

Farewell after Many Exciting Years

It will soon be nine years ago that I was selected to serve as cfd president. I did not know at the time exactly what this office would entail. Along with the usual presidential duties, I was soon asked to display skills for which I had no training as a feminist theologian and writer. My work increasingly revolved around concepts like organisational development, FER 21 and key figures, management by objective and strategy process. To my own surprise, I found these new tasks quite exciting and gained new skills with the help of my colleagues on the executive board. I therefore stand down from this office having learned much not only about feminist peace politics and migration policy, empowerment and a diversity of perspectives, but also about organisational issues. cfd has constantly changed, so my work never became routine. All these years it has remained varied but also challenging and demanding. After nine years in office, I shall officially stand down from my position as president at the Member Meeting in 2008. I believe my timing is auspicious. The strategy process aimed at formulating and implementing a new cfd strategy for the years ahead is now completed. The cfd ship is sailing through calmer waters and rays of hope are appearing here and there on the horizon.

There were a number of highlights to my work. The effective collaboration with the highly committed women and men who were my colleagues on the executive board was one. The intensive and productive exchange of ideas with managing directors was another. Others were my contact with a host of interesting employees, my encounters with impressive project partners, exciting events and continuing education seminars—including one very special highlight: “womanoeuvres”, cfd’s major international women’s peace conference at Rote Fabrik. I leave cfd with mixed feelings. On the one hand, I look forward to having more time in the future for my main endeavour, projects on feminist theology and inter-religious dialog; on the other hand, I will miss my colleagues and the multifaceted nature of the work at cfd. One thing is certain: I shall always retain a fondness for and loyalty to cfd.

Dr. Doris Strahm, President

Utilising Energies to Make More Things Possible

The new strategy for 2007 to 2011 took on visible form in the year under review. For the first time, all cfd employees are now all working under a single roof at the business office in Bern. This outward change was accompanied by a number of internal ones. New employees have given our organisation fresh impetus and new ideas, the cfd was restructured, departments were merged, an intermediate level (departmental heads) was introduced and a new position was created. Our hiring of a campaign director was an important step towards making cfd’s political convictions and substantive goals better heard by the interested public. The colourful and highly regarded stand we set up for the launch of the 0.7% Campaign at Bundesplatz in Bern was an initial sign of our increased presence. The new fund-raising and communications concepts have the same intention. cfd To give cfd the healthy financial base it needs, we decided to expand our fundraising activities moderately. Our goal is to achieve the greatest possible effect and visibility in the general public with a small budget. As a rather small non-profit organisation competing with a number of other institutions for donations, we hope all these efforts will help us to overcome our still tight financial situation.

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and BfA have clearly expressed their great respect for cfd’s work in discussions and negotiations, citing our clear profile and the excellent quality and tangible effects of our projects. This recognition has a welcome benefit, namely a commitment from SDC to fund 50% of our West Balkan programme over the next four years. Consequently, we will be able to consolidate the previous projects, reach out to new partners and expand cfd’s work on the Balkans.

There have been eventful changes in personnel and substance over the years. We remain highly motivated to working for gender equality in peace politics, international cooperation and migration policy in keeping with our feminist principles.

Cécile Bühlmann, Executive Director

International cooperation: **Palestine and Israel**

2007 will go down in the history of cfd as another year full of reversals and turmoil with regard to the Palestine/Israel Programme. Early summer saw the Hamas stage a violent uprising in the Gaza Strip followed by an escalation of the conflict and all the painful consequences that meant for the general population.

Each flare-up of the conflict in Gaza, each suicide bomber in Israel, each security incident inevitably results in setbacks or punishment for the people on the West Bank—destroyed homes, incarcerations, restrictions on mobility and military interventions. These obstacles are felt by cfd partners and by us. We must show great flexibility and trust to continue our work with our partners and not let the setbacks determine our course.

During our trips to the region, many women have told us what individual empowerment means to them and how crucial empowerment is for them in coping with personal difficulties and everyday life. This feedback is the most important confirmation of all for our work and of the commitment of those who contribute to our organisation. It enables and strengthens us while also challenging us to exercise the utmost attention and sensitivity in conducting the programmes in the future.

Women's Empowerment Project WEP in Gaza / A year of military intervention was followed in 2007 by the uprising in the Gaza Strip. It was marked by extreme brutality and placed psychological stresses on residents from which they have not yet recovered. The Palestinians bore the full, unmitigated brunt of the "War of Brothers". This conflict has since determined their everyday lives, which are driven by fear and overshadowed by depression. Once again, the effects of physical violence and psychological threat on women are many times more intense. They can scarcely go out on the streets and are practically excluded from public life as a result. Meeting at the WEP, obtaining psychological care, talking with like-minded people and strengthening each other are among the few, if limited, possibilities they have of escaping somewhat from the permanent state of tension and comforting each other.

The women have remained resolutely committed to WEP. They have engaged in crisis intervention and increased the number of clients. But they are in a state of total isolation. Our visits, conducted under difficult security conditions, are the only vital contact they have with the outside world.

Palestinian Working Women Society for Development PWWSD in Nablus / A major evaluation that cfd conducted at PWWSD has yielded encouraging results. The organisation has established itself as a permanent institution in community work in the minds of the people of Nablus. The evaluation found that men and fathers are turning in increasing numbers to PWWSD for family or individual counselling when they feel unable to deal with their own violent behaviour towards their families. This openness in the behaviour of individual men indicates how successful PWWSD has been in its public education work. The empowerment of women in the face of domestic violence also means men have to become involved. Only a joint change in the family can curb these outbreaks. cfd is heartened by the growing number of men and adolescents interested in counselling from PWWSD or in services such as group discussions or the library. The evaluation also revealed that the organisation has needs to cover in planning and staff development. In consultation with our partners, cfd devised and staged two workshops to help strengthen the organisation structurally.

Bethany / Marylène Schultz and Diet Koster are two names, of which our long-standing contributors in particular will have fond memories. Both women have been involved in the children and youth project in Bethany for over 40 years now. Diet retired at the end of 2007, just a few years after Marylène. She has no intention of calling it quits, though. She will remain active and loyal in supporting her "extended family". cfd formally ended its ties to Bethany at the end of the year but the friendships will remain alive on a personal level. The contact with Helen Stückelberger, who acted as liaison all these years between Marylène, Diet and cfd, will also be maintained.

cfid partner organisations in Palestine

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Women's Empowerment Project Gaza: Psychosocial programmes for women affected by political and domestic violence, community-oriented public relations.

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Centre for Women and Children in Nablus run by the Palestinian Working Women Society for Development: Psychosocial counselling for women and families, education and training programmes for women and support for empowerment groups, library, and activities programme for children.

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Jerusalem Link: Women's peace platform of the Palestinian Jerusalem Centre for Women, JCW, and of the Israeli women's peace organisation Bat Shalom, BS. JCW: Lobbies against the destruction of homes and against settlement policies, promotes women's participation in peace politics. BS: Conducts public relations/demonstrations against the destruction of homes in Jerusalem and the military lockdown of the Gaza Strip.

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TAM – Women, Media and Development: Empowers women in media businesses, sensitizes media makers to gender issues, stages training-of-trainers projects for film and media work, cooperates with local TV stations.

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Youth Home in Bethany: Project for children and young people without a viable social network (till the end of 2007).

cf. partner organisations in Israel

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Kayan: Launches and supports empowerment groups in Arab villages in northern Israel, provides legal counselling/support for women, fundamentals of feminist work and politics, sensitises the public to gender issues at educational institutions.

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Sidreh: Weaving project to generate income in Negev, training programmes for Bedouin women, training of opinion-makers for empowerment in the communities.

International cooperation: **Marocco and Algeria**

Processing violence in Sidi Moussa / Theoretically, the victims of Algerian terror in the 1990s and their families are entitled to claim compensation payments. To work through their traumatic experiences, it would be helpful if they knew who the perpetrators were and what exactly happened to their relatives. But they are not entitled to the truth.

The local populace can obtain support in this regard from the *Association pour l'aide psychologique, la recherche et la formation* (SARP). SARP offers therapeutic assistance in dealing with traumatic events as well as social and legal support. SARP considers itself part of the Algerian democracy movement. Its efforts help victims of political violence to work through their experiences and bring about reconciliation. The project is highly significant symbolically. Its mere existence is a political statement that atrocities cannot be swept under the rug.

In an evaluation and planning process in 2007, it was revealed that individual therapy is indeed important, but that the major issues are the fragmentation of the family and the community and the veil of silence shrouding the past. The question is: How can this silence be broken and trusting relationships re-established? SARP will therefore focus more in 2008 on psychosocial work and by doing so, indirectly address the subject of violent experiences.

Day Centre / The poorest segments of society in Moroccan Essaouira are benefiting only marginally from the economic upswing. In many families, children contribute to the joint income, causing them to neglect schooling or drop out of school altogether. For many children, the streets are one possible way of escaping poverty, crowded conditions and violence in the family. Bayti is an organisation that reaches out to these children early on in order to integrate them in its Day Centre. It works together with the families to create conditions that allow the children to return permanently to their own homes. As the number of street children continues to grow, Bayti is trying to obtain a new and larger Day Centre.

Along with its project work, Bayti lobbies for children's rights and takes part in information campaigns to raise public awareness about this issue. Staff from Bayti are often invited abroad to speak as experts.

Self-confident women / Mrs. S. set up a car repair shop with her husband and was employed there. When she confronted her husband directly about being unfaithful to her, he threw her out of their home and told her she could no longer work at the shop. Mrs. S. turned to the counselling agency *Ligue Démocratique pour les Droits de la Femme*, LDDF. With the help of the legal assistance she obtained at LDDF, she applied for a loan and is now setting up a business of her own. The LDDF counselling centres supported by cfd handled more than 1,700 such cases in 2007. The women who turn to LDDF all have one thing in common: they are victims of psychological, physical or economic violence originating mostly from their husbands. With empowerment and support from legal experts, psychologists and social workers, the women gain new self-confidence and demand their rights.

cfd partner organisations in Morocco

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LDDF – Ligue Démocratique pour les Droits de la Femme: Legal counselling and education for women, training of legal experts, monitoring of laws, campaigns for women’s rights, women’s house in Casablanca.

Solidarité Féminine: Psychosocial support, education and income for single mothers in the organisation’s own hammam and at two restaurants in Casablanca, professional child care.

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Bayti: Social work with street children and their families, assistance with the integration of street children in Essaouira in schools, lobbying and advocacy for children’s rights.

cfd partner organisations in Algeria

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SARP – Association pour l’aide psychologique, la recherche et la formation: Counselling centre in Sidi Moussa, youth work, networking with human rights and women’s rights organisations.

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CIDDEF – Centre d’Infomation et de Documentation sur les Droits de l’Enfant et de la Femme: Basic research, library, and information on women and children’s rights for activists and researchers in Algeria.

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UJSARIO – Sahrawi Youth Organisation: Sets up and operates children and youth centres in refugee camps, trains activities directors (up to the end of 2007).

Cooperation in Switzerland

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SUKS: Sponsor organisation of the Swiss Support Committee for the Sahrawi (up to the end of 2007).

International cooperation: **Southeastern Europe**

Recognition / The Bosnian women’s organisation *Krajiska Suza* was awarded the North-South Award of the Romero House in Lucerne along with a cash prize and a Letter of Support from the Bosnian Chairman of the Council of Ministers. Despite this material and intellectual support, *Krajiska Suza* continues to face difficult conditions in performing its social work. The situation in the health care system deteriorated again in 2007. The state eliminated the list of drugs for which it covered up to 80% of the costs. The recent introduction of a deductible poses a hardship particularly for the elderly. Many retired people can therefore only go to the doctor’s in an absolute emergency. These leads to chronic illnesses. The winter was unusually cold and the elderly had to be transported from their unheated flats to the Day Centre. This service incurred additional costs for *Krajiska Suza*, which were scarcely defrayed by private payments and which the budget of the Social and Health Ministry is too small to cover. Another challenge for the team is the change in disease patterns. An increasing number of elderly people suffer from Alzheimer’s disease or other forms of dementia. It was important that the team receive further training in geriatrics. This training was conducted in October and provided the women with valuable skills.

Prevention of gender-specific violence / The Kosovo Women Wellness Centre in Peja offers a variety of training and events on the prevention of gender-specific violence. The centre created pertinent courses in a pilot project and conducted them jointly with and for the police. On the legislative front, the director works together with pertinent government agencies on issues of gender equality and good governance and helps to shape new laws through these efforts. Bills and other measures on trafficking in human beings, violence prevention and corruption are part of this work. The organisation found a property for constructing its own women's centre. The city of Peja provided a site for the building and part of the financing has been secured. In 2007 a total of 53 women with 36 children found shelter in the former woman's centre, which was rented. About 70 women came for longer term psychosocial, medical and legal counselling.

Improving women's participation in politics / Women's participation in politics is the focal issue for the cfd partner organisation Gender Training and Research Centre, GTRC. In addition to providing training for institutions, schools and businesses, GTRC was politically active in the period leading up to the elections in November. It issued a brochure presenting for the first time all women candidates with their political platforms. Two of the 13 positions for government ministers are now filled by women, which is considered a major success.

cfid Programme / cfd co-supported the partner organisation Aureola in Kosovo for the last time in the year under review, as planned. Our intensive and long-standing support thus came to a close. The negotiations with SDC hold out the prospect of a portfolio contribution for four years being granted in November. This step is highly encouraging for the continuation of effective project work in the years ahead in Kosovo and Bosnia-Herzegovina. However, cfd has to generate 50% of the SDC contribution from its own resources and therefore shoulders a much larger financial responsibility than before.

cfid partner organisations in Kosovo

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Women's Wellness Centre in Peja: Psychosocial work with women affected by domestic violence. Activities to sensitise the public to and advocate against domestic violence and human trafficking.

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Aureola: Education and training programmes, projects for generating income and psychosocial counselling for women in Glogovc and Obiliq (up to 2007).

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Gender Training and Research Centre: Organisational development for women's organisations, gender training for institutions and companies. Multilingual centre for information and documentation in Pristina.

cfid partner organisation in Bosnia-Herzegovina

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Krajiska Suza: Psychosocial centre for women in Sanski Most. Women's training and acquisition of skills pertaining to the care of the elderly. Commitment to just social policies for women.

Gender Equality and Peace Building

Sexual violence in post-war areas/The mandate for counselling on gender and peace-building issues from SDC was integrated in the Department of International Cooperation at cfd to improve the exchange of information and increase the visibility of this activity among professional organisations. Under the mandate, cfd provides its expertise on gender issues in conflicts to SDC. It does so by creating instruments and generating specialized knowledge or by directly supporting and assisting SDC programmes on gender-specific violence. One focal point was the programme of the Swiss Humanitarian Aid Unit of SDC on the prevention of sexual violence against women and children in post-war Burundi. In the wars in the Burundi and Congo region in the 1990s and in early 2000, sexual violence was a systematic war strategy, particularly rape and the sexual enslavement of women and girls by militia and paramilitary units. Sexual violence continues to be widespread after the end of the war. The majority of the perpetrators now are civilians with social or family connections to the women, e.g. relatives, neighbours or patrons. The large percentage of children and young people among the victims is particularly striking. Local experts attribute this high portion to the disintegration of societal

structures and values because of the wars. Men are also victims of sexual violence, but these acts are considered more taboo than violence against women. The victims are marked for life. HIV infections are frequent and the consequences for the victimized children and women are lethal. They are stigmatized by society and abandoned by their families, particularly women who were raped and subsequently burdened with unwanted pregnancies. They have to struggle through life with no support from anyone.

cfid developed psychosocial projects in collaboration with the Office for Psychosocial Issues (OPSI), Swiss Humanitarian Aid Unit (SHA) and local partners to address women's legal and economic needs and trained local staff in psychosocial methodology. To ensure lasting support for the projects, a study was done to determine whether treatments for victims of sexual violence could be integrated in the health care system. The recommendations have already been implemented as part of the SDC programme to strengthen the health sector at provincial level.

Financial report 2007

The financial statement for the year 2007 ended in the red with a surplus of expenditure over income of 15,519 francs. Because of the cost savings made and the reversal of provisions, the result was significantly better than the budgeted loss for the year 2007.

In the year 2007, donors supported the cfd with 647,600 francs and church communities with 509,500 francs. Contributions by institutions totalled around 1,747,800 francs. Overall revenue was therefore 294,400 francs down on the previous year; this is explained by the fact that the cfd reported exceptionally high income following the emergency mailing in 2006.

The loss of 15,519 francs was once again made good by withdrawal from the freely disposable reserves. In the medium-term, the new strategy and its implementing measures must lead to a situation in which the cfd is once again able to submit balanced accounts. The Executive and staff are working with the utmost 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, with your support, we will be able to consolidate the cfd in the coming year.

Cécile Bühlmann, Executive Director

Audit / The Auditors Treuhand Lehmann AG, Bern recommend approval of the annual financial statement by the Assembly of Members based on the report of 12 March 2008.

The detailed annual financial statement and the full audit report can be consulted on the Website www.cfd-ch.org or ordered from the cfd: Tel. +41 31 300 50 60 or info@cfid-ch.org.

Balance sheet as of 31 December 2007

	Notes	2007 CHF	2006 CHF		Notes	2007 CHF	2006 CHF
Assets				Liabilities			
Cash and equivalents	1	577,758	792,239	Liabilities	7	66,194	54,055
Receivables	2	31,038	23,407	Expenses accrued	8	128,947	170,557
Deferred receivables	3	359,841	328,964	Short-term borrowings		195,141	224,612
Current assets		968,637	1,144,610	Financial liabilities	9	307,400	323,400
Physical fixed assets	4	788,461	810,392	Long-term borrowings		307,400	323,400
Financial assets	5	509,372	509,372	Total foreign funds (proceeds)	10	710,975	748,777
Fixed assets		1,297,833	1,319,764	Total domestic funds (proceeds)	11	9,600	73,800
Physical fixed assets		0	224,400	Total Foundation funds	12	546,960	451,942
Financial assets		546,960	192,630	Fund capital		1,267,535	1,274,519
Fixed assets earmarked for specific purposes	6	546,960	417,030	Tied capital	13	620,525	620,525
				Freely disposable capital	14	422,829	438,348
				Organisation capital		1,043,354	1,058,873
Total assets		2,813,430	2,881,404	Total liabilities		2,813,430	2,881,404

Operating accounts

	Notes	2007 CHF	2006 CHF		Notes	2007 CHF	2006 CHF
Income				Operating expenditure			
Freely disposable income	15			Project expenditure			
Free disposable donations		779,401	1,058,028	Foreign project support	19	-2,026,074	-2,202,472
Freely disposable bequests/ donations		14,655	22,653	Contributions, domestic		-2,055	-3,464
Tied income, domestic	16			Personnel expenditure		-654,975	-745,117
Donations for domestic projects		40,246	76,474	Travel and entertainment		-23,993	-27,987
Contributions for domestic projects		82,706	89,902	Maintenance and repairs	22	-402	0
Tied income, foreign	16			Material costs	23	-96,129	-219,883
Donations for foreign projects		182,541	135,575	Depreciation	20	-15,598	-15,877
Contributions for foreign projects	19	1,805,383	1,816,661	Total project expenditure		-2,819,226	-3,214,800
Total donations and contributions		2,904,932	3,199,293	Administrative expenditure			
Other operating income				Contributions to third parties		-495	-590
Members' contributions	17	56,080	15,570	Personnel expenditure	21	-424,480	-514,631
Services and activities		114,380	146,060	Travel and entertainment		-5,571	-4,517
Project management/Performance	18	268,309	249,471	Maintenance and repairs	22	-1,233	0
Total other operating income		438,769	411,101	Material costs	23	-365,163	-215,345
				Depreciation	20	-16,072	-8,104
				Total administrative expenditure		-813,014	-743,187
Total income		3,343,701	3,610,394	Operating expenditure		-3,632,240	-3,957,987
				Operating result		-288,539	-347,593

	Notes	2007 CHF	2006 CHF
Non-operational result			
Financial result	24		
Financial expenditure		-7,343	-4,735
Financial income		19,063	10,741
Real property result	25		
Real property expenditure		-36,069	-32,772
Real property income		92,996	70,858
Result before change in fund / organisation capital		-219,892	-303,501

	Notes	2007 CHF	2006 CHF
Fund result			
Fund capital			
1. Income fund	10 / 11		
Withdrawal from foreign fund		168,125	342,526
Allocation to foreign fund		-130,323	-92,290
Withdrawal from domestic fund		64,000	0
2. Foundation fund	12		
Foundation fund income		434,866	15,797
Foundation fund expenditure		-15,448	-6,854
Allocation to foundation fund		-416,847	-8,944
Withdrawal from foundation fund		100,000	0
Result before change in organisation capital		-15,519	-53,256
Organisation capital	13		
Allocation to tied capital		0	0
Withdrawal from tied capital		0	0
Withdrawal from freely disposable capital		15,519	53,265
Annual result		0	0

Origin and use of resources 2007

Origin of donations and contributions

Foundations and organisations 27%
Private 24%
Public institutions 32%
Churches 17%

Use of resources

Administration 16%
Communication 3%
Fund raising 6%
Gender consultancy 3%
Migrants projects 5%
Feminist peace policy 2%
Campaigning 1%
Projects in the Mediterranean area 64%

One-quarter of the donations and contributions to the cfd comes from private donors. Three-quarters 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.

Donations and contributions for foreign projects

Private persons	86,800	4.4%
Church communities and church organisations	253,102	12.7%
Brot für Alle	192,212	9.7%
Brot für Alle/Deza	369,848	18.6%
Deza	226,241	11.4%
“Chain of luck”	464,036	23.3%
Cantons, cities, local authorities	273,000	13.7%
Companies, foundations and sundry organisations	122,685	6.2%
Total	1,987,924	100.0%

Expenditure on projects in the Mediterranean area

Balkans 21%
Maghreb 37%
Palestine/Israel 42%