



Essential  
**2023**



# President's report

**Rachid Lahlou** - *President-Founder*

I have the honour and pleasure of sharing this 2023 report with you, despite the fact that 2023 was yet another year in which the situation in France and many other regions of the world gave great cause for alarm.

Although our vital private donations and institutional funding enabled SIF to help even more people in need, we remain only too well aware of all that remains to be done. For all humanitarian organisations, and for SIF in particular, 2023 was an unprecedented year for emergencies, conflicts and other disasters. In our 32 years of experience, we have rarely – if ever – encountered such an accumulation of crises in a single year.

These included major earthquakes in Syria, Turkey, and Morocco, deadly floods in Libya, plus the conflict currently affecting the Palestinian people in Gaza with its dire humanitarian consequences and for which there is no end in sight. And not forgetting either «the forgotten crises» that fall below the media's radar, but which continue to impact the entire populations of Yemen, Sudan, Lebanon, Chad, Iraq, Somalia and Madagascar, or those linked to climate change and which cause mass population displacements as a last chance for survival...

An extremely challenging situation for all of the children, women and men who are affected.

To help build a more caring and just world where the basic needs of the most vulnerable people are met, we at SIF must continue our efforts by focusing more than ever on our three pillars: human development, living well together, and respect for the environment.



## INCOME STATEMENT BY SOURCE AND FUNCTION (CROD)

The CROD is certified by statutory auditors Baker Tilly.

EXPENDITURE BY FUNCTION in €K	TOTAL 2023 in €K	From funds raised from the public in €K
SOCIAL MISSIONS	€52,256	€25,444
FUNDRAISING EXPENSES	€4,265	€4,265
OPERATING COSTS	€1,693	€814
PROVISIONS AND DEPRECIATION	€2,624	€477
INCOME TAX	€123	
ALLOCATED FUNDS CARRIED OVER AT YEAR-END	€21,401	€19,135
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>€82,362</b>	<b>€50,135</b>
SURPLUS OR DEFICIT (surplus)	€3,027	€5,154

Those uses are funded by the following resources:

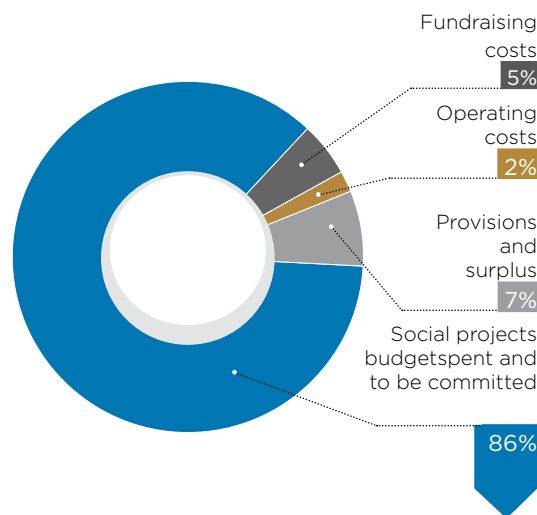
INCOME BY SOURCE (RESOURCES) in €K	TOTAL 2023 IN €K	From funds raised from the public
FUNDS RAISED FROM THE PUBLIC	€47,329	€47,329
OTHER INCOME NOT LINKED TO PUBLIC DONATIONS	€26,542	
GRANTS & OTHER PUBLIC SUBSIDIES	€3,084	
REVERSAL OF PROVISIONS AND DEPRECIATION	€355	€355
UTILISATION OF ALLOCATED FUNDS FROM PREVIOUS PERIODS	€8,079	€7,605
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>€ 85,389</b>	<b>€55,289</b>

Total of 2023 fundraising resources spent in 2023	€30,523
% of 2023 fundraising resources spent in 2023	64%
Ratio private fundraising 2023/ private fundraising 2023	9%

## USE OF RESOURCES (TOTAL USES 2023: €59.1 MILLION)

The total amount spent in 2023, namely €58 million, is made up of 2023 project costs (€52.2 million), fundraising costs (€4.3 million) and operating costs (€1.7 million).

The breakdown of the 2023 expenditure is detailed below:



- 61%: primarily in terms of international actions. Almost 100% of our programs are executed directly by SIF, without operational partners.

- 25%: Social missions to be accomplished: funds to expand over upcoming years out of which SIF does not take any operating costs or fundraising costs.

Spending on social projects increased (+25%), rising from €41.7 million in 2022 to €52.3 million in 2023.

# SIF in 2023

€77 M

of new income in 2023

62%  
private donations

38%  
public donations

carbon footprint

916

tons/year of CO<sub>2</sub> eq in France

94 026  
private donors

1 076  
staff members

604  
volunteers

22  
countries

1,3 M  
beneficiaries

# International projects missions

€48.9 M

Around the world, SIF works in 15 different countries in Africa, Asia and the Middle East. SIF is also active in 7 other countries through partnerships with local and international NGOs operating in 4 main fields: shelter and accommodation, access to water, sanitation and hygiene (human rights recognised by the UN General Assembly), Education and child welfare (using the child right based approach).

## A MULTI-SECTOR REHABILITATION RESPONSE TO THE DEVASTATING EARTHQUAKES OF FEBRUARY 2023

During the night of 5th to 6th February 2023, a devastating earthquake hit the north of Syria and south-east Turkey. This disaster of unprecedented magnitude killed 50,000 people, led to mass population displacement and destroyed infrastructure. With our UN partners, SIF implemented multi-sector projects in Syria during both the emergency and post-emergency phases.

Having worked in Syria since 2008, we first provided assistance to those affected in Aleppo, Lattakia, Tartous, Jableh, and Qerdaha. We distributed 1,700 emergency kits, including mattresses, in Aleppo and Tartous, and food aid to more than 4,100 people in Lattakia. We then adapted our projects for the post-emergency phase to address the infrastructure and basic service needs of the people affected and enable them to gradually resume a normal life.

These SIF projects involved rehabilitating 233 houses damaged in the earthquake, providing assistance assisting 295 families in the governorates of Lattakia, Homs and Aleppo.



# France mission

€2,8 M

## "TABLES DU RAMADAN"

After a 3-year hiatus due to the pandemic, the "Tables du Ramadan" returned to its initial spot around the Stade de France in Saint-Denis, near Porte de Paris, from 23 March to 20 April 2023.

In a 1,200m<sup>2</sup> marquee that was open to all, between 800 and 1,300 meals consisting of salad or borek, soup, a hot dish, dates and fruit were served each evening to enable people to spend a few hours in good company and, for some, to lighten their loneliness.

To provide support to homeless people unable to get to our marquee, meals cooked by the "Tables du Ramadan" were distributed each evening during the social patrols. 30 to 80 volunteers worked each day preparing and serving the meals, welcoming the guests, clearing and cleaning up to keep the place tidy for everyone to use. The SIF teams also contributed to the success of this event through both their availability and their professionalism.

Everybody, from beneficiaries to volunteers and staff, came together each evening to socialise and have a good time.

Of course, we would not be able to carry out such a campaign without the active support of our donors, who visited us onsite, and of the municipal council of Saint-Denis.

All in all, with the help of 600 volunteers, we served over 33,000 meals, and provided several thousand people with a place to meet and interact.

# Advocacy

€0,6 M

## THE "S-EAU-S" ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN

In 2023, SIF launched the "S-Eau-S!" (SOS! Commitments not Silence) campaign with Action contre la Faim and Coalition Eau to urge France's president to attend the March 2023 UN Water Conference and ensure France's development assistance includes ambitious water-related commitments.

This campaign included a range of activities, such as a humorous video calling out the President of the Republic, media interviews, speaking at events, and meetings with the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, the Minister for Ecological Transition, and the President's Office. Several of our recommendations were ultimately included in France's position at the conference. SIF welcomes the support for nominating a UN special envoy for water, which we called for in our campaign, as well as the organisation of regular inter-government meetings on water under the aegis of the UN.

We continued to advocate on these issues after the conference. In June, SIF was one of the signatories of an open letter to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, which reiterated our demand for the rapid appointment of a special envoy for water and regular inter-governmental meetings. In September 2023, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution on global water governance, which includes an intergovernmental meeting in 2026 and a conference in Tajikistan in 2028 to mark the end of the International Decade for Action on water.



## Subsidiaries & affiliates

**DOTASIF:** The Secours Islamique France endowment fund, DOTASIF, has been managing Waqf<sup>1</sup> donations from SIF (by endowment each year of all Waqf donations net of expenses) since 2010. The statutory purpose of DOTASIF is to earn a return on these Waqf investments and pass this onto SIF42 for its social projects (c.f. the DOTASIF activity report for details of the latest programme financed). The SIF Board of Directors is also the supervisory body of the endowment fund and it appoints its own board members to the DOTASIF board. In addition, DOTASIF is required to have an Expert Committee that helps choose its risk-free investments (property investment thus far), ensuring they comply with the ethics that underpin Waqf donations. In 2023, DOTASIF transferred its net profit of €44,530 gained fund to partially fund our 2023 programmes for cataract surgeries in Burkina Faso.

### **SAS SOLECOINSERT:**

The simplified joint stock company, Société par Actions Simplifiée SOLECOINSERT, created on 10th January 2019 (with capital of €57,000 provided by SIF) has been set up to manage SIF's second-hand clothes shop (Vet'Sol). To grow the proceeds from this activity, SIF, a non-profit organisation, has had to split from Vet'Sol (partly to finance our humanitarian projects, but mainly to develop Vet'Sol in accordance with social economy and solidarity legislation).

### **SCI SIFHABITAT:**

SCI SIFINVEST and SIFHABITAT were merged into Société Civile Immobilière SIFHABITAT, previously known as SCI SIF MASSY, over the course of 2023. These SCI all had the same partners, same management and same corporate purpose.

This internal reorganisation has brought the three legal entities under one umbrella as there was no longer any reason to keep them separate. In addition, this reorganisation has helped streamline the 'SIF group' by simplifying SIF set-up and asset ownership methods and by improving the management and optimisation of overheads and management costs. SIF holds 17,743 of SCI SIFHABITAT's 19,574 shares; the remaining 1,831 shares are held by DOTASIF.

SIFHABITAT owns 2 buildings that are rented by SIF. SIF has extended our traditional rental agreements with the SCI for 10 rue Galvani in Massy and 58 bd Ornano in Saint-Denis. It made more sense for SIF to purchase our offices via a SCI than directly.

SCI SIFHABITAT also owns a property in Paris, part of which is rented out to an association.

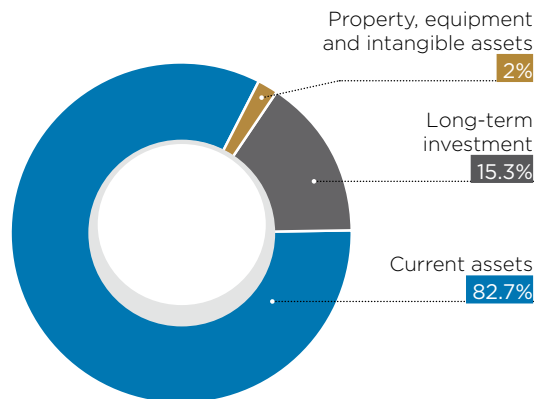
<sup>1</sup> Inalienable donations from which any profit made is used on SIF social and humanitarian projects.

# Situation to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2023

SIF remains in a strong financial position with a total balance sheet of €93 million.

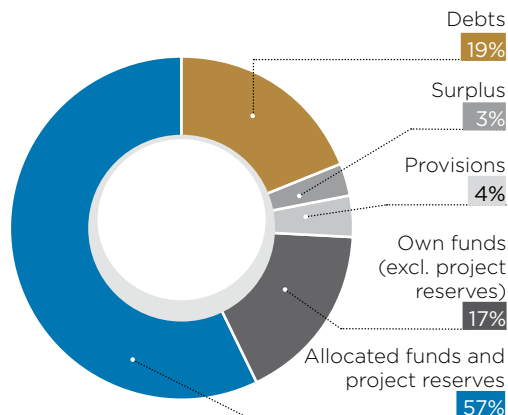
## ASSETS:

2023 Nand Assets



## LIABILITIES:

Liabilities: 2023



## RESERVE POLICY

As defined by the law, unspent funds (general funds - excluding waqf and Zakât El Maal funds) may appear as a surplus of resources (result), then be placed in free reserves. In order to ensure the sustainability of our projects, the SIF GA has approved putting 6 month's budget cover into the free reserve, outside of self-financed programmes.

As for dedicated funds, they can not be included in reserves in any circumstances.

They are recorded as unutilized funds and always used for their intended purpose (according to the donors' wishes). It is worth noting that at SIF, Waqf donations are allocated to a Waqf reserve for DOTASIF and Zakât El Maal donations will go to the project reserve created for them. Precautionary principles are applied to the utilisation of SIF reserves, which may be invested. The aim of this investment is to prevent the depreciation of these reserves pending their use. To ensure any urgent funding needs can be met, some of this secure investment must remain available for withdrawal at any time.

## THE ESSENTIAL, SIGN OF CONFIDENCE

At SIF, it is "Essential" to publish our balance sheet and the cost of our activities in France and abroad. The Essential is a summary of our annual report; it clearly and concisely sets out our accounts and interventions. This document also proves our transparency, guaranteed by the label "Don en Confiance".

## OUR PROJECT

Founded in 1991, Secours Islamique France (SIF) is an international Non Governmental Organisation of solidarity dedicated to reducing poverty and vulnerability in France and around the world without any proselytism nor discrimination.

We intervene wherever humanitarian and social needs require the mobilization of emergency response as well as the implementation of development programmes and advocacy actions. On the international level, SIF is mainly active in four sectors: Education and child welfare, Food security and livelihood, Water and sanitation, Shelter and accommodation. In France, our organisation is active in fighting against poverty and exclusion: Social emergency, Socio-educational and professional integration and Solidarity economy.

Our ambition is to reinforce and develop our humanitarian and social missions in the above mentioned sectors, in order for SIF to be a major humanitarian and social actor, faithful to its Muslim values, completely a part of French and global NGOs' fabric. SIF is fully committed in human development, good living together and respect for the environment ([cf. Associative project & strategic plan](#)).

## OUR OPERATING MODEL

In 2023, SIF relied on 165 employees in France, 986 expatriates and local employees in countries of intervention. In France, around 604 volunteers support our organisation.

Most of these resources (62% for a total of 77 million euros, in 2023) are almost entirely private donations collected in France in response to different campaigns launched by SIF via internet, mailing or even during

numerous events and meetings organised with partners all over France.

Our organisation is also supported (32% new resources) by several institutional donors such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development, the Agence Française du développement (AFD) or the United Nations agencies (Unicef, UNHCR...).

SIF also relies on contributions in kind (81 K€ volunteering and donations in kind).

The commitment of our volunteers - which we thank - allowed us to carry out, in France, concrete actions with people in need: solidarity meals, parcels, social patrols...

## BY NOMIC OF CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

As a part of our internal process, to monitor our management we carry out internal and external audits (statutory auditor, Don en confiance...).

Impacts of our programmes, are also assessed both internally and externally (by development partners, etc.).

## STATUTARY AUDITORS

SIF obtained unqualified certification of its 2023 audited accounts by the Statutory Auditor Baker Tilly. The accounts of DOTASIF and SIFMASSY have also been fully certified by the statutory auditors Baker Tilly. The accounts of all our entities are available on our website.

## DON EN CONFIANCE

"[Don en Confiance](#)" is a labelling body that audits non-profit organisations that receive public donations. SIF has been working under this label since 2011 and is committed to upholding its governance, management and communication principles and rules of conduct.

All the information of the Essential are extracted from the Annual Report or the certified accounts. All those certified documents are available on our website: [www.secours-islamique.org](http://www.secours-islamique.org)



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SIF is approved by  
"Don en Confiance"

