

Felm 2020

Ethiopian Almenesh Feynisa is a member of her village's health committee. With the support of Felm and the church the health of the area's residents has considerably improved, and there are now toilets in every one of its 600 households.



Faith. Hope. Love.

AND THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE.



The Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission (Felm) is an official mission organisation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland and one of Finland's largest development organisations. We undertake mission work, development cooperation and peace work with about a hundred partners in almost thirty countries.

Faith in God, hope for a better world and love of neighbour have been the bedrock of Felm's work for more than 160 years. Our work reaches the most vulnerable, oppressed and marginalized: we enable development, build peace and create equal opportunities for people to build a life of dignity for themselves.

- **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 nearly a hundred churches and organisations.

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 135 churches and church-related organisations working in development work, humanitarian aid and advocacy.

In 2020 we had 99 partners, including:

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

ROADMAP OF HOPE

FELM'S STRATEGY 2017–2022

Those bearing responsibility in the church need training

Despite the coronavirus pandemic in Tanzania, a record 79 students from nine dioceses started at Nyakato Bible College last year. Established more than ten years ago with the support of Felm, the Bible School has developed into a regional training centre for parish workers, evangelists and clergy in an area suffering from labour shortages. The Bible College also plays an important role in strengthening Christian youth work, which is vital for the church's growth and the effectiveness of its message.

WE WITNESS TO
GOD'S BOUNDARY-
CROSSING LOVE

It's easier to learn in one's own language

Supporting teaching in pupils' mother tongue is an important way to solve the global learning crisis. For example, in Senegal there are more than 30 languages, but the official language used in schools is French. Felm and the Lutheran Church of Senegal have for years undertaken native language literacy and pre-school work, for example in the Serer language. In cooperation with the state authorities, access to pre-school education has also been promoted as part of public education. The aim is to increase children's opportunities to learn in their own language.

WE STRIVE
FOR A MORE
JUST WORLD

Drip irrigation and a solar dryer help amidst climate change

Since 2020 Felm has been training its partners in climate change and disaster preparedness. Climate change is already a reality in people's daily lives almost everywhere in the world, especially in developing countries. Training has been offered in Zimbabwe and Cambodia, for example. Plastic bottle drip irrigation systems, wood-saving stoves and solar dryers are simple and inexpensive to manufacture. New cultivation techniques and plant species can also help in preparing for the damage caused by drought and floods.

WE DEFEND
THE DIGNITY
AND HUMAN
RIGHTS OF THE
MARGINALIZED

WE BUILD
PEACE AND
RECON-
CILIATION

Indigenous people in Colombia suffer most from violence

The "From Violence to Reconciliation" project of Felm and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia supports not only the reintegration of former guerrillas but the empowerment of indigenous peoples in violent and poor remote areas. The Ethnic Peace Forum brings together representatives of indigenous peoples and organisations to discuss the region's challenges and to work together to address them. The project has built peace and reconciliation at the grassroots level, improved living conditions and promoted human rights and social justice among the region's ethnic communities.

Photo: Emmanuel Mtika

Photo: Ruusa Gawaza

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Photo: Katja Tynkkynen

Finance 2020

Felm's activities are funded by the parishes of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland, Christian organisations, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and private individuals.

At the end of 2020 Felm had 188 employees, 118 working at home, and 70 abroad.

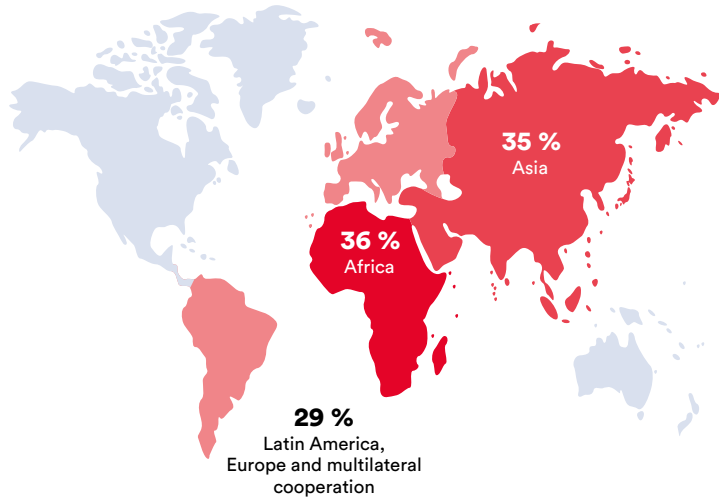
In addition, almost 900 employees of local partners worked on projects supported by Felm.



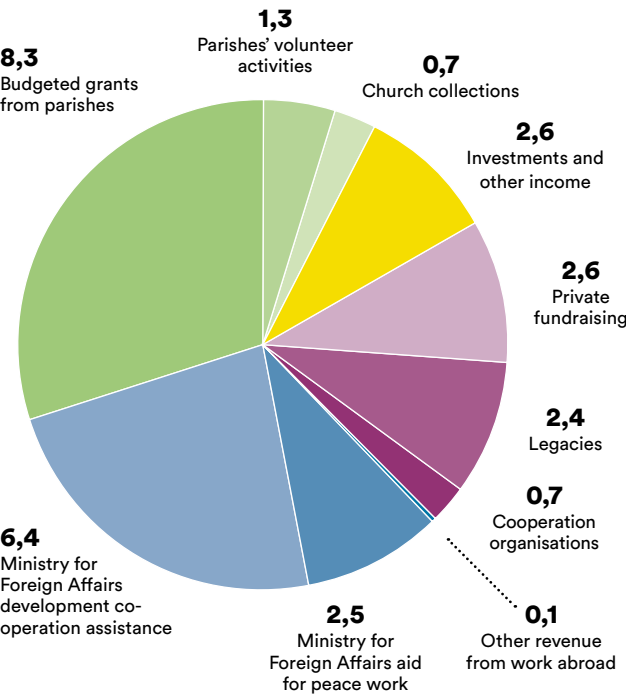
118
working
in Finland



70
working
abroad



Income 27,6 M€



Expenses 28 M€

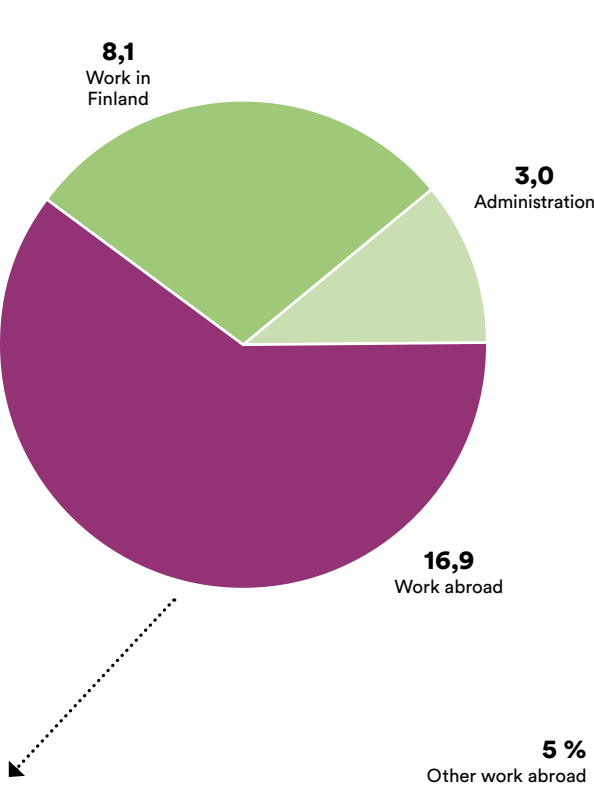


Photo: Ari Vitikainen



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.

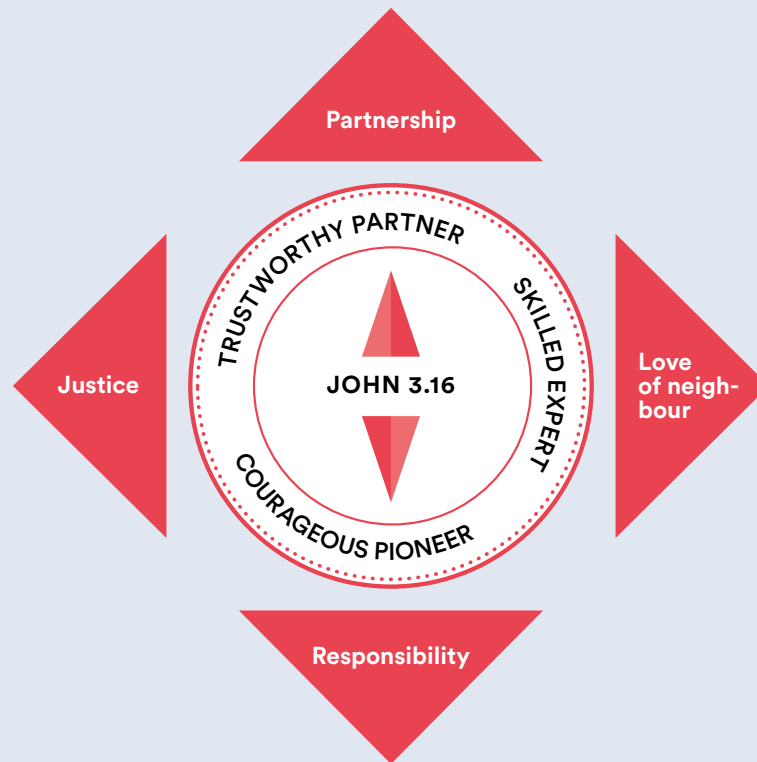
As one of the mission organisations of the church, we work in close partnership with the church both nationally and locally. Nearly 400 parishes of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland are members of Felm, and they support our work financially, practically and spiritually.

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 organised 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.

OUR VALUES



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