

## **Leveraging and visualising strengths**

Last year was characterised by the development and implementation of a new cfd strategy. This was triggered by a perilous fall in donations and institutional funding. The Board, Director and Staff worked with consultants to thrash out a new strategy, which was approved by the Board on 30 June 2006. The strategy is aimed at placing the cfd on a sound financial footing and securing implementation of the objectives set out in the guiding principles. In doing so, it relies entirely on the strengths of the cfd's work – strengths identified by an internal and external audit of the organisation: its distinct feminist slant on peace policies; a common value basis; a high degree of expertise, highly competent staff; the linking of practical work, conceptual theorising and political action; plus the tremendous commitment of the committee members. And as the huge response to the appeal for emergency donations in April 2006 showed, the cfd is able to count on the solidarity of numerous donors.

All this has emboldened us to implement a forward strategy that is aimed at raising our profile in the public arena rather than lowering it – for the issues tackled by the cfd are highly relevant, as an analysis of our environment has shown. The job now is to raise awareness of the cfd's established projects and positions on empowerment, migration and peace. The cfd now wants to leverage its know-how in feminist theology and experience of the empowerment of women in Muslim-majority contexts and put down feminist markers in current religio-political debates.

To make better use of the cfd's strengths, we have nevertheless needed to retrench: our new organisational structure now has just three sections on the one site. It means we can use our resources more effectively and make our processes and procedures more efficient.

I am confident that the cfd, with all the valuable work it performs, has a future, and I want to sincerely thank all of you who make it possible through your financial or personal support.

**Dr. Doris Strahm, President**

## **Furthering developments and seizing opportunities**

The strategic realignment process afforded me plenty of scope in my first full year as cfd Director; the second half of the year saw me begin to apply the strategic decisions. This involved writing significant new chapters in the cfd's story: the most obvious sign of change was the migration of the cfd's Women's Centre for Peace in Zurich to our head office in Bern at the end of 2006.

The Women's Centre was established in 1981 as a means of anchoring feminist policies in the structure of the cfd. The Centre did more than leave a lasting impact on our internal structures – 1997 saw the cfd approve its first feminist policy programme, and the Centre became an enduring beacon for the women's peace movement and a reference point for feminist peace policies. Located on Zurich's Gartenhofstrasse, it gathered together many threads, be they resisting the violence of the arms trade, giving women in conflict situations a voice, or networking with stakeholders in peace processes. Bringing the Women's Centre to Bern represents a further step in the ongoing story of the cfd as a feminist peace organisation. The cfd's women migrants' workshop *wisdonna* has attracted attention far beyond Bern with its concept of empowerment projects, and has conferred on the cfd a distinctive migration-oriented identity. Established at least ten years ago, *wisdonna* is already almost fully integrated functionally. Peace and migration policies remain the cfd's focus; the organisational framework for this work is now provided by the Migration and Peace Policies section. Simplifying the cfd's organisational structure opens up a host of opportunities for making our mark and raising our public profile. April 2007, for example, will see the cfd create a campaigning post.

Highpoints in my year as Director included a trip to view a project in Morocco, the *wiscafé* events on the Islam discourse from the viewpoint of women, and the series of events on women in Palestine following the election of Hamas. Another highpoint was the excellent collaboration I experienced with institutions and parishes and the interest and solidarity of our donors. I would like to thank them all for the wonderful support the cfd has received over the past year.

**Cécile Bühlmann, Executive Director**

## **The year's issue: Leeway for women in Palestine**

Success at the ballot box for Hamas early in 2006 met with mixed reactions around the world – Switzerland being no exception. On the one hand the debate on the terror threat and Islamisation dominated political assessments; on the other hand it was clear that the result was based on free and fair elections and had to be accepted. While Palestinian equal rights opponents puffed up Hamas's "accommodation" of women as further proof of the regime's suitability to govern, of concern to the women and men involved in equal rights and the peace process was the future of organisations and projects that worked for pluralism, participation and equal opportunities. These issues were given a thorough airing in the series of cfd events held in December 2006 under the banner "Palestine under a new government – Anything new for women?"

**Strengthening the democratisation process** / Amal Krieshe and Suheir Farraj are two secularly oriented directors of cfd partner organisations who have made a study of the political events. They reject political programmes and government models based on religion and, as feminists, are vehemently opposed to tendencies and plans for the Islamisation of Palestinian society. Both argue for a critical readiness to talk to Hamas as a way of reinforcing the democratisation process. At events in Bern, Zurich and Lucerne they showed how international sanctions against the Hamas government narrow civil society's room for manoeuvre.

**Women in politics and the media** / Amal Krieshe emphasised the need for political participation. Thanks to the women's quota pushed through by politicians and to the empowerment programme for women voters and candidates achieved by organisations such as the Palestinian Working Women Society for Development that Krieshe leads, women in Palestine are a step closer to political equality – and that includes Hamas's female representatives. Despite dissenting views on the position and role of women, they are involved in collaborative work here and there, such as in the struggle against violence against women. Although there was no shortage of women standing for seats in the elections, barely any of them received any coverage in the Palestinian media. Suheir Farraj, filmmaker and director of the organisation TAM – Women, Media and Development, took up this theme to highlight discrimination in the Palestinian media. The narrow images of women, as seen through the eyes of a patriarchal hegemony and broadcast by the 32 local TV channels, contributed, subtly yet effectively, to the institutionalisation of inequality. In response, TAM is organising courses for journalists to produce TV reports featuring women in word and picture, and tackling contentious topics including polygamy. They are broadcast and watched, and create an environment in which gender relations can be debated.

## **Collaborations**

/ Interdisciplinary Centre for Women and Gender Research at the University of Bern  
/ RomeroHaus, Lucerne  
/ ZoFF! Zurich Offensive – Women Against the Right

## **Participants to the series of events**

/ Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Political Department IV  
/ Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Gender Unit  
/ OeME (Ecumenical, Mission & Development) Commission, Bern City  
/ Roman Catholic Deanery, Bern Region  
/ OeME and ecumenical dialogue, Lucerne  
/ Evangelical Reformed Church of Canton St. Gallen  
/ comedia – the media trades union  
/ Perincioli Foundation

## **International cooperation: Palestine and Israel**

**Difficult life and work in Gaza** / People in the Gaza strip have been through an extremely difficult year: in the shadow of the war in Lebanon, Israel launched a military invasion of the Gaza strip in the summer of 2006. The occupation lasted several months, cost many lives and paralysed vast swathes of the power and water supply systems.

cfed partner organisation Women's Empowerment Project (WEP) was able to keep its three battered women's centres open for much of that time, but the armed offensive meant that staff and visitors were not always able to reach WEP. The need for contact and support during that time was particularly high. The fear and nightmares of the children, threats of house demolition conducted by telephone, the fear of moving about in areas where there was armed conflict weighed heavily on women. What they feared most, though were the internal struggles between Palestinian groups. The conflict lines often tear families apart, and intra-family disputes are increasingly settled by the gun, vigilante-style. Many women regard the WEP centres as their only haven of refuge.

**Jerusalem Link** / Getting a lot of attention has been the campaign run by the Israeli-Palestinian peace platform Jerusalem Link, which draws attention to the ejection of Palestinians from East Jerusalem. In 2005 alone, the city's administration carried out the destruction of 88 Palestinian houses – home to some 1000 residents – in the East Jerusalem district of Silwan, while Jewish settlers appropriated another 50. With the forward march of the wall and administrative steps being taken to enclose Palestinian residential neighbourhoods, 2006 has seen pressure steadily rising on East Jerusalem. The social and economic consequences of Israel's policy of repression are forcing increasing numbers of Palestinians out of the city. At demonstrations organised by Jerusalem Link, Israelis and Palestinians stand shoulder-to-shoulder against racism, exclusion, and expulsion. They demand equal rights for all of Jerusalem's inhabitants. Jerusalem Link also organised coach tours of the perimeter wall as far as Silwan to show Israeli and foreign journalists the full extent of the repression. In Silwan itself, Jerusalem Link empowered women to become more active in the struggle to keep their homes. A tour of European consulates conducted by a group of women whose lives were blighted by the policy of expulsion upped international pressure and led to a temporary halt in the destruction of homes in Silwan. Jerusalem Link is currently working with the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions on a publication highlighting the situation in East Jerusalem from a feminist perspective.

**Empowerment projects in Israel** / Alongside longstanding project partnerships, the cfed was able to provide start-up funding for two new initiatives in 2006: the Community of Learning Women in Kufr Qara, and the early marriage awareness-raising programme run by Al-Zahra in northern Israel. The town of Kufr Qara is at the centre of the densely populated and disadvantaged region of Wadi Ara in central Israel (the Triangle). Women have long had constraints placed upon them by the conservative administration in Kufr Qara. Active residents, however, then established the Community of Learning Women with the help of local women's organisations. The Community possesses a small centre and organises language and computer courses in combination with empowerment programmes. A group of six women emerged from these training courses and decided to hold a regular programme of events for women, with the support of cfed know-how and skills. The project is being launched in 2007; the group is planning talks and discussion forums, study trips, encounters with other organisations and visits to conferences and cultural events.

**Women's rights and health** / Many Arab girls in the villages are married off at the age of 15 or 16, leave school early and become very young mothers. Under Israeli law, the minimum age for marriage is 17. Arab women's organisations can expect no help from the Israeli authorities in the struggle for women's rights – the authorities simply culturalise the phenomenon in order to wash their hands of it. In Deir Hanna, women's organisation Al-Zahra entered into a collaborative arrangement in 2006 with the local health clinic and school to run two pilot courses on "marriage and having children". One course targeted pupils aged 14 to 16, the other young married and pregnant women and their partners. The cfed's funding enabled the pilot project to get off the ground, and it is now being run by Al-Zahra in collaboration with the French Hospital in Nazareth.

### **cfed partner organisations in Israel**

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Kayan: launch and supervision of empowerment groups in northern Israeli villages; laying foundations for feminist work and politics; awareness-raising in the sphere of gender issues in educational institutions.

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Sidreh: married women's revenue-raising project in the Negev; education programmes for Bedouin women; training disseminators in empowerment work in the municipalities.

## **cfid partner organisations in Palestine**

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Women's Empowerment Project Gaza: psychosocial programmes for women subjected to political and domestic violence; PR work centred on the municipalities.

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Centre for women and children in Nablus, run by the Palestinian Working Women Society for Development: psychosocial counselling, education programmes for women and supervision of empowerment groups; library and activity programmes for children.

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Jerusalem Link: women's peace platform run by the Palestinian Jerusalem Centre for Women and the Israeli women's peace organisation Bat Shalom; lobbying for equal gender rights and implementation of UN Resolution 1325 on women and peace; development of feminist perspectives in peace policies.

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TAM – Women, Media and Development: empowerment of women in media enterprises; awareness raising for journalists on gender issues; Women's Oral History film project for broadcast on local TV.

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Home for young people in Bethany: project for children and adolescents without carers.

## **Collaborations in Switzerland**

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EAPPI: the cfd is a Swiss sponsor of the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel. This international human rights monitoring and reporting programme was initiated by the Ecumenical Council of Churches. Peace Watch Switzerland trains the volunteers for their three-month tours of duty. The international presence lessens the chance of violence being exerted on civilian populations and strengthens the arm of local peace activists.

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Forum for Human Rights in Israel and Palestine: the cfd is an active member of the working group of development and human rights organisations that is committed to PR work and lobbying in support of human rights and the civil peace process. The Forum is organising a study trip to northern Israel in March 2007 to examine the rights of and prospects for Palestinian refugees.

## **International cooperation: Maghreb**

**Tilila for women and their rights** / The help centres run by the Ligue Démocratique pour les Droits de la Femme in Morocco continued to experience constraints whenever they wanted to provide effective help for women subjected to violence. Summer 2006 saw the Ligue open its first women's refuge in Casablanca: "Tilila" (Berber for inner peace, blessing or understanding). It offers 20 women and children a sanctuary and provides psychological and legal counselling.

Since opening, Tilila has provided shelter for 47 women and 44 children. One fifth of the women returned to their husbands but make use of the Ligue's mediation services. A further third went on to stay with relatives, and a number of women were able to get their husbands ejected from the marital home. Other women found work and are now living independently. This goes to show that there are now ways for women to extricate themselves from violent relationships. The Ligue has used the insights it has gained for its political lobbying. For instance, it handed the authorities a memorandum setting out specific examples of the injustices that female victims of violence face when they attempt to go to the law, and demanding that protection be provided.

**Welfare in the hammam** / The hammam or traditional bath house run by cfd partner organisation Solidarité Féminine in Casablanca has been in business for the past two years. The health and beauty services it offers are so popular that it operates two shifts a day, six days a week, with revenues already contributing over 50 per cent to the running costs of the hammam – quite something for a socially motivated project. Solidarité Féminine is managing to reconcile the project's aims – legal, financial and occupational empowerment of unmarried mothers – with the demands of a service enterprise. 22 women are learning a job in the hammam – the young mothers are earning enough to provide them with security in the knowledge that their children are being well looked after in the project's in-house crèche. Solidarité Féminine is aiming

to improve the project's financial independence in 2007 by getting its training programme certified. The cfd is providing funding at this crucial period in the project's development.

**Conflict resolution in Algeria** / While the government's Charter for Peace and National Reconciliation haphazardly attempted to draw a line under the country's violent past, cfd partner organisation SARP (Association for Psychological Help, Research and Training) is working for a genuine resolution to the conflict and supporting those living with its consequences. Amongst these are the large numbers of young people who could not go to school or undergo any training during the upheavals of the 1990s and are today unemployed. Amongst them are young women who feel threatened by the returning former fighters. To improve their lot, SARP has introduced a new action line for young people. This venture sees SARP offering young people the chance to process painful memories and address current problems through sporting, cultural and informative events, as well as personality-development and career-planning workshops. The cfd helped this programme develop by organising technical exchanges with Bayti, its Moroccan partner organisation for street children and young people.

### **cfd partner organisations in Morocco**

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Ligue Démocratique pour les Droits de la Femme: legal advice and training for women; legal training; rights monitoring; women's rights campaigns; women's refuge in Casablanca.

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Solidarité Féminine: psychosocial support; training and help with finding income-generating work for single mothers in its own restaurants and hammam in Casablanca.

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Bayti: social work with street children in Casablanca and Essaouira. Lobbying and advocacy against child labour and the sexual exploitation of children.

### **cfd partner organisations in Algeria**

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SARP – Association pour l'aide psychologique, la recherche et la formation: advice centres in regions particularly affected by violence; youth work, networking with human and women's rights organisations.

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Centre d'Information et de Documentation sur les Droits de l'Enfant et de la Femme: basic groundwork, library and information hub for activists in Algiers.

In the Sahrawi refugee camps:

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UJSARIO – Sahrawi youth organisation: setting up and running children and young people's centres in the refugee camps; training youth leaders.

### **Collaboration in Switzerland**

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SUKS: the cfd is involved in co-funding the Swiss committee that supports the Sahrawis.

## **International cooperation: Southeast Europe**

**Women in the status negotiations** / The political negotiations on the future status of Kosovo have until now been conducted as if UN Resolution 1325 on equal gender rights and the adoption of gender perspectives in conflict resolutions and peace processes were not binding. The Kosovo Women's Network, which includes cfd partners, continues to demand compliance with UN Resolution 1325 in the status negotiations.

To lend more weight to their demands, women's organisations from Kosovo, Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Macedonia have come together and formed the Women's Lobby for Peace, Security and Justice in Southeast Europe. Their political collaboration represents an achievement that is far ahead of anything the negotiating delegations have so far been able to deliver, and indeed ahead of much of public opinion. Summer 2006 saw the Women's Lobby organise its own conference, timed to coincide with an official round of negotiations on the future status of Kosovo. A final conference resolution called for independence for Kosovo, compliance with UN Resolution 1325 and priority to be accorded to human as opposed to national/military security.

**Protection and rights of women victims of violence** / cfd partner Women's Wellness Centre in Peja is a major voice in Kosovo and a point of reference for the protection and rights of women victims of violence. Together with the other four women's refuges, it managed in 2006 to get the Ministry of Social Affairs to provide funding for its running costs. This not least represents official recognition that domestic and sexual violence violates human rights and is a societal phenomenon. The Women's Wellness Centre is prominent in the relevant political groupings for seeking to improve the legal status of battered women, for taking action against domestic violence and for dealing with the perpetrators.

**cfd programme** / Kosovo's uncertain political future has ramifications for the cfd's partners. The economic situation continues to be fraught with difficulties. Foreign backers cannot/will not commit themselves, or even refuse. the cfd is committed to maintaining a presence during the important phase in Kosovo's status negotiations. Focused on core partnerships, the cfd supports organisational development as well as the peace and gender development work of its partner organisations. The decline in institutional funding and private donations means the cfd is having to wind up its project work in Bosnia-Herzegovina in the medium term. It is doing so gradually and in a responsible manner. As planned, the end of 2006 saw an end to the 10-year-plus collaboration in Zena BiH's project involving elderly people in Mostar. Zena BiH is now a well-established organisation, whose services for elderly people in Mostar are part of the social fabric. the cfd supports the organisation Krajiska Suza in Sanski in its efforts to improve its income streams. 2006 saw Krajiska Suza launch a mobile team providing care for the elderly: as well as making regular home visits, it carries out private contracts for which fees are paid. This has opened up a source of revenue capable of being expanded.

### **cfd partner organisations in Kosovo**

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Women's Wellness Centre Peja: psychosocial work with battered women; awareness-raising and advocacy work against domestic violence and human trafficking.

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Aureola: education programmes; income-improving projects and psychosocial counselling for women in Gillogovc and Obiliq.

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Gender Training and Research Centre: organisational development for women's organisations; gender training courses for institutions and companies; multilingual centre for information and documentation in Prishtina.

### **cfd partner organisations in Bosnia-Herzegovina**

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Krajiska Suza: psychosocial centre for women in Sanski Most; training and employment for women in care for the elderly; committed to social policies that protect the rights of women.

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Zena BiH: day centre; psychosocial supervision and home visits for elderly people in Mostar; lobbying for an improvement in social policies (until 2006).

## **Financial report**

The financial statement for the year 2006 once again ended in the red with a surplus of expenditure over income of 53,265 francs. The result was significantly better than the budgeted loss for 2006 because of additional income amounting to 400,000 francs acquired following the emergency mailing.

In the year 2006 donors supported the cfd with 965,800 francs and church communities with 527,700 francs. Contributions from institutions stood at around 1,705,800 francs. Compared to the previous year, this represents a very small overall increase of 15,500 francs, including the emergency mailing.

The loss of 53,265 francs was once again covered by a withdrawal from the freely disposable reserves. The ongoing strategy process and corresponding measures must lead, in the medium term, to a situation in which the cfd will once again be able to present balanced financial statements. The Executive and staff are working with outstanding commitment to secure the cfd's future.

We wish to thank all donors and donor organisations for their many years of loyalty and for the confidence which they place in the cfd. We hope that we will be able to count on your support in this difficult period.

**Cécile Bühlmann, Executive Director**

**Audit** / The Auditors KPMG Fides Peat, Gümligen, recommend approval of the annual financial statement by the Assembly of Members based on the report of 23 April 2007.

**The detailed annual financial statement and the full audit report can be consulted on the Website [www.cfd-ch.org](http://www.cfd-ch.org) or ordered from the cfd: Tel. +41 31 300 50 60 or [info@cf-d.ch](mailto:info@cf-d.ch)**

## Balance sheet as of 31 December 2006

	Notes	2006 CHF	2005 CHF		Notes	2006 CHF	2005 CHF
<b>Assets</b>				<b>Liabilities</b>			
Cash and equivalents	1	729,239	1,011,986	Liabilities	7	54,055	80,140
Receivables	2	23,407	52,938	Expenses accrued	8	170,557	157,379
Deferred receivables	3	328,964	385,511	Short-term borrowings		224,612	237,519
<b>Current assets</b>		<b>1,144,610</b>	<b>1,450,435</b>	<b>Financial liabilities</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>323,400</b>	<b>372,083</b>
Physical fixed assets	4	810,392	840,500	Long-term borrowings		323,400	372,083
Financial assets	5	509,372	530,749	Total foreign funds (proceeds)	10	748,777	999,012
<b>Fixed assets</b>		<b>1,319,764</b>	<b>1,371,249</b>	Total domestic funds (proceeds)	11	73,800	73,800
Physical fixed assets		224,400	224,400	Total Foundation funds	12	451,942	442,999
Financial assets		192,630	191,468	<b>Fund capital</b>		<b>1,274,519</b>	<b>1,515,811</b>
Fixed assets earmarked for specific purposes	6	417,030	415,868	Tied capital	13	620,525	620,525
				Freely disposable capital	14	438,348	491,614
				Organisation capital		1,058,873	1,112,139
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>2,881,404</b>	<b>3,237,552</b>	<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>2,881,404</b>	<b>3,237,552</b>

## Operating accounts

	Notes	2006 CHF	2005 CHF		Notes	2006 CHF	2005 CHF
<b>Income</b>				<b>Operating expenditure</b>			
Freely disposable income	15			Project expenditure			
Freely disposable donations		1,058,028	719,994	Foreign project support	19	-2,202,472	-2,323,402
Freely disposable bequests/ donations		22,653	27,500	Contributions, domestic		-3,464	-34,953
Tied income, domestic	16			Personnel expenditure		-745,117	-780,128
Donations for domestic projects		76,474	84,015	Travel and entertainment		-27,987	-32,111
Contributions for domestic projects		89,902	119,666	Material costs		-219,883	-199,024
Bequests for domestic projects		0	127,536	Depreciation	20	-15,877	-20,717
Tied income, foreign	16			<b>Total project expenditure</b>		<b>-3,214,800</b>	<b>-3,390,335</b>
Donations for foreign projects		135,575	134,433	Administrative expenditure			
Contributions for foreign projects	19	1,816,661	1,970,670	Membership contributions		-590	-3,650
<b>Total donations and contributions</b>		<b>3,199,293</b>	<b>3,183,814</b>	Personnel expenditure	21	-514,631	-455,355
Other operating income				Travel and entertainment		-4,517	-4,306
Members' contributions	17	15,570	31,210	Material costs	21	-215,345	-297,717
Services and activities		146,060	143,701	Depreciation	20	-8,104	-11,683
Project management/Performance	18	249,471	257,109	<b>Total administrative Expenditure</b>		<b>-743,187</b>	<b>-722,711</b>
<b>Total other operating income</b>		<b>411,101</b>	<b>432,020</b>	<b>Operating expenditure</b>		<b>-3,957,987</b>	<b>-4,163,046</b>
<b>Total income</b>		<b>3,610,394</b>	<b>3,615,834</b>	<b>Operating result</b>		<b>-347,593</b>	<b>-547,212</b>

	Notes	2006 CHF	2005 CHF
<b>Non-operational result</b>			
Financial result	22		
Financial expenditure		-4,735	-13,046
Financial income		10,741	30,901
Real property result	23		
Real property expenditure		-32,773	-30,032
Real property income		70,858	82,000
<b>Result before change in fund / organisation capital</b>		<b>-303,501</b>	<b>-477,389</b>

	Notes	2006 CHF	2005 CHF
<b>Fund result</b>			
Fund capital			
1. Income fund	10 / 11		
Withdrawal from foreign fund		342,526	360,047
Allocation to foreign fund		-92,290	-141,748
Withdrawal from domestic fund		0	200
Allocation to domestic fund		0	-74,000
2. Foundation fund	12		
Foundation fund income		15,797	13,958
Foundation fund expenditure		-6,854	-10,691
Allocation to Foundation fund		-8,944	-3,267
<b>Result before change in organisation capital</b>		<b>-53,265</b>	<b>-332,890</b>
Organisation capital	13		
Allocation to tied capital		0	-30,000
Withdrawal from tied capital		0	34,267
Withdrawal from freely disposable capital		53,265	328,623
<b>Annual result</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

# Origin and use of resources

## Origin of donations and contributions

Foundations and organisations 12%  
Private 30%  
Public institutions 42%  
Churches 16%

## Use of resources

Communication 5%  
Fund raising 4%  
Administration 15%  
Gender consultancy 3%  
Migrants projects 5%  
Feminist peace policy 4%  
Projects in the Mediterranean area 64%

One-third of the donations and contributions to the cfd comes from private donors. Two-thirds are financed by public institutions, churches as well as foundations and organisations. Donations by private persons are an essential criterion for the cfd to be able to apply for project money from public institutions and foundations. The main focus of work by the cfd continues to be placed on the Mediterranean area.