

THE FINNISH NGO FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS KIOS

ANNUAL REPORT 2006

English Summary

Annual Report 2006

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The Finnish NGO Foundation for Human Rights KIOS was established in September 1998 by eleven Finnish NGOs working with human rights and development issues. KIOS provides financial support for projects of local civil society organisations that work to promote or protect human rights in developing countries. The overall goal of KIOS is to promote human rights in developing countries, as human rights are defined in the treaties and instruments of the United Nations, and in other equivalent regional human rights instruments.

The most important operational objectives for 2006 were to direct more funding to geographical focus areas, to further develop organizational structure and administration of the foundation, and further enhance cooperation between KIOS, Abilis Foundation and Siemenpuu Foundation.

The revised strategy approved by the Executive Board of KIOS came into force in January 2006. According to the revised strategy KIOS prioritizes Democratic Rights, Gender Equality and Right to Education in its funding policy. The geographic focus area was extended to include more countries in Eastern Africa and South Asia. In Eastern Africa the focus countries are: Burundi, Djibouti, DRC, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. In South Asia the focus countries are: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Tibet.

During the year the Executive Board of KIOS made decisions on 365 project applications, out of which 21 was granted funding. At the end of 2006 there were 40 ongoing KIOS funded projects in 21 countries.

During the year KIOS strove to further improve its project management by e.g. taking part in Impact Assessment training for Finnish development organisations (run by KEPA Service Centre for Development Cooperation) and JÄRVI programme (run by Finnish Centre for Health Promotion and Finnish Federation for Social Welfare and Health). These trainings lead to several revisions and improvements of project management procedures at the Foundation.

The cooperation agreement for years 2006-2007 between The Ministry for Foreign Affairs and KIOS was signed on 02/12/2005. The agreement guarantees moderate growth of KIOS activities during the two years.



PROJECT FUNDING AND MANAGEMENT

When it comes to project funding the objective for 2006 was to direct more funds to projects that fall within the KIOS strategy in terms of focus rights and geographical areas. The goal was to direct more funds to projects in Eastern Africa and South Asia.

Applications

Altogether 334 applications from 67 countries were registered by KIOS in 2006. Out of received applications 53 were not registered because of project focus clearly falling outside of KIOS mandate. In average KIOS received 30 applications every month. The number of applications registered was considerably higher than in 2005 when 207 applications were registered. Besides applications KIOS received a large amount of enquiries on funding possibilities. The estimated number of these enquiries was 550-650. The growing number of enquiries and applications clearly shows that KIOS is becoming more widely known as a donor organization and is well established as an international human rights actor.

In the previous years the majority of the applications has come from Africa. This was also the case in 2006. KIOS received 147 new applications from Africa, 113 applications from Asia, 33 applications from Latin America, 21 applications from Europe and 20 applications from Northern Africa and Middle East.

The majority of the applications from Asia came from India (42 applications) and Bangladesh (18). In Africa, the highest number of the applications came from Democratic Republic of Congo (29), Kenya (27) and Uganda (21). All these countries are focus countries of the current KIOS strategy.

Applications received 1999-2006

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Total
Asia	39	55	76	65	81	166	77	113	672
Africa	56	63	87	83	107	164	86	147	793
Europe	17	17	18	19	12	28	13	21	145
Latin America Northern Africa and Middle East	24	25	21	15	16	24	28	33	186
Others	7	7	8	15	12	12	3	20	84
Total	3	0	2	0	0	4	0	0	9
Total	146	167	212	197	228	398	207	334	1889

Approved Projects

The Executive Board of KIOS made decisions on 365 applications in 2006, some of which had already been registered as applications in 2005. 21 projects in 12 countries were granted funding and 344 applications were rejected. Only 7% of the applications were successful.

The majority of the projects granted funding focus on promoting human rights through awareness raising, education and trainings, or on providing legal aid for victims of human rights violations. A few applicants received funding for the strengthening of their institutional capacity.

The total amount of funding granted was 747 200 euro, out of which 439 960 euro was paid out to project partners during the year.

Out of 21 projects approved 8 were located in Asia, 5 in Africa, 5 in Latin America and 3 in the Middle East. Out of total project funding granted 154 200 euro went to Africa, 221 300 euro to Asia, 181 000 euro to Latin America and 190 700 euro to other areas. 8 grantees had received funding from KIOS previously.

Rejected Applications

The Executive Board rejected altogether 344 applications. Over 90% of the applications received were rejected, due to the amount of funding available and the large number of applications received.

Applications were rejected mainly on the basis of unrealistic or incomplete project plans, unrealistic project budgets, lack of human rights capacity or project management capacity, or the project not being a human rights project.

Rejected Applications

	Rejected
1999	113
2000	138
2001	187
2002	175
2003	219
2004	384
2005	154
2006	296
Total	1666

Approved Projects 1999-2006

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Total
Asia	11	12	10	7	3	3	5	8	59
Africa	7	5	4	5	7	4	12	5	49
Europe	3	2	2	1	1	0	1	0	10
Latin America Northern Africa and Middle East	5	6	2	3	3	0	3	5	27
Total	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	3	8
	27	25	19	17	14	8	22	21	153

Ongoing Projects

At the end of 2006 KIOS had 40 ongoing projects in 21 countries. The countries with the largest number of ongoing projects were India (6 projects), Kenya (5), Peru (4), Uganda (3), Israel (3) and Turkey (3). Altogether 39 partners received funding from KIOS in 2006.

Ongoing projects at the end of 2006

	Number of projects
Asia	13
Africa	15
Europe	1
Latin America	5
Northern Africa and Middle East	6
Total	40

Thematic focus of ongoing projects at the end of 2006

	Primary focus	Secondary focus
Democratic Rights	10	5
Gender Equality	12	1
Right to Education	1	1
Other	17	3
Total	40	10

Monitoring and evaluation

In order to receive more accurate and coherent information on the projects, KIOS renewed the Application Form and started the work on drafting new Application and Reporting Guides. The guides are expected to be finalized in 2007. A new Reporting Form is being drafted as part of JÄRVI Project with the aim of focusing the reporting more on the impact assessment.

As part of improving internal reporting systems, KIOS revised practices for mid term assessment and the conclusion of the projects, and created a new tracking system for following application and project flow on a monthly basis.

Monitoring the progress of projects was also done on field visits. Some new methods of monitoring and impact assessment were tested for the first time during these visits. Executive Director Ms. Elisa Mikkola and Project Coordinator Ms. Sari Naskinen visited funded projects and partners in Kenya and Uganda in October 2006. Chairperson Ms. Sylvia Raulo from FinnChurchAid visited funded projects in Peru in September 2006. Executive Board Member Ms. Helena Nevalainen from KEPA visited a KIOS funded project in Tanzania in December 2006.

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORK

KIOS joined the three-year pilot phase of JÄRVI Project, run by Finnish Federation for Social Welfare and Health and Finnish Centre for Health Promotion. JÄRVI Project aims to build the capacity of NGOs in assessing their work. KIOS also participated in the Impact Assessment working group and trainings of the partnership organisations of the Ministry. Both trainings resulted into several smaller improvements in the project monitoring and evaluation of the Foundation.

In order to streamline project management, KIOS drew up a detailed process description on handling applications and managing projects. The process description presents all stages from initial contact to conclusion of the project.

For the purposes of following the implementation of the strategy the thematic and geographical focus of each application and project was systematically documented. Special attention was given to tracking the contribution KIOS funded projects are making to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

KIOS began to develop a risk management system in order to be better equipped to face challenges and risks in all aspects of projects and their management. As part of the new risk management system KIOS updated the criteria for project funding and drew up a concise description of possible internal and external risk factors. The risk management system will be finalized in 2007.

In order to improve the project management KIOS decided to acquire a project database sys-

tem. The new project database will be created and taken into use during 2007. The database system will include both internal project management system as well as external website.

The Executive Board members and staff members held a one-day strategy workshop in November. The current strategy for 2005-2010 was the basis for the discussions of the day. The topics discussed included among others impact assessment, partnerships, criteria for project funding, proactive approach, risk management and Foundation's work in Finland

COMMUNICATIONS

Communication work of KIOS is divided into two major areas: communication work in the South and communication work in Finland. In the South the main target groups are potential applicants, current partners and other actors in the same field. In Finland the main target groups are founder organisations, decision makers and other actors in the same field, such as development cooperation organisations, scholars and students.

The KIOS website (www.kios.fi) is the primary channel of communication toward most stakeholders. The website provides information in English, French and Spanish. In 2006 the plans for renewing the website were drawn and the new website will be created as a part of project database system in 2007. The current website was regularly updated during the year.

In order to better serve the applicants and partners, KIOS renewed the Application Form. Drafting of new Application and Reporting Guides



was started, and the Guides are expected to be finalized in 2007.

KIOS published three thematic reports in cooperation with Åbo Akademi University Institute for Human Rights. The publications were titled "Human Rights of Women", "The Right to Education from a Developing Country Perspective" and "Democratic Rights in a Development Perspective". The publications cover the three thematic focus rights of KIOS strategy. The publications proved to be popular and further reports of the publications series will be planned in 2007.

NETWORKING

KIOS collaborates closely with the other two foundations working in a similar way: Abilis Foundation, which supports projects empowering disabled persons in developing countries, and Siemenpuu Foundation, which supports environmental projects in developing countries.

The foundations worked closely together in coordinating the cooperation and negotiations with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and in participating in the meetings and trainings of the partnership organisations of the Ministry. Four working groups of the foundations continued their work on developing cooperation agreements, project management, field monitoring and financial management respectively.

KIOS contributed to the organizing of the Asia-Europe People's Forum (AEPF) held ahead of ASEM meeting in Helsinki in September. KIOS took part in the working group on Gender Equality and Children's Rights, which organized a semi-

nar on Human Trafficking under the Democracy and Human Rights cluster of the forum.

The staff took part in the "Looking Ahead – How to promote Human Rights in 2021" seminar in Stockholm, Sweden in October. The seminar was organized by The Swedish NGO Foundation for Human Rights. In connection with the seminar KIOS, The Swedish NGO Foundation for Human Rights and Norwegian Human Rights Fund organized a cooperation meeting in order to acquire more knowledge on each organisation's work and share ideas on developing cooperation.

KIOS representatives also took part in the "8. EU – NGO Forum: Mainstreaming the promotion of Democracy and Human Rights in European Union policies" conference, which was organized as a part of Finnish EU presidency meetings.

KIOS continued to cooperate closely with Finnish Embassies and other donor agencies and stakeholders in focus countries. Networking with civil society organisations and other stakeholders was one of the main goals of field visits conducted during the year. Fairly large number of visitors also paid a visit to the KIOS office during the year, including representatives from partner organizations, civil society organizations, international human rights organizations and governmental departments.



ADMINISTRATION

Each founder organization of KIOS appoints one representative to the Executive Board. During the year the Executive Board held 8 meetings. The Annual Meeting was held on May 9. The Chairperson of the Executive Board was Mr. Pekka Mikkola from FIDIDA and the Vice Chairperson was Ms. Sylvia Raulo from FinnChurchAid. From 01/09/2006 the Chairperson was Ms. Sylvia Raulo.

KIOS staff welcomed a new member in May, when the Foundation hired a new project coordinator. KIOS has now five full time staff members:

executive director, administrative assistant and three project coordinators. Staff members took part in several trainings and seminars throughout the year.

KIOS office was situated in the premises shared with Abilis Foundation and Siemenpuu Foundation on Aleksanterinkatu (Helsinki) until December. In the end of December KIOS, Abilis Foundation, Siemenpuu Foundation and FIDIDA moved into new premises in Haapaniemenkatu in Merihaka (Helsinki).

Executive Board Members 2006

Founder	Executive Board Member	Deputy Member
Amnesty International Finnish Section	Ms. Katja Majamaa	Mr. Thomas Hackman
Finnish League for Human Rights	Ms. Elisabeth Tigerstedt	Mr. Jari Pirjola
Service Centre for Development Cooperation KEPA	Ms. Helena Nevalainen	Ms. Kaisu Österinen
FinnChurchAid	Ms. Sylvia Raulo	Ms. Nina Suomalainen
Finnish Refugee Council	Ms. Leena Kumpulainen Mr. Kim Remitz (from 22/10/06)	Ms. Marja-Leena Suvanto Ms. Outi Perähuhta (from 22/10/06)
Finnish Peace Committee	Mr. Esa Ylikoski	Mr. Teemu Matinpuro
Committee of 100 in Finland	Ms. Hanna-Mari Savolainen	Ms. Laura Lodenius
The Finnish UN Association	Ms. Tiina Salmio (until 31/07/06) Ms. Helena Laukko (from 12/12/06)	Ms. Laura Tuominen
UNICEF	Ms. Inka Hetemäki	Ms. Emili Osara
UNIFEM	Ms. Maija Mustajärvi-Laakso	Ms. Anri Kyöstilä
Finnish Disabled People's International Development Association FIDIDA	Mr. Pekka Mikkola (until 31/08/06)	Ms. Tuija Halmari

FINANCES

KIOS receives financial support for its activities from the Department for Development Policy at the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs. The Foundation makes independent decisions regarding the allocation of its annual budget, which was 900 000 euro for 2006.

In the annual budget 586 500 euro was allocated to project grants and 315 000 euro for other activities. By the end of 2006, altogether 711 743 euro had been granted for projects and 439 960 euro had been paid out to project partners. In addition to this, 266 377 euro was paid to partners from funds granted in 2005 or earlier.

PROJECT GRANTS AWARDED 2006

Country	Organisation	Project	Grant awarded (euro)
Democratic Republic of Congo	Une Femme qui en soulève une Autre	Egalité Hommes - Femmes et Renforcement des pouvoirs de femmes rurales du territoire administratif de Fizi	12 300
East Timor	Justice System Monitoring Program, Victim Support Service	Legal aid and support to women and children victims of gender based violence	24 900
Haiti	National Human Rights Defense Network	Human rights Training Activities for the Haitian Police	47 700
India	Socio Legal Information Center	Free legal services for destitute, marginalized and poor section of Indian society covering legal aid, legal trainings, know your rights publications, advocacy, networking and campaigns for law reform in India	43 300
India	Asian Centre for Human Rights	Publishing India Human Rights Report 2006 and India Human Rights Report 2007	34 500
India	Sakshi	Promoting Equality Rights within Educational Institutions and Workplaces: Equality rights education of students of law, social work and media and awareness raising at public and private workplaces	23 500
India-Tibet	Association of Tibetan Journalists	Strengthening the capacities of the Tibetan journalists to report on issues relating to human rights and democracy	4 700
India-Tibet	Gu-Chu-Sum Movement of Tibet	Publication of two issues of Tibetan Envoy and three Biographies of former Political Prisoners	6 200
Israel-Palestine	Public Committee Against Torture	Field Research and Legal Capacity-Building Project	20 100
Israel-Palestine	Jerusalem Center for Social & Economic Rights	Strategic Intervention in Defending and Promoting Human Rights of the Palestinian People	42 000
Kenya	Youth Alive! Kenya	Juvenile Justice Project: Running of Juvenile Justice Programme, including training for authorities, legal aid and media and community work	32 900

Country	Organisation	Project	Grant awarded (euro)
Kenya	St. John's Community Centre	Human Rights Awareness and Capacity Building: Mobilizing and empowering the community in human rights work, training community based organisations, training and supporting paralegals and strengthening human rights networks and activities in the Kamukunji community	31 700
Nepal	Himalayan Human Rights Monitors	Partnerships for Protecting Children in Armed Conflict: monitoring and responding to violations of the right to education as a result of Nepal's armed conflict	30 000
Peru	Instituto Peruano de Educación en Derechos Humanos y la Paz	Formación de Líderes Sociales de Comunidades Indígenas Andinas del Cusco, para la Promoción y la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos	34 800
Peru	Comisión de Derechos Humanos	Investigaciones antropológico forenses en 4 regiones del Perú: Una contribución hacia el impulso de Plan Nacional de Investigaciones Antropológico Forenses recomendado por la Comisión de la Verdad y Reconciliación	98 500
Thailand	Asian Network for Free Elections	Long Term Observation mission to the Aceh local elections 2006	54 200
Turkey	Flying Broom	"First Step": Developing Dialogue and Cooperation between Public Institutions and Women Non-Governmental Organizations	40 000
Turkey	Human Rights Foundation of Turkey	Project to Raise Awareness and Promote Ratification of the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment in Turkey	68 600
Turkey	Human Rights Agenda Association	Training Seminars and Reproducing of the Book "Popular Education for Human Rights"	20 000
Uganda	East and Horn Africa Human Rights Defenders Project	Journalist sub-regional conference: human rights conference in order to raise journalists' awareness on human rights in East and Horn Africa region	32 100
Uganda	African Centre for Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture Victims	Promotion and Protection of Human Rights: Conducting prison visits, rehabilitation of torture victims and training law enforcement officials	45 200



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