can get the same as me, they can go school as much they want"

-Ms. Hang Jafoo, rights-holder in the target group

In recent years, implementation of DNA-testing and rigorous administrative requirements has made citizenship application a difficult issue. This makes the work of DLA even more significant. DLA's rights awareness trainings have led to positive changes in the authorities' behaviour toward the Red Lahu as well as other marginalised groups. This has for example resulted in more female staff at check points.



Kids participating in one of DLA's reproductive health trainings. Photo: Tanavit Panpakarin

DUTY BEARERS RECEIVE TRAINING TO COUNTER DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

In 2016, Forum Syd implemented its Right(s) Way Forward (RWF) process in various projects. In Cambodia, we built capacity in two communities (Kbal Touk Commune and Kampong Tralach Commune) to critically analyse community related issues, to develop community action plans on the issues, and to hold duty bearers accountable through constructive dialogue.

Local ownership is an important feature of the RWF process, and the communities were after the workshops able to critically analyse gender related issues in the community and then went on to create

their own concrete and realistic action plans to counter these issues. During the workshops, communities identified which sub-national duty bearers and local leaders to hold accountable for the issues raised. Participants also identified influence actors and engaged these actors to strengthen the capacity of local politicians on how to address domestic violence and how to engage citizens in democratic development.

Participants consisted of sub-national duty bearers and local leaders such as the deputy director of Kampong Chhnang provincial department of women's affairs, district deputy directors, commune council

members, women and children -focal persons, village chiefs and representatives from the two communities.

The process brought community members and duty bearers closer by creating space for dialogue and increasing the community members' confidence to interact with those in power. The leaders recognised their central role in pinpointing gaps in addressing domestic violence in legal procedures. They will move forward using monthly council meetings, women and children focal persons and other mechanisms part of the Right(s) Way Forward process to counter domestic violence.



Youth leader Soy Channat ask questions during an exposure visit. Photo: Lay Socheat

FIGHTING DEBT SLAVERY AND INEQUALITY WITH HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY

“We don’t have the money or the time to be afraid.” These are the words of Hazrat, member of the local organisation Bonded Labor Liberation Front Societies (BLIFS), which for several years have fought against debt slavery and child labour in Pakistan. The organisation operates in a dangerous environment: threats from factory owners and groundless police arrests are common. However, Hazrat says that: “...through patient work we have become a force to be reckoned with. The owners do not dare to neglect us anymore.”

With support from Forum Syd, BLIF Sweden works together with local partners in Pakistan to promote human rights and strengthen democratic participation for poor and marginalised people.

Many of the project’s participants now maintain a livelihood outside of debt slavery and have gained capacity to claim their rights. The project has functioned as a platform for empowering the role of women and girls in local communities. By networking with political parties, women organisations and legal professionals, the project has furthered the independence of female participants and strengthened their position as rights holders. A large part of these achievements also rest on change in societal norms. Educating male and elderly community members have led to more positive attitudes toward women and girls’ education and increased their participation in project activities.



Brickworks in Pakistan. Photo: Britt-Marie Klang

STRENGTHENING THE RIGHTS OF LGBTI-PERSONS IN INDONESIA

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) persons in Indonesia face violence and discrimination on an everyday basis. Indonesian law does not criminalise LGBTI-persons, but there are no laws that recognise or protect their rights. Neither are there any laws to counter discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity and expression. With support from Forum Syd, RFSL works with the national federation Arus Pelangi to increase the state’s acceptance and recognition for LGBTI people in Indonesia and to increase public awareness of the discrimination LGBTI-persons face.

Together with local partners, Arus Pelangi holds trainings on human rights for LGBTI-persons and offers legal support to people that have been victims of discrimination and violence. The organisations document these abuses to use as evidence when discussing the situation with politicians, cultural and religious leaders and human rights organisations. In 2016, the situation in Indonesia worsened because of viral hate campaigns and political statements against LGBTI-persons. Because of this, the project’s focus in the past year has had to shift to support members, monitoring and taking steps to counteract these developments.

“We are so happy and proud to see our partners standing by our side. We realise that it is still a long way ahead, but we are confident we will soon get there, as we are not alone, there are many people who support us, and we become stronger everyday.”

-Yuli Rustinawati, Chairperson of Arus Pelangi

The project has managed to provide an immense support for members of the Indonesian LGBTI community by strengthening their capacity as rights holders. The organisations’ joint advocacy efforts have resulted in public support from the ministry for women’s rights. Strategic alliances with legal aid agencies, the ministry for human rights and the broader coalition for human rights in Indonesia has supported Arus Pelangi in their advocacy work and supported their growth as a national federation.



Syakila is marching in solidarity at the IWD 2017 to raise awareness on injustice and intersectionality. Photo: Arus Pelangi

FULFILLING CHILDREN’S RIGHTS IN VIETNAM

In Vietnam, children with disabilities, children living with HIV and those of single parents are among the most vulnerable groups in society due to poverty, stigma and discriminatory attitudes. For them, equal opportunity in education and participation is of particular importance in helping them overcome inferiority complexes; build their self-esteem and confidence.

Together with local partners and the support of Forum Syd, Adoptionsentrum work to strengthen the rights and protection of children in Vietnam. Through implementation of human rights-based projects across the country, joint efforts between Adoptionsentrum and their local partners have created a social environment that facilitates lasting improvements of children’s rights. An important part of this

success lies in how the projects have approached local authorities to strengthen the capacity of duty bearers and include them in implementing activities.

Overall the projects have resulted in increased awareness and the fulfilment of children’s rights. This can be seen in how capacity building of local partners has enabled them to organise their own activities for children, parents and care-givers, and supported them in fulfilling and advocating for children’s rights. Strengthened facilitation and communication skills have fostered close contacts between local partner organisations and target groups. This has allowed them to provide concrete examples of rights violations in demanding duty-bearers to realise children and care givers’ rights.

“We have been more effective in holding local authorities accountable for fulfillment of children’s rights. In the past, we provided them with general request such as to pay attention to children. Now, we provide them with specific information, evidence and concrete results which are convincing.”

- WU member, Nghe An province.



Hang, a participant in one of the project’s childrens’ clubs, making baskets. Photo: Eva-Maria Rask

Forum Syd supports projects in ten countries in Eastern Europe, focusing on promoting human rights, equality and climate-smart practices.

PROMOTING THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES THROUGH MUSIC AND ARTS

In Belarus, people with disabilities often face discriminating attitudes. This excludes them from participating fully in cultural and social activities and makes it difficult for them to develop their artistic potential. ShareMusic's project Sofit uses creative arts to empower people with disabilities, with the ultimate aim of creating a sustainable and inclusive society in Belarus. With Forum Syd's support, ShareMusic & Performing Arts and the Belarusian organisation BelAPDiMI have contributed to positive change in attitudes and a driving force behind Belarus signing of the UN convention on the rights of persons with disabilities.

"It doesn't matter if you are a person with disabilities or not, because everybody has their role, their mission in an inclusive process"

Natallia Semeniako, chairperson of BelAPDiMI in Gomel

The potential of promoting inclusivity of people with disabilities in cultural and educational sectors can be seen in the project's wide multi-layered impact. Using arts to promote inclusion and equality has

not only empowered participants to go on and start their own organisations, it has also furthered the discussion about norms in Belarus. Media and journalists have co-operated with ShareMusic & Performing Arts and BelAPDiMI to publish material free of stereotypes and prejudice. The project also collaborates with the largest pedagogical university in Belarus, Maksim Tank, to provide knowledge sharing for implementing artistic and inclusive work methods in education.

Music workshop at school.
Photo: Sharemusic & Performing Arts



NEW LAW IN UKRAINE INCREASES ACCESS TO INFORMATION FOR PEOPLE WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS

"Thanks to the Daisy project, I can now access information and read books on the same conditions as people without visual impairments"

Mikhail Petriv lives in Lviv, Ukraine and is one of the people of the Daisy project's target group. Implemented by Svefi and its local partner the Ukrainian Organisation of Handicapped in the Lviv Region (USI), the Daisy project aims to support the development of a society where people living with visual impairments receives equal access to education and information. Forum Syd has worked with Svefi for almost a decade, supporting their projects through sub-granting and building capacity to enhance the organisation's ability to achieve its vision.

Many important steps have been taken in recent years towards a society with equal rights for people living with disabilities. The organisations have organised some 100 advocacy activities, such as demonstrations, seminars and information meetings, to raise awareness and change attitudes among authorities in the Ukraine.

A milestone was reached in 2015 when the Ukrainian government passed a bill proposed and lobbied by Svefi and USI, making it compulsory for all publishing firms to leave a copy of their books for conversion to talking books, such as the Daisy format.

The Daisy project has launched an easily accessible and well-structured electronic library where people with visual impairments can download books converted to the Daisy format for free. The library contained 2,000 titles at the end of this project, but is still growing as USI's members has continued to update the electronic library with new material.

Not only has the Daisy project made

many new books available as talking books, the unique format has also changed the reading process, says Mikhail. Previously, people with visual impairments could only listen to a talking book in page order, not being able to browse within the book, which Mikhail says was particularly frustrating when reading textbooks and studying for exams.

Because of the unique Daisy format he can now browse between chapters or pages and read the book in the way and pace that suit him best. Michael says that the Daisy project has revolutionised the access to information for people with visual impairments, who now can read books on the same terms as everyone else.



Participants in the Daisy project. Photo: Marta Sidorjak

CONFIDENCE BUILDING IN SOUTH CAUCASUS IMPROVES THE ACCOUNTABILITY OF DUTY-BEARERS

The countries of South Caucasus have made important advances in recent years but are still afflicted by internal conflicts and political and military confrontations. Levels of civil society development vary significantly in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan. While Georgian and Armenian civil society organisations (CSOs) operate in a relatively harassment-free environment, the government of Azerbaijan continues to put heavy pressure on CSOs, civic activists, the media, freedom of opinion and information.

To break this spiral, Forum Syd supports UNA Sweden and local UN associations in the region through a confidence building programme with the aim of strengthening cross-border connections and co-operation between young people from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia.

By training young people to conduct their own rights-based activities in the region, the programme has led to broad positive changes in cross-border co-operation

and understanding among participants.

Trainings in the programme also included follow-up on conducted activities. This has led to participants engaging directly with duty bearers in empowering marginalised groups. In Armenia, participants implemented a project to revive a day-care centre for children with special needs. Through successful co-operation with local authorities, the day-care centre now has teachers and a psychologist in place. Advocacy campaigns in Georgia have resulted in improving public accessibility for people with disabilities as well as making the quality of domestic water supply meet required standards. In the city of Akhaltsikhe, participants influenced the city council to improve their public accountability towards media and the public by giving 10 days' notice of council meetings rather than 30 minutes, as was previously the case.



Zora Csalagovits holds a teambuilding exercise with participants. Photo: Guram Muradov

LATIN AMERICA

Forum Syd supports projects in 10 countries in Latin America. Our office in Bogotá is working with local partners, building their capacity to create lasting change on issues such as peace and conflict resolution and gender equality.

PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY IN CONFLICT AREAS

Colombia's internal armed conflict, which has lasted for more than half a century, has had a particularly severe impact on women, who have bore the brunt of violence inflicted upon their relatives, their communities or upon themselves. Hundreds of thousands of Colombian women suffered the effects of violence on their own bodies, and have lost husbands, children, and grandchildren. Additionally, their participatory capacity and their right to the sustainable development of their territories have been significantly reduced. Nonetheless, many women have been the main agents in the reconstruction of social networks in their communities and territories.

In Caquetá, Forum Syd implemented the Right(s) Way Forward – Gender Equality Tool with women from several organisations in the San Vicente del Caguán region. Several workshops were held to increase women self-recognition, as well as their agency and capacity building. Initially, a group of leaders were trained as workshop facilitators that were subsequently held at Troncales, with the participation of 30 women and youngsters from the Community Local Management Board.

“The work experience we had with Forum Syd was one of the best things that has happened to us as an organised community, and the work with us women has been very valuable,” says Noralba, one of the regional leaders, a victim of the Colombian conflict in several ways, but nonetheless an admirably strong human being, full of hope about the future of the region, where, as she sees it, there is a special role for the younger generation. “It has been really relevant the work we

are doing with young women. I have a granddaughter, age seven, who goes with me everywhere I go. You can clearly perceive how all these young women are learning and appropriating tools so as to become political and social agents of our communities.”

With the RWF-GET methodology, women in Caquetá are empowering themselves to reclaim their rights and increase their access and control over resources, also developing a counter culture in gender discrimination and gender based violence.

“This experience has had a strong impact on Noralba's granddaughter, she wants to be a facilitator too to teach others that men should not use violence against women,” says Astrid Cañas, Forum Syd's Right(s) Way Forward gender Equality Tool trainer.



Noralba, one of the community facilitators, hugging her niece. Photo: Astrid Cañas

ADVOCACY LEAD TO THE PROTECTION OF INDIGENOUS TERRITORIES

In the Karib eco-corridor in the Brazilian Amazonas, the indigenous and slave descendants communities face increasing pressures, while struggling to fully ascertain their rights to their territories and their ability to fully represent themselves. With the help of Fomun Syd, Equipe de Conservacao da Amazonia (Ecam) and the Rain Forest Society support the communities in effectively addressing increasing pressures, improving quality of life, and sustaining natural resources.

Last year, local partners achieved milestones in the recognition of indigenous territories. Significant progress can be seen in the work to include culturally and environmentally sensitive areas under the national management policy on indigenous territories. Also, the co-operation between indigenous communities in implementing a shared municipal project has meant that

the needs of indigenous villages, and crucial information about their land, will now be considered in local and regional policies regarding health, education and sustainable development.

“The project has been extremely useful for strengthening our autonomy and representation with the authorities in our region. Including our management plan will allow us to further our goals in bringing a better education system to our communities and eventually creating a university campus for our students in our main village”

-Eliseu Wai Wai, Wai Wai General Chief

The joint project has also strengthened the collaboration between communities, and built the capacity of more than 300 local leaders by strengthening their influence over the implementation of municipal budgets through improved oversight on local municipal councils.



Ethnobotanists in Santida village. Photo: Edwilson Pordens

YOUNG PEOPLE BUILDING DEMOCRACY

With support from Forum Syd, Emmaus Björkå conducts the “Youths building democracy” project with Movimiento Comunal Nicaragüense (MCN) in Nicaragua. Briceyda Traña, project manager, says that the project's emphasis on equality and participatory democratic processes has fostered a leadership style amongst the

youths that centres on respect, dialogue and large-scale consensus. Briceyda also works as a national co-ordinator for MCN, and has played an important role in scaling up local initiatives to the national level. An example of the local and national synergy effects the project has contributed to is that local youth agendas were united

into a national one. In turn, the agenda has helped to co-ordinate and strengthen the capacity of MCN across the country. “Suddenly you realise that my work at the national level has impacts at the local level. Sometimes it almost feels like I hear my words coming out of their mouths,” Briceyda says.



Focus group meeting between Emmaus Björkå and MCN members. Photo: Emmaus Björkå

"I LOVE HOW GRASS-ROOT ORGANISATIONS PUT FEMINISM AT THE TOP OF THE AGENDA."

Ísis Menezes Táboas from the Brazilian small-scale farmers organisation Movimento de Mulheres Camponesas is one of many partners that Latinamerikagrupperna and La Via Campesina support with help from Forum Syd. An important part of this support is the strengthening of local leaders' capacity as political actors. Ísis Menezes Táboas is one such leader. Together with representatives from several partner organisations across Latin America she participated in one of the female leadership training organised by La Via Campesina and Latinamerikagrupperna.

The leadership trainings are one step in the larger struggle against a global food industry and agricultural model that sustains inequality and unequal distribution of natural resources at the expense of small-scale farmers and rural popula-

tions in Latin America. Amongst these, more than 50 per cent are women, whose contribution to food and agricultural production is rarely recognised and who do not enjoy the same rights as men in terms of inheritance of land, credits etc.

The leadership trainings have built a strong network among participants, and strengthened their capacity in a variety of ways. One significant outcome is that the trainings equip participants to hold trainings in their own organisations and communities, thus creating a wide-spread ripple effect. By being strengthened as political leaders, participants have gained increased influence in local decision-making processes. In Honduras for example, participants contributed to the adoption of a law concerning credits to women in

rural areas. Ongoing advocacy activities to change the law have been joined by more recent participants from the leadership trainings in, for example hearings, information campaigns and meetings with government officials.

Ísis Menezes Táboas, participant in the projects women leadership trainings. Photo: Sori Lundqvist



CAPACITY BUILDING

LAUNCH: FORUM SYD EDUCATIONAL FILM ON HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED WORK

In 2016, Forum Syd produced an educational film about human rights and how we work to fulfil them. What role do civil society organisations play, and how can we ensure our work contributes to change?

The film explains the different actors Forum Syd works with through its 'Theory of Change'. The film is an informative tool

for our members and applicant organisations on the different types of change rights-based projects contribute to, and how we evaluate projects according to our Results Model.



ESSENTIAL GUIDES TO PROJECT PLANNING AND REPORTING

Forum Syd has continued working on simplifying the applicant process for organisations. A new guide for implementation and reporting was released in 2016 and Forum Syd's guide on project planning was

translated into five languages. Both guides are used in Forum Syd's courses and are available online. This means that Forum Syd now offers a complete set of instructions for all phases of a rights-based

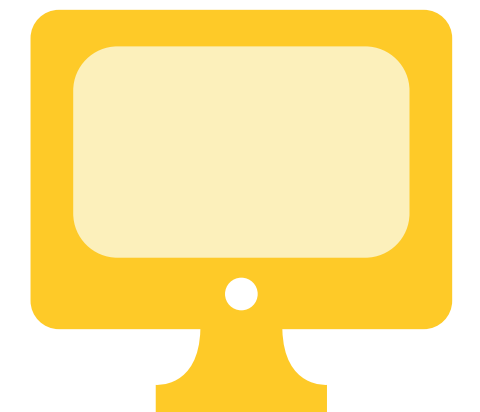
project. This in turn has strengthened the link with courses - both physical and on Forum Syd's e-Learning platform LINGO - that are offered to applicant organisations.



FORUM SYD'S COURSE WORK AND E-LEARNING PLATFORM EXPANDS

Forum Syd's training courses aim to build a stronger civil society by developing the capacity of applicant organisations, member organisations and staff. The courses we offer focus on rights-based work, organisational development, follow-up and evaluation, IT and project management. As indicated above, participants are able to engage through physical courses or through Forum Syd's e-Learning platform LINGO. By engaging in courses, participants can also share experiences

and network. In 2016, Forum Syd has expanded our selection, both physical and digital. Previously, the Sweden and Kenya offices worked with the e-Learning platform, but last year the e-Learning project expanded to Forum Syd's Colombia office where preparations have been made to conduct e-Learning courses in Spanish.





*This is Kinisa Women's Group in Moyale, Northern Kenya. With support from Forum Syd, they have come together to promote their rights towards local leaders.
Photo: Fredrik Lerneryd.*

VOICES ABOUT FORUM SYD



ANNA-PAULA JONSSON
Project Manager, Business Sweden

”With its robust processes and broad network among the Swedish-Somali diaspora, Forum Syd has contributed to the successful development of the Swedish-Somali Business Programme (SSBP). Forum Syd’s way of working has been flexible and alert, which has enabled the programme to develop and improve at a fast pace. With Forum Syd’s local knowledge and presence in Somalia, Business Sweden looks forward to a continued co-operation, increased knowledge about business opportunities in Somalia, and a good working relationship with the financed entrepreneurs.”



ANNIKA RAMSKÖLD
Vice President Sustainability, Vattenfall

“I appreciate the open dialogue Vattenfall and Forum Syd have established, which also develops us as an organisation. Forum Syd has helped us better understand the complex situation in Colombia, and enabled us to reach out to the civil society in Colombia. With Forum Syd’s support and knowledge, we have been able to put well-informed and relevant demands on our suppliers.”



KHADRA WARSAME JAMA
Chairlady, Puntland Women Association (PWA), Somalia

“Forum Syd has a unique approach to empowering marginalised people to claim their human rights and control their own development paths. We as Puntland Women Association have with the support from Forum Syd engaged the issue of partnership between authorities and civil society organisations to create a greater understanding of the role of men in working for gender equality and not being perpetrators of violence.”



CHARLOTTA NORRBY
Head of the Civil Society Unit, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)

“Forum Syd is a very important and appreciated partner to Sida in the implementation of the new Civil Society strategy which runs from 2016-2022. Through Forum Syd’s work a multiplicity of organisations both in Sweden and in developing countries are given an opportunity to engage in development co-operation. This is a precondition to reach the vision of a pluralistic civil society.”

VOICES ABOUT FORUM SYD



TINA NUMMI-SÖDERGREN
General Secretary, MyRight

“Forum Syd specifically supports participation and organisation for poor and marginalised groups. MyRight is happy to contribute to the diversity within Forum Syd. Being part of this umbrella constitutes a remarkable opportunity to exchange experiences, which later on can be used in our own development co-operation. Co-operating with Forum Syd enables us to develop our global efforts in continuously defending the human rights of people living with disabilities, and their families.”



FUAD M.SHARIF
Programme Manager, Embassy of Sweden, Kenya

“While it is widely known that Forum Syd is an important actor in the work to promote civil society organisations globally, it is probably not as acknowledged that Forum Syd works to foster sustainable business to create jobs for poor women and youth so that they can overcome poverty. A typical example of this is the Swedish-Somali Business Programme (SSBP). The programme, which is unique in its set up, aims to create leverage by stimulating diaspora investments in Somalia and through that create conditions for sustainable entrepreneurship in the country.”



CARINA ERIKSSON
President, Qandil

“Forum Syd provides great support for Qandil in our development as a Swedish not-for-profit organisation with aid operations in a war zone. Forum Syd is a strong and important actor in promoting civil society in many countries. Forum Syd’s great work has conclusive significance for peaceful global development and in the work to eliminate poverty.”



YAROSLAV BEKISH
Co-ordinator, Green Network, Belarus

“Forum Syd consistently supports the Belarusian civil society in all its manifestations, doing it responsibly, avoiding formalism on the one hand and on the other hand not dictating and imposing working methods to local partners. With Forum Syd’s support, many Belarusian civil society actors has not only realised their plans, but also significantly developed on an organisational level and acquired the ability to perform better analyses.”

FORUM SYD’S BOARD



From left: Carina Andersson, Niklas Hallhagen, Tobias Linghag, Egle Obcarskaite, Markus Malm, Siv Svensson, Per-Åke Andersson, Ida Ragnarsson (resigned from the board in August 2016), Mats Ehn, Gina Manzizla, Hanna Gerdes, Manne Wängborg and Göte Isaksson. Not in the photo: Victoria Enström.

MANNE WÄNGBORG
Chairperson

“Forum Syd’s diverse composition of organisations and perspectives. I am proud every time I use my business card in braille, something that I never had before, and I am glad that Forum Syd will soon re-locate to premises more accessible to the physically disabled.”

Manne has had a long international career in the diplomatic service. He also has broad experience within, and a strong identification with, Swedish civil society organisations.

CARINA ANDERSSON
Vice Chairperson

“Forum Syd is in the middle of an exciting period of change. We have many progress-oriented and creative discussions within the board regarding future organisation, membership value, goals and strategy. It is engaging and fun.”

Carina is Head of HR for We Effect and Vi Agroforestry, and has experience of international development co-operation in Sweden as well as in Eastern and Southern Africa.

PER-ÅKE ANDERSSON
Member

“I have a strong belief in civil society’s potential to enable participatory development, and I like being a part of the broad competence that Forum Syd’s board constitutes.”

Per-Åke has long experience working for the IOGT-NTO International Institute. He contributes with knowledge in democracy and rights, particularly in how alcohol can constitute an obstacle to development.

HANNA GERDES
Member

“The width of organisations that co-operate through Forum Syd is unique. This is a force that has enormous potential and energy if channelled correctly.”

Hanna is a human rights lawyer, author and lecturer, with extensive experience background of rights issues and has served as board member for several other organisations.

GÖTE ISAKSSON
Member

“The best thing about being a member of Forum Syd’s board is to meet and learn from all these devoted, knowledgeable and experienced fellow board members and colleagues.”

Göte has extensive experience of leadership and management from having been a director within public administration as well as being an elected political representative at municipal level.

MARKUS MALM
Member

“I see increased engagement and co-operation within Forum Syd’s operations and that the organisation is strengthening its role as an important political actor as well as an actor in global development co-operation.”

Markus is Operations manager at Solidarity Sweden-Latin America and brings to Forum Syd his extensive knowledge of Latin America and his experience in strategic management.

SIV SVENSSON
Member

“It has been exciting to follow, and to a certain extent drive, the development of Forum Syd’s new strategy and organisation. This will lead to a stronger, more relevant Forum Syd, and I hope I have contributed with my experience from the private sector and other board assignments”

After a long career in the banking and financial sector, Siv now works full time as a professional board member, sharing her experience of corporate management and corporate governance issues.

VICTORIA ENSTRÖM
Deputy

“I enjoy the opportunity to influence and be a part of the big movement that Forum Syd constitutes, and together work for an equal and sustainable world.”

Victoria works as programme manager at Kristna Fredsrörelsen, with a focus on development co-operation in Western Sahara and South Sudan. She has experience from working in different parts of the world and for several of Forum Syd’s member organisations.

EGLE OBCARSKAITE
Deputy

“You experience that you are not alone in your efforts and ambitions of making the world a better place for everyone. That inspires me and it is so fun to be a part of this kinship.”

Egle works as a programme manager at the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. Egle brings to the board competence in working with cross-sectorial issues and strategic work with different actors and target groups.

MATS EHN
Member

“For me it is very rewarding to try to identify synergies between Forum Syd’s different roles through strategic work.”

Mats is a teacher who currently works as an International secretary at for the 154 Swedish folk high schools. He has experience of working with civil society and international development issues, for example in Bolivia.

NIKLAS HALLHAGEN
Deputy

“Most rewarding is to be part of developing the strategic direction of an organisation that gathers a large part of Swedish civil society and works with development issues that are both exciting and challenging.”

Niklas works as a program administrator at Hungerprojektet and have the overall responsibility for project and program applications. Through his experience, Niklas has competence in working with rights-based projects and mediation of funds in a global organisation.

TOBIAS LINGHAG
Member

“Because Forum Syd is a member organisation that gathers a lot of knowledge. The organisation has a strong voice within development co-operation.”

Tobias works for Framtidsjorden, where he is responsible for the organisation’s funding from Forum Syd. He contributes to the board with knowledge of what recipients of Forum Syd sub-granting require, such as transparency and efficient systems.

GINA MANZIZLA
Deputy

“I am excited to be a board member as I have a great admiration for Forum Syd’s commitment to advocate recognition and respect for human rights and empowerment of people worldwide.”

Gina is chairwoman of the Afro-Swedish National Association Stockholm. She is also pursuing a master’s degree in Human Rights Law and works as a project administrator and research assistant at the Institute for Future Studies. Gina brings an intersectional perspective on diversity and human rights to the board.

SUMMARY OF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Forum Syd is a religiously and politically unaffiliated not-for-profit aid organisation that consists of 149 members. Our members are Swedish civil society organisations that all work to make a global difference and share Forum Syd’s vision of global justice and sustainable development.

Forum Syd work all over the world. Offices are located in

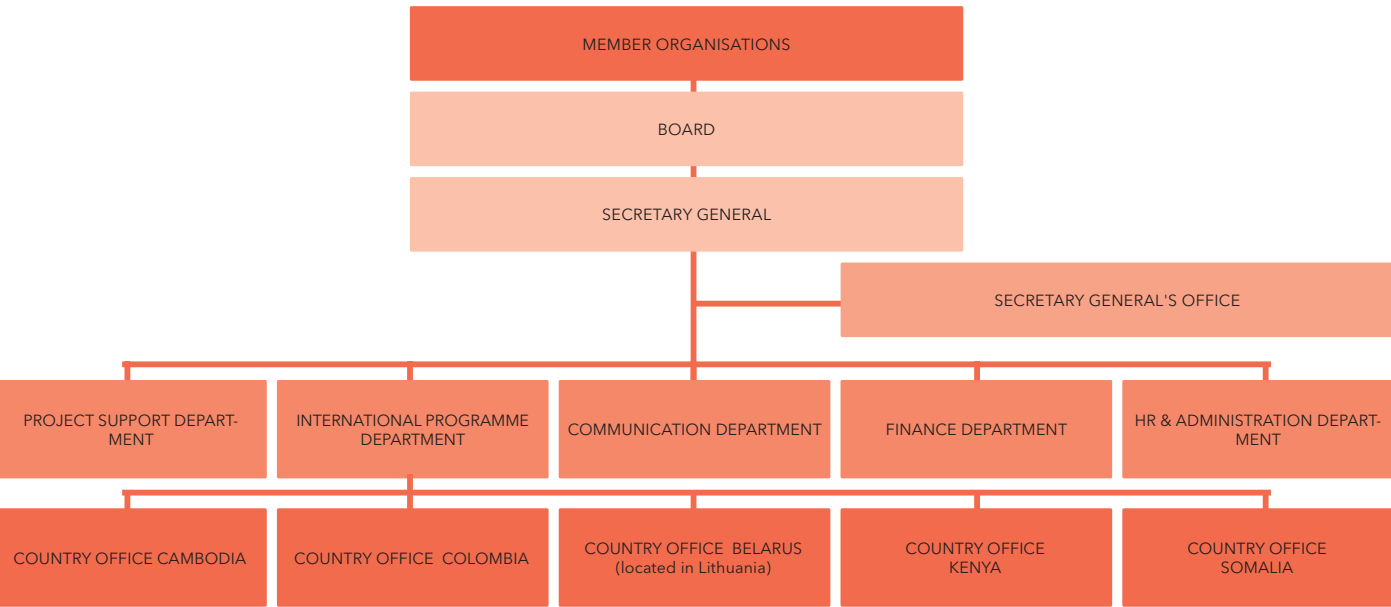
Sweden, Kenya, Cambodia, Colombia, Belarus (office located in Vilnius) and Somalia.

Forum Syd’s work centres on enabling people to organise to claim their rights and take control over their lives. It is only then that democracy can grow, resources can be distributed more fairly, and poverty can be reduced.

THE ORGANISATION

- Forum Syd’s operations are divided into four closely interacting and mutually dependent areas that give the organisation its unique width and competence as well as legitimacy and a financial base:
- Through **capacity building**, Forum Syd strengthens development actors by offering education opportunities through courses, e-Learning and events.
- Forum Syd runs **development co-operation programmes** in partner countries together with local organisations. Most of development co-operation programmes are managed by country offices.

- Forum Syd manage **sub-granting** to Swedish organisations working with international development co-operation and information campaigns on global issues. Sub-granting is handled by offices in Sweden, Colombia, Kenya and Belarus.
- Forum Syd conduct **advocacy** on global development issues that contribute to a just and sustainable world.



Forum Syd’s highest decision-making body is the Annual Meeting, at which each member organisation has one vote. The Annual Meeting elects Forum Syd’s board, election committee and auditors, all of whom are nominated by the member organisations. Forum Syd’s day-to-day operations are led by a secretary general, who is directly accountable to the board.

Together with the plan for operations, Forum Syd’s Policy platform guides the focus of activities as well as their planning and follow-up. Efforts to achieve the goals in the plan of operations create the necessary conditions for reaching success in Forum Syd’s four operational areas.

KEY EVENTS DURING 2016

GOING GLOCAL

Going Glocal is an organisational change that Forum Syd is conducting to improve the results and co-ordination of Forum Syd's development co-operation and external communication, and increase member value. During 2016, Forum Syd has realised several projects and sub-processes under Going Glocal. Some of the projects have analysed parts of Forum Syd's operations to identify challenges and solutions, in for example sub-granting, external communication, support processes, and thematic advice. Others have focused on running pilot projects for decentralising programme administration and project support to the offices in Kenya and Colombia. The conclusions from the projects were used in the work of developing Forum Syd's new organisational structure. The staffing process was completed in December and the new organisation was implemented January 1, 2017. Important changes have been made in the division of responsibility between Forum Syd's departments, including managerial positions.

STRATEGY

During the year, Forum Syd initiated a process of developing the organisation's strategy. This has resulted in a mapping of potential locations for Forum Syd to open a strategic office and new goals in the plan for operations for 2018-22. The new goals aim to concentrate the focus for how Forum Syd will work with its Policy platform. Main conclusions in the strategic work have been to strengthen Forum Syd's role as a civil society platform and to increase co-operation with the member organisations. Strengthening civil society's role in contributing to democracy and human rights is seen as Forum Syd's main task in the new strategy. This means an increased focus on issues like shrinking space, the role of civil society in implementing the 2030, CSO development effectiveness and global aid policy. Forum Syd also strives to strengthen its work with innovation and especially investigate the area of "Migration and Development". The work with gender and sustainable use of natural resources will continue but as central development perspectives. The board has also discussed strategic presence and decided during the fall that Bangladesh is the next location for Forum Syd to open a strategic hub.

MEMBER ORGANISATION

During 2016, 13 organisations left Forum Syd and an additional three were expelled after defaulting on their membership fees. Ten new organisations joined during the year and the total number of members at the end of 2016 was 149.

STAFF

The overall plan for crisis management has been updated and staff at all offices have been trained in security. Forum Syd's Cambodia, Colombia and Somalia offices implemented safety plans according to Forum Syd's standards, and investments in IT-security were made at all country offices. All staff attended an introduction in anti-corruption and the development of an internal whistle-blowing system was initiated. In Somalia, two new offices were opened: one in Garowe in January and one in Mogadishu in June.

Forum Syd had 103 employees at the end of 2016: 59 per cent were women and 41 per cent were men.

INTERNAL ENVIRONMENT ACTIVITIES

Forum Syd's environmental footprint is primarily generated by travel. Forum Syd's guidelines therefore promote sustainable transport. During 2016, Forum Syd booked 125 return trips, of which 76 were by air, corresponding to total CO2 emissions of 91,372 kg. All emissions are climate neutral due to offsetting in energy projects in developing countries. Most other journeys were made by train.

The Stockholm office purchases environmentally labelled electricity (Bra Miljöval) and organic (KRAV) and Fair Trade tea and coffee. The office is cleaned by an environmentally certified company, (the Swan label), and hires a packaging recycling service that is environmentally certified (Bra Miljöval). Paper consumption amounted to some 190,000 sheets during the year.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Every year, Forum Syd analyses risks that might impact the achievements of its operational goals. Risks are assessed based on their probability and the seriousness of potential consequences. Procedures for managing each risk are then planned. During 2016, identified risks concerned, for example financing, corruption, safety- and credibility issues, and Forum Syd's organisational changes. Managing the risk of corruption has included an internal audit project and an anti-corruption policy. Forum Syd has worked to diversify the donor portfolio to mitigate financial restrictions and vulnerability. Coherent routines for open communication have been one of the actions taken to manage risks regarding the organisational changes.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

INCOME

During 2016, Forum Syd's income before financial items amounted to SEK 323.2 million. This is an increase of SEK 50.6 million (18.6 per cent) compared to 2015.

During the year, Forum Syd has worked to increase the di-

versity of funding sources. Applications were made to Sida, the EU, the Folke Bernadotte Academy and the Asian Development Bank. Half of these applications had been approved at the time of printing.

FORUM SYD'S OVERVIEW 2016

	(SEK m)
Framework grants Sida	222,8
Funding from other sida departments	80,9
Other funding	17,4
Membership fees	0,6
	(No.)
Number of members	149
Number of employees, Sweden	49
Number of employees, country offices	54
Number of country offices	5
Number of donors	11

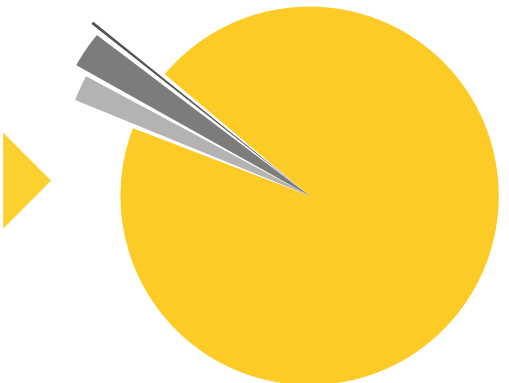
FORUM SYD'S DONORS IN 2016

	(SEK m)
SWEDISH AUTHORITIES	0,055
MAC FOUNDATION, SIWI, UHR	10,126
EU GRANTS	7,237
SIDA	303,754
TOTAL	321,172

FORUM SYD'S INCOME STATEMENT 2016

	(SEK m)
Total operating income	323,176
Total operating costs	-321,545
Operating result	1,631
Total result from financial items	-0,024
Result after financial items	1,607

TOTAL RESULT FOR 2016 1,607



COSTS

Total costs before financial items amounted to SEK 321.6 million. Of this, operational costs accounted for SEK 302.5 million, of which the largest part (64.4 per cent) comprised grants to other CSOs in Sweden.

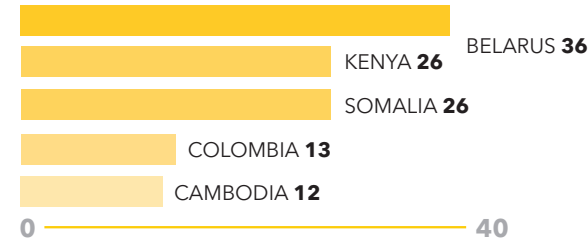
The office in Tanzania closed in 2015 as Forum Syd received no further funding after suspicions about accounting irregularities. A Sida investigation identified several accounting errors at the Tanzania Office. Forum Syd welcomed Sida's investigation and addressed all complaints. After the review, Forum Syd could present material in most cases where this had previously been missing. Sida conducted a second investigation and decided to reclaim funding of SEK 1.9 million despite of Forum Syd infer-

ring that there were several issues in need of further examination. After Forum Syd disputed the amount, it was lowered to SEK 1.3 million. Forum Syd then agreed to repay the amount in protest to protect its relationship with Sida, and avoid any costly legal action. Forum Syd took several measures to ensure that other country offices avoided the same internal control errors that arose at the Tanzania office. An internal auditings project was initiated in 2015 and completed during 2016. All country offices have now been reviewed and have integrated effective measures in their daily routines. The purpose of this initiative is to align processes and to ensure that high levels of internal direction and control are upheld at all levels of the organisation.

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PROGRAMMES

9
PROGRAMMES
SUPPORTED
113
LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS / COUNTRY OFFICE

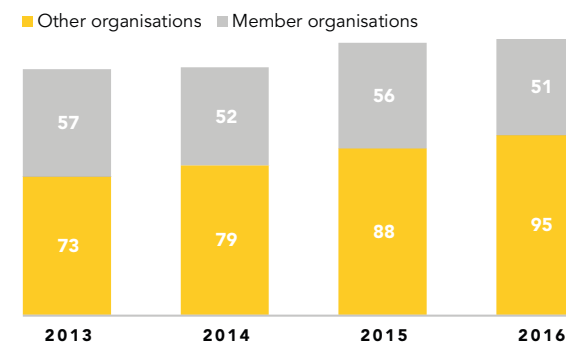
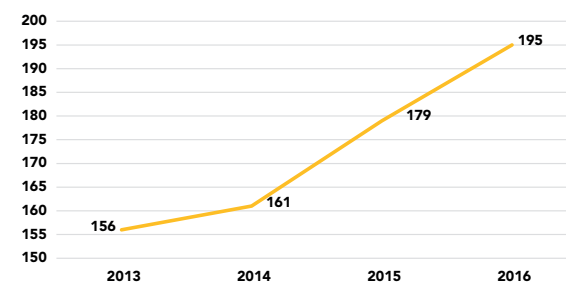


Forum Syd supported a total of 113 (126) local organisation through nine (12) programmes via its country offices. Operational costs for Forum Syd's development co-operation programmes via offices in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe amounted to SEK 76.8 million (SEK 46.6 million). These programmes were financed mainly by Sida departments (not Sida Civsam) and/or the EU and by overseas government agencies/embassies, and other organisations.

SUB-GRANTING

195
SEK MILLION
DISTRIBUTED TO
239
DEVELOPMENT AND
INFORMATION PROJECTS
AMONGST
146
SWEDISH ORGANISATIONS

DISTRIBUTION / YEAR IN SEK MILLION

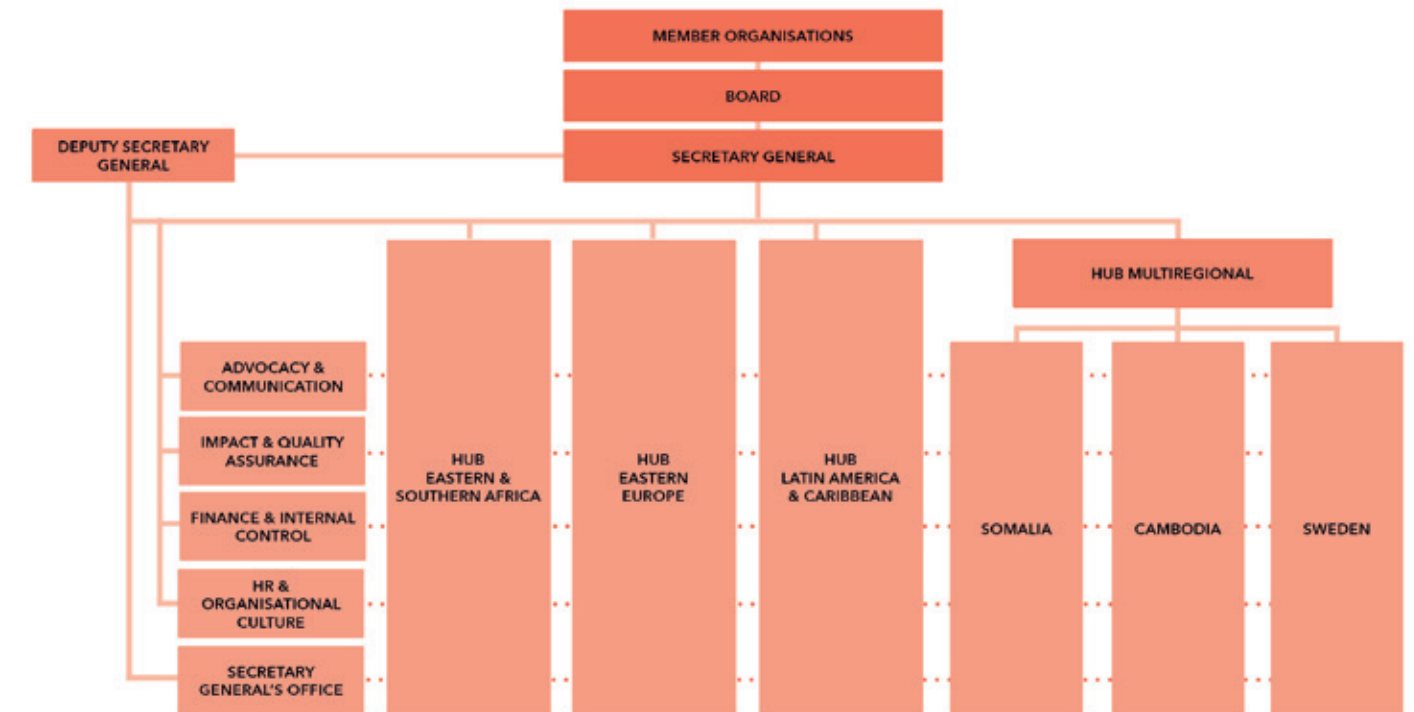


During 2016, SEK 195 million (SEK 179 million) was distributed to 239 (236) development and information projects amongst 146 (144) Swedish organisations. Fifty-one (56) organisations, 35 per cent (39), were members in Forum Syd. The sub-granting of funds was financed by Sida Civsam, Sida Partnership Forum, the embassy in Kenya, Sida Europe and the Swedish Council for Higher Education (UHR). These operations have been conducted in co-operation with local civil society organisation in 65 (71) countries.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

Forum Syd's new organisation was implemented January 1, 2017. A one-year extension agreement with Sida Civsam (SEK 210 million), and a one-year agreement regarding bridging funding of information and communication activities with Sida Partnership Forum (SEK 29, 686 million) were signed. During 2017, Forum

Syd will apply to Sida Civsam and Sida Partnership Forum for the period 2018-2022 and prepare the implementation of the strategic goals for the same period. The office in Stockholm will move to new premises in June.



Forum Syd's new organisation since January 1, 2017.

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

A WORLD OF FRIENDS, SWEDEN · ADOPTIONSCENTRUM · AFAR FRIENDS IN SWEDEN · AFRICA GROUPS OF SWEDEN · AFRICAN CARE & SCHOOL · AFRO-EUROPEISKA RIKSFÖRBUNDET · AFROSVENSKARNAS RIKSFÖRBUND · AFS INTERKULTURELL UTBILDNING · AID GALCAD · ALBANSKA FÖRENINGARS UNION I SVERIGE · AMAZONASFÖRENINGEN I HÄRRYDA · ARKITEKTER UTAN GRÄNSER · BARNFONDEN INSAMLINGSSTIFTELSE · BISHOZI INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS · BISKOPS-ARNÖ HIGH SCHOOL · BLLF SWEDEN – FRONT MOT SLAVERI · CENTERPARTIETS INTERNATIONELLA STIFTELSE · CENTRALASIENGRUPPERNA · CLOWNER UTAN GRÄNSER · COLCHAJ NAC LUUM · DARYEEL ASSOCIATION · DIAKONIA · ECPAT SVERIGE · EMMAUS BJÖRKÅ · EMMAUS STOCKHOLM · FAIR ACTION · FIAN-SWEDEN · FJÄRDE VÄRLDEN · FRIENDS OF THE EARTH SWEDEN · FUTURE EARTH · FÄRNEBO FOLK HIGH SCHOOL · FÖRENINGEN FÖR FOLKBILDNING OCH FRIHET · EDUARDO MADARIAGA · FÖRENINGEN FÖR REHABILITERING OCH UTVECKLING · FÖRENINGEN FÖR SUS-KVINNOPROJEKT I BANGLADESH · FÖRENINGEN PALMERAS VÄNNER · FÖRENINGEN SOFIA · FÖRENINGEN URFOLK · GAMBIAGRUPPERNA · GLOBAL LEARNING · HAND IN HAND SWEDEN · HIIRAAH REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION · HMR - FÖRENING FÖR HÅLSA OCH MÄNSKLIGA RÄTTIGHETER · HORN OF AFRICA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION · IMMIGRANTERNAS RIKSFÖRBUND · INGENJÖRER UTAN GRÄNSER · INTACTS VÄNNER · INTERNATIONELLA KVINNOFÖRBUNDET · INTERNATIONELLA KVINNOFÖRBUNDET FÖR FRED OCH FRIHET · IOGT-NTO · IOGT-NTO RÖRELSENS INTERNATIONELLA INSTITUT · IRANSK-SVENSKA SOLIDARITETSFÖRENINGEN I MALMÖ · ISLAMIC RELIEF SVERIGE · JAKOBSBERGS FOLKHÖGSKOLA · JEREMIAH LUCAS OPIRA FOUNDATION (JLOF) · JIDCA · KARAGWE-FÖRENINGEN · KARIBU SWEDEN ASSOCIATION · KIDS ARK SWEDEN · KLIMATAKTION STOCKHOLM · KULTUR OCH IDROTTSFÖRENINGEN LIRIA · KVINNOR FÖR FRED · LATINA-LATINAMERIKANSKA KOOPERATIONSFÖRENINGEN · LIBERIA DUJAR ASSOCIATION · MASALIT ASSOCIATION IN SWEDEN · MÉDECINS DU MONDE SWEDEN · MIDNIMO IF · MY RIGHT · NORDISK HJÄLP · ORGANISATIONEN FAIR TRADE ÅTERFÖRSÄLJARNA · OSAK · PAN ASIA COOPERATION SOCIETY (PACS) · PEACEQUEST INTERNATIONAL · PEACEWORKS SWEDEN · PERUKOMMITTÉN FÖR MÄNSKLIGA RÄTTIGHETER · PHARMACISTS WITHOUT BORDERS · PLAN INTERNATIONAL SWEDEN · POSITIVA FRAMTIDSVISIONER · PRAKTISK SOLIDARITET · QANDIL · RAIN FOREST SOCIETY · SALVADORANSKA RIKSFÖRBUNDET, AMOAR · SAMERÅDET SVENSKA SEKTIONEN · SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE · SCOUTERNA · SELF-MANAGEMENT, ORG. FÖR NYKOOPERATION I U-LAND · SENSUS STUDY ASSOCIATION · SERBISKA RIKSFÖRBUNDET · SERBISKA UNGDOMSFÖRBUNDET I SVERIGE · SOCIALDEMOKRATER FÖR TRO OCH SOLIDARITET · SOLIDARITY SWEDEN-LATIN AMERICA · SOMALI GABOYE FÖRENING · SOMALI INTELLEKTUELL BANADIR FÖRENING · SOMALIA INTERNATIONAL REHABILITATION CENTRE · SOMALILAND FÖRENING I MALMÖ · SOMALILAND NORDIC RELIEF · SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES SWEDEN · SRI LANKAS BARNS VÄNNER · STUDIEFRÅMJANDET, RIKSFÖRBUNDET · STUDIEFÖRBUNDET VUXENSKOLAN · STÖDFÖRENINGEN FÖR MARTASKOLAN · SURYOYO HJÄLPFONDEN · SUSTAINABLE CULTURE AFRICA · SWEDEN LIBERIA COOPERATIVE · SWEDISH DEVELOPMENT FORUM (FUF) · SWEDISH DEVELOPMENT PARTNER (IM) · SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL LIBERAL CENTRE (SILC) · SWEDISH MOUNT ELGON ASSOCIATION · SWEDISH PENTECOSTAL CHURCHES (PMU) · SWEDISH SOCIAL WORKERS WITHOUT BORDERS · SWEDISH TIBETAN SOCIETY FOR SCHOOL AND CULTURE · SWEDOM · SVENSKA ARALSJÖSÄLLSKAPET · SVENSKA BAHAI-SAMFUNDET · SVENSKA PALESTINAKOMMITTÉN · SVENSK-LITAUISKA RIKSFÖRENINGEN · SVENSK-SOMALISKA VÄNFÖRENINGEN · SVENSK-TANZANISKA FÖRENINGEN · SYNSKADADES RIKSFÖRBUND · TALLAABO FÖRENINGEN I SKELLEFTÅ · THE HUNGER PROJECT · THE INTEREST ORGANIZATION FOR POPULAR MOVEMENT FOLK HIGH SCHOOLS (RIO) · THE LEFT INTERNATIONAL FORUM · THE NAMIBIA SOCIETY IN SWEDEN · THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SWEDISH YOUTH ORGANISATIONS (LSU) · THE PALESTINE SOLIDARITY ASSOCIATION OF SWEDEN (PGS) · THE SWALLOWS INDIA BANGLADESH · THE SWALLOWS LATIN AMERICA · THE SWEDISH ASSOCIATION FOR SEXUALITY EDUCATION (RFSU) · THE SWEDISH BURMA COMMITTEE · THE SWEDISH FEDERATION FOR LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER AND QUEER RIGHTS (RFSL) · THE SWEDISH IRAQI SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE · THE SWEDISH PEACE AND ARBITRATION SOCIETY (SPAS) · THE SWEDISH SPORTS CONFEDERATION · THE UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION SWEDEN · THE WORLD'S CHILDREN'S PRIZE FOUNDATION · TOGETHER FOR PROGRESS · TOGO KOMMITTÉN FÖR DEMOKRATIS ÖVERLEVNAD · TOSTAN SWEDEN · TWIGAUMEÅ GHANA UNION · UNICEF SVERIGE · VARKEN HORA ELLER KUVAD · VÄNORTSFÖRENINGEN STRÄNGNÄS-SIMANJIRO-LOIBOR · VÄNSKAPSFÖRBUNDET SVERIGE-NICARAGUA · VÄNSKAPSFÖRENINGEN SVERIGE GUINEA-BISSAU · WE EFFECT · YARI-IRANSKA UNGDOMSHJÄLPFÖRENINGEN · ÄLDRE FÖR ÄLDRE