

Felm 2019



Helped by a community group supported by Felm, Kesh Maya from Nepal has improved her livelihood and been emboldened to address the caste discrimination experienced by the Dalits.





Felm Hope. Cooperation. Change.

Felm's work aims to promote human dignity and justice around the world. The Christian message of hope, faith and neighbourly love has been the cornerstone of our work for 160 years.

We are an international agency of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland (ELCF). As one of the largest Finnish civil society organizations working in global development, we also receive funding from Finland's Ministry for Foreign Affairs. We strive for positive and permanent change in developing countries, aiming to help build a world where everyone's voice is heard. We live and work at grassroots level with local people, building fruitful partnerships within local communities.

- **Church cooperation – A joint message of hope**

With our partners, we share a mission to bear witness to God's boundary-crossing love. Our work reflects Christian values in words, attitudes and ways of working.

- **Development – Right to a life with dignity**

Our development cooperation is built on advancing human rights and addressing the root causes of marginalization and injustice.

- **Peacebuilding – Supporting dialogue and reconciliation**

We work with our partners to create spaces for dialogue and to build trust among people and communities. Justice, local ownership and inclusion are essential for a lasting peace.

- **Advocacy – Building a just world**

We work with our partners to strengthen the social position of vulnerable and marginalized people. Our advocacy focuses on the promotion of human rights, a just peace and economic justice.

- **Emergency relief – Prevention, support and rebuilding**

We provide emergency relief to our partners and the communities we work with and build their capacity to be more resilient and prepared.

Read more: felm.org



Global work with local partners

Felm works globally with its regional and local networks of over hundred churches and organizations.

We work in close collaboration with the World Council of Churches and the Lutheran World Federation. We are also a member of ACT Alliance, a coalition of 152 churches and church-related organizations working in development work, humanitarian aid and advocacy.

In 2019 we had 108 partners, including:

- International church networks
- Local and national church networks
- Christian organizations and institutions
- Other regional and local NGOs and institutions

Roadmap of Hope | Felm’s strategy 2017–2022

Priests ordained with Felm’s support

Tanzanians Godlisten Mzulla and Simon Deus Francis were ordained as priests with the support of Felm. Godlisten now trains new parish workers at his diocese’s training centre. Simon works as a priest in the area, where he is responsible for four young parishes. Felm-sponsored theological education in Bible colleges, seminaries and universities around the world supports the growth of churches, and strengthens the skills of their staff and volunteers.



Photo: Janne Juhaninmäki



Photo: Mimosa Hedberg

Irrigation systems and food security

Nepal’s state authorities have praised Felm-supported community groups’ work in village development. The groups have also received local government support for irrigation systems, environmentally friendly farming and the construction of toilets. The village women say that families’ livelihoods and food security have improved, children are attending school longer, the situation faced by people with disabilities in villages has improved, and levels of domestic violence have decreased.



Award-winning work with the disabled

In many countries the belief persists that disability is caused by a curse or parents’ errors. Felm’s long-term work for people with disabilities has been awarded three times in recent years, both in Finland and internationally. Northern Ethiopia provides a good example of such work. The church’s activity centre offers physiotherapy and peer support for children with disabilities. Habtamu has developed tremendously thanks to the rehabilitation he has experienced in the group.



Photo: Virve Rissanen



Photo: Katja Tynkkynen

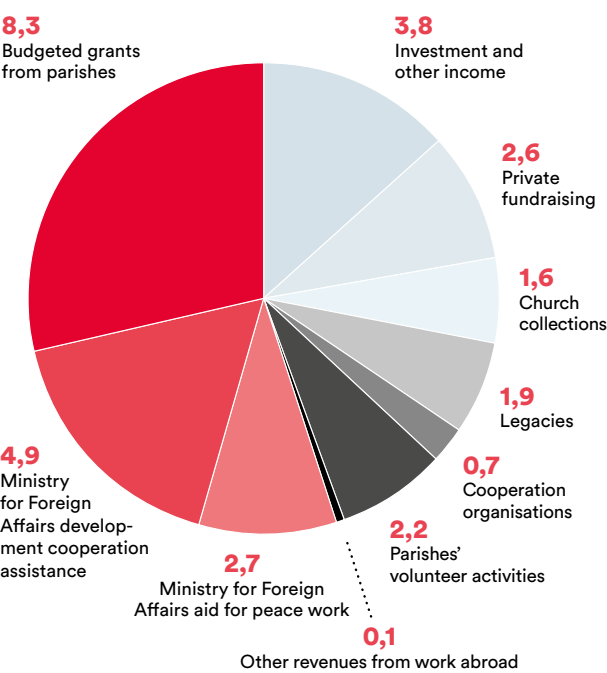
From partisan to village community builder

Only a few years ago Colombian Palacio Flores was carrying a gun. Now, he’s holding a little daughter and a granddaughter in his arms. Having been involved in the partisan movement for more than two decades, he’s now a man who’s focusing on farming and his family. He’s also active in improving his village community’s living conditions and building peace in a project supported by the Lutheran Church of Colombia and Felm.



Finance 2019

Income 28,8 M€



Expenses 30,8 M€

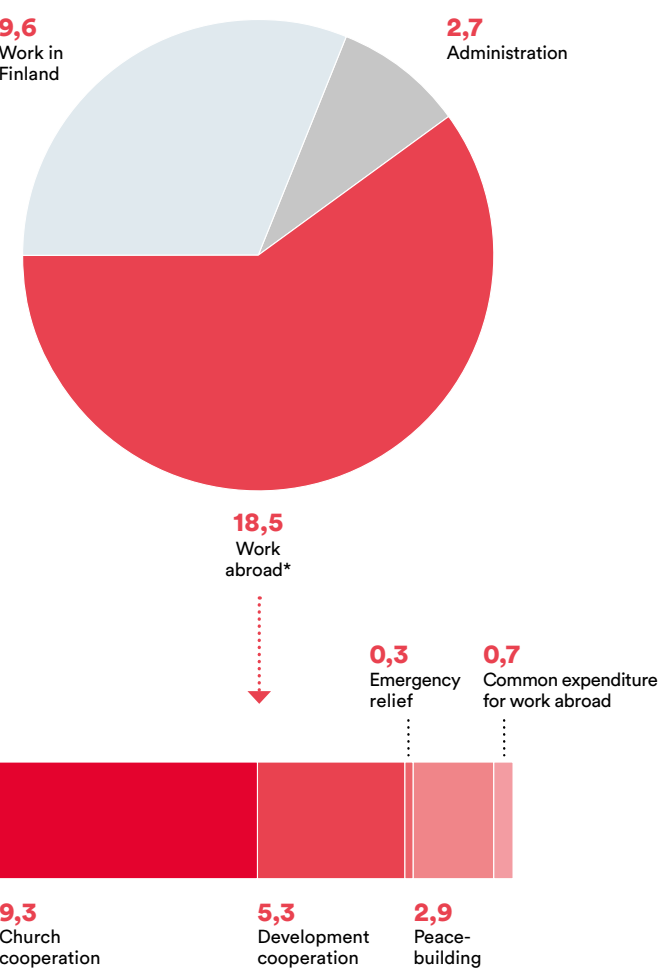


Photo: Ari Vitikainen



Photo: Markku Mattila



Photo: Joanna Lindén-Montes

Felm's work in Finland

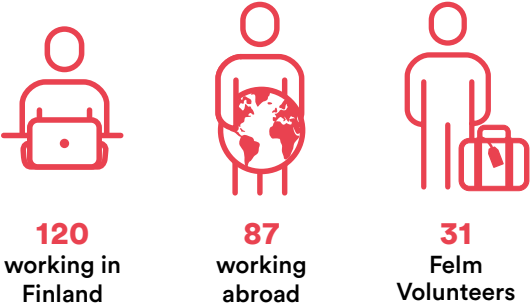
The aim of Felm's domestic work is to secure resources for our work abroad.

As one of the mission organizations of the church, we work in close partnership with the church both nationally and locally. All the 400 parishes of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland are members of Felm, and they support our work financially, practically and spiritually.

In turn, Felm supports the work of the parishes. For example, we offer parishes training and education in international and multicultural issues for adults, children and young people. We provide parishes with a range of material for use in work with parishioners of all ages. We also train Felm Volunteers for international tasks, as well as volunteer tasks in Finland.

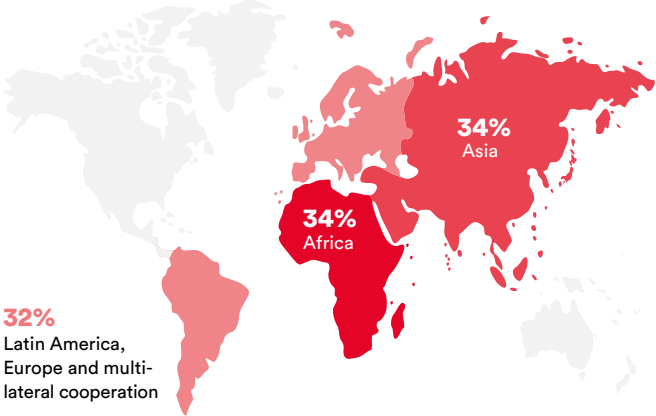
We also undertake a wide range of communications and advocacy activities aimed both at policymakers and the general public.

The Greatest Christmas Carols, begun in 1973, is our biggest fundraising campaign. Every year The Greatest Christmas Carols singalongs organized by Felm and the parishes bring about one million Finns to churches and other places at Christmas to sing favourite traditional Christmas carols. Felm prepares the publicity material for these events – most importantly, the song booklet, which also offers descriptions of Felm's work. At these singalongs a collection is taken for Felm's work.

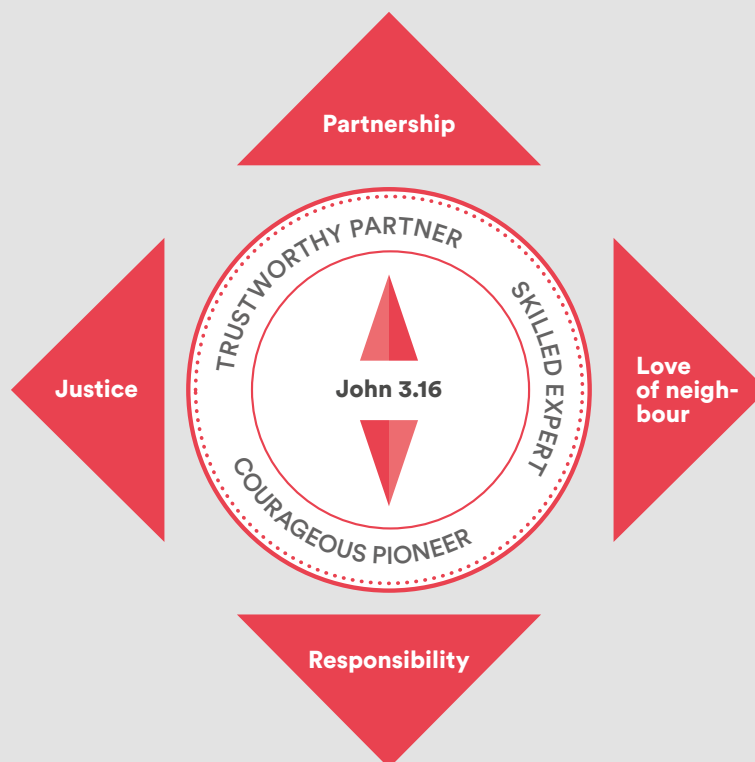


Felm's work is funded by the parishes of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland, Christian organizations, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and private individuals.

At the end of 2019 Felm had 207 employees, 120 working in Finland and 87 abroad. There were also 31 volunteers abroad working on behalf of Felm.



Our values



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