

ANNUAL REPORT

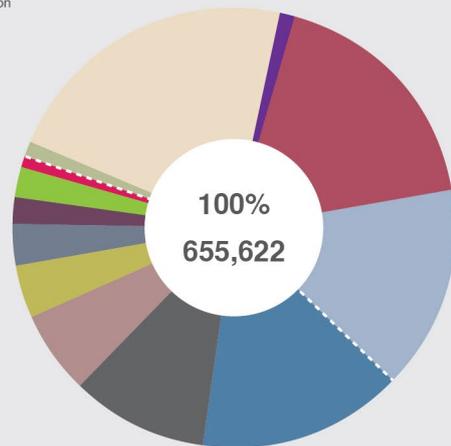
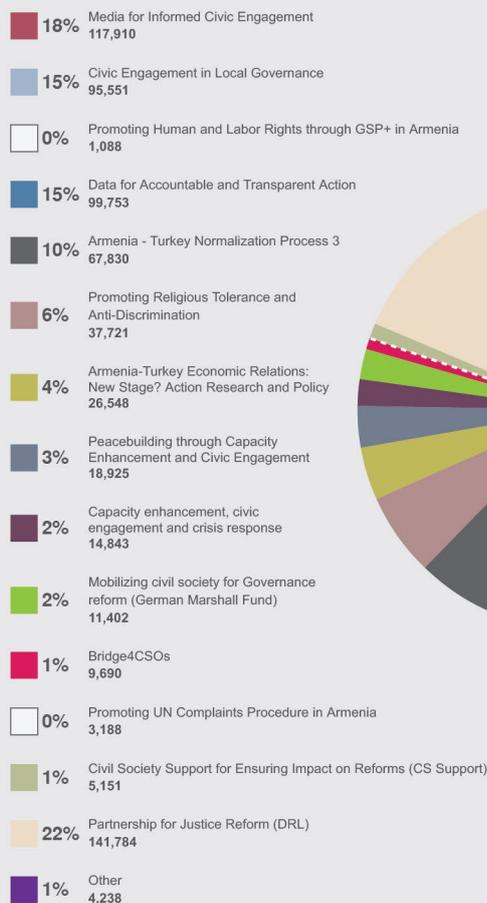
2021

FINANCIALS 2020

EURASIA PARTNERSHIP FOUNDATION DECEMBER 31, 2020		
	31.12.20	31.12.19
US dollars	As of December 31, 2020	As of December 31, 2019
ASSETS		
Non-current assets		
Property and equipment	415,636	22,667
Intangible assets	-	-
Deferred tax assets	-	-
Prepayments for acquisition of property and equipment	-	-
Subtotal	415,636	22,667
Current assets		
Inventories	-	-
Accounts receivable	205,928	136,202
Term deposits	1,268,038	-
Current income tax assets	1,564	1,934
Bank balances	1,183,101	857,329
Subtotal	2,658,631	995,465
Total assets	3,074,267	1,018,132
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Non-current liabilities		
Grants related to assets	22,201	18,497
Subtotal	22,201	18,497
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	80,107	86,447
Deferred income	2,255,074	827,344
Current income tax liabilities	-	-
Subtotal	2,335,181	913,791
RESERVES		
Accumulated result (unrestricted)	356,447	102,035
Founder's contribution	399,931	-
Foreign currency translation reserve	(39,493)	(16,191)
Subtotal	716,885	85,844
Total liabilities and net assets	3,074,267	1,018,132

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Horton Beebe-Center President Emeritus of Eurasia Foundation
Andrew Coxshall Kingsland Quality Consulting Limited
Anna Ohanyan Stonehill College
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2020 ANNUAL REPORT

THE PANDEMIC, THE WAR AND EPF WORK

In January 2020, when the first cases of COVID-19 were registered, the world could not imagine the obstacles the pandemic would create and the new challenges that would emerge in the organization of everyday life and work globally. Across the world, enterprises and organisations, both large and small, global, international and local, faced the problem of creating or developing alternative means of cooperation and communication in the shortest possible time. EPF has a large network of partners in Yerevan, in all the marzes of Armenia and abroad. There was a necessity to quickly adjust, reorganize and adapt to the new situation.

On March 16, 2020 EPF announced¹ that it would implement emergency remote work and, in the guidance it released on working during a pandemic, urged its partners to continue working remotely on projects. Subsequently, a number of organizational guidelines were also sent to partners: by sharing its approach with partners, EPF sought to support their need to adapt to the new situation.

In the new situation work on projects transformed from in-person participatory to online and research-based. EPF organized and in some cases conducted a number of studies², of which the study of the Impact of COVID-19 on Migrants, commissioned by the International Organization for Migration, has had an immediate practical application: IOM immediately addressed the needs of vulnerable migrants living in Armenia. Within the framework of the DATA for Accountable and Transparent Action³ program, SOCIES Expert Center, in cooperation with DATA partners, conducted a survey on “Armenian CSOs in Crisis Situations.”⁴

On the occasion of June 14, the Day of Remembrance for the victims of the Soviet regime, EPF organized an online competition⁵. A number of creative works on the repressions of the 20th century were collected and archived: personal stories, photographs, videos, etc. This small archive is part of those platforms and archives that manage the recording of history, allowing people to study the stories of the recent past through the eyes of eyewitnesses.

Mardamej⁶, the EPF Annual Social Innovation Camp which brings together fifty to

1 EPF Announcement on Emergency Remote Work (in Armenian), Available at: <https://epfarmeria.am/hy/news/EPF-work-in-pandemic-condition-15March2020>

2 COVID-19 Related Vulnerabilities among Migrants in Armenia, Yerevan, 2020, Available at: https://epfarmeria.am/sites/default/files/Document/Rapid_Needs_Assessment.pdf

3 DATA for Accountable and Transparent Action program, Available at: <https://epfarmeria.am/project/Data-for-Accountable-and-Transparent-Action-Program>

4 Armenian CSOs in crisis situations (in Armenian), Yerevan, 2020, Available at: <https://epfarmeria.am/document/Research-Socies-Armenian-CSOs-in-Crisis>

5 “June 14” Online Competition Results (in Armenian), Yerevan 2020, Available at: <https://epfarmeria.am/hy/news/June-14-award-results>

6 Mardamej Social Innovation Camp, <https://epfarmeria.am/project/mardamej-social-innovation-camp>

sixty young people from all over Armenia, was successfully held online. We will tell you more about the successful programs of Mardamej 2020 in the other text of the report.

In the summer, EPF acquired Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN EcoSoc)⁷. This success would have been impossible without the trust and support that EPF receives from the international community concerned about Armenia.

On September 27 began the war which was catastrophic for Armenia and Artsakh (Nagorny Karabakh) and lasted 44 days. Throughout the war EPF continued to work, adapting its program priorities to the situation. Using advocacy tools to the extent of its abilities, the organization tried to present the realities of the war to the international community. EPF and its staff participated in charity work, helping displaced persons to adapt and addressing their needs.

Within the framework of its amended program ‘Civic Engagement, Capacity Building and Crisis Response,’ EPF announced a grant competition to which CSOs operating in Artsakh and Armenia applied. This program seeks to support civil society actors and young people in Armenia and Artsakh in developing critical thinking skills and acquiring skills that will help identify, evaluate, and effectively address post-war political, economic, social, psychological, cultural, and other consequences and issues. EPF hopes that this and other such programs can help consolidate peace in the region.

Through all its programs EPF strives to uphold international human rights standards and strengthen the rule of law in Armenia. Information on EPF legislative advocacy and human rights protection programs can be found in other sections of the report.

In the conditions of the pandemic and the war, EPF not only effectively transformed its programs in coordination with its supporters, but was also able to launch new grant programs supporting civil society, aimed at youth capacity building, human rights protection, poverty eradication and community development in Armenia. One of the important events for EPF, as well as for civil society organizations operating in Armenia, was that the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and EPF launched a new program actually during the war to support Armenian civil society by developing its capabilities and strategic positioning to work effectively in the post-revolutionary and post-war situation.

One of the main components of this program is the ‘Open Doors’ grant competition. As a result of the competition announced on March 18, 2021 EPF received many project proposals, 31 of which are already in the implementation phase. Brief descriptions of these projects are available on the EPF website⁸. This development shows that Armenian civil society, despite the catastrophic blows, continues to stand firm and determined in decisively addressing and solving today’s most profound problems.

⁷ EPF Statement on acquisition of Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN EcoSoc), Yerevan 2020, Available at: <https://epfarmeria.am/news/EPF-granted-special-consultative-status-with-the-United-Nations-ECOSOC>

⁸ Grants provided under the Support to Civil Society program, <https://epfarmeria.am/hy/subproject/SIDA-subgrants>

THE BEST PROJECTS OF THE “MARDAMEJ” SOCIAL INNOVATION CAMP OF 2020

The “Mardamej” social innovation camp, which has been held annually for nine years, is a creative event encouraging the use of alternative and innovative approaches in solving community problems. Every year, about 80 young people from the ten regions of Armenia develop innovative projects and then implement the best of them in their communities.

Due to the epidemic situation in the spring of 2020, “Mardamej” was held online. Although in-person communication is one of the keys to success, the online “Mardamej” camp also provided an opportunity to try new methods to achieve the goal of the program in a pandemic.

The authors of the “**Agrograget**¹” program of Shenik community of Armavir region aim to test and apply alternative methods of innovative agriculture. The volume of arable land, the scarce rural population, as well as the growing demand for agricultural products require new solutions. Through the courses, young people got acquainted with international experience and the opportunities to localise it in the community. The presentation of international experience and professional visits created an opportunity to open an agricultural consulting centre next to the Shenik municipality, which is coordinated voluntarily by agronomist Mkhitar Manukyan.

Residents are provided with necessary and useful information, as well as regularly organised agricultural courses on current topics by invited specialists. Beneficiaries of the centre have had the opportunity to attend courses on dried fruit production, organic & green agriculture and effective business management, which enables local residents to periodically enrich their knowledge on key topics for the village.

The emphasis on combining volunteerism with knowledge and experience is also a feature of the “**Book & Mixed**²” project implemented in Martuni. The goal of the project was the modernisation of libraries in the regions and stimulation of cultural life. Libraries mainly serve as a place to take and give books, while the modern library also performs social, communication, educational and other functions. It was planned to transform community libraries into places for educational and cultural events. The project started with visits to about 32 libraries in Gegharkunik region to *map* them. The main characteristics of the libraries were posted on the project’s Facebook page³: the photos and conditions of the buildings, the locations, the main books that are in great demand by readers, as well as the approximate number of active readers.

The initiative “Donate a book to the community library” was about restocking four community libraries with books collected from different corners of Armenia. Various cultural events were held, from street art to book discussions. With the support of the

1 See “Agrograget” project here: <https://www.facebook.com/GragetAgro>

2 See “Book & Mixed” project here: <https://bookmix20.wordpress.com/>

3 See “Book & Mixed” project’s FB page here: https://www.facebook.com/%D4%B3%D5%AB%D6%80%D6%84-%D5%AD%D5%A1%D5%BC%D5%A8-108762524282669/?ref=page_internal

initiative group and local government, the library staff received advice on reorganisation of internal and external communication, engagement of new beneficiaries, organisation of literary events, and other issues.

Street Art⁴ gave new life to the library of the Verin Getashen community.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of the team, the library of Artsvanist was moved to a much better location. The network of the *“Book & Mixed”* program has expanded: the team received cooperation proposals from young people in the Shirak and Aragatsotn regions to map their community libraries.

Combining the traditional and the picturesque, a number of young people - Margarita, Artush, Vardges, Grigor and others - decided to draw people’s attention to the crafts with decades of history in Gyumri, which are almost disappearing because the craftsmen have no students. According to Margarita, head of the **“I’ll give them wings, you give them wings”**⁵ project, information technologies and media are absorbing young people, pushing the beauty of lesser-known and partially studied crafts into the background. So the young people created a long read⁶ presenting the famous masters of Gyumri. In the long read they tell, for example, about Master Lulu and his craft (blacksmith) or the Muradyan family’s tradition of making phaetons, which has been going on for 130 years and is one of the attractions of Gyumri. The masters of these disappearing attractions in



4 See street art in Verin Getashen here: <https://www.facebook.com/syunikinfotun/posts/1653943638142411>

5 See EPF Armenia’s coverage about the project here: <https://www.facebook.com/EPFArmenia/posts/6078531352160788>

6 See the long read here: <http://shirakamej.tilda.ws/?fbclid=IwAR3cOMyJYGcwAWELAJfFnHV12m084RHdjQXqvg9IjigUX7Neb7aW5fpOu3g>

Gyumri were glad that young people were interested in their work because they needed followers. Margarita hopes that the program will also inspire young people from other regions to explore and find out the unique cultural features of their regions, which will be a bridge between youth and the few elders who preserve the community’s culture.

The project implemented in Goris, Sisian and Harzhis combined works of Armenian classic literature and the problems of modern society. The aim of the **“Marda mi dumjak”** (A sandwich to each one) program was to present the cases of human rights violations, which had also been a concern of Hovhannes Tumanyan in his time. Street art in Goris⁷, Harzhis⁸ and Sisian⁹ gives a new look to the dilapidated walls, but it also brings awareness to problems in society, such as the exploitation of teenagers (“Gikor”), the dangers of misinformation (“The death of Kikos”), or domestic violence (“Maro”). Via the QR codes on the info boards installed next to the images, one can get acquainted more in-depth with the essence of the problems raised in those images and modern approaches to them.



7 See the street art in Goris here: <https://www.facebook.com/syunikinfotun/posts/1657243131145795>

8 See the street art in village Harzhis here: <https://www.facebook.com/syunikinfotun/posts/1631381943731914>

9 See the street art in Sisian here: <https://www.facebook.com/syunikinfotun/posts/1653943638142411>