



Annual Report

2022



Responsible public
procurement.
Rights of
electronics workers.

About Us

Electronics Watch helps public buyers work together to promote and protect the rights of electronics workers in their supply chains. We collaborate with civil society organisations in production countries to monitor working conditions and engage with industry to drive compliance and remedy.

Kingsfordweg 151 1043 GR Amsterdam – Netherlands

Email: info@electronicswatch.org

Telephone: +44 748-0050-341

www.electronicwatch.org

No. 62721445 in the Dutch Chamber of Commerce Trade Register

Contents

Year Overview

- > Letter from the Executive Director and Chair
- > More Affiliates, More Monitoring Partners, More Leverage
- > The Year in Numbers

Our Impact

- > Championing the Electronics Watch Model
- > Access to Effective Grievance Mechanisms

New Programmes and Projects

- > Low Emission Vehicle Programme
- > One Year – Four New Projects



Main Events of 2022

- > Affiliate Exchange: Back Together in Barcelona
- > Hundreds Participate in our Due Diligence Webinar Series

People

- > A Growing Team
- > Board of Trustees and Advisory Group
- > Affiliates and LEVP Participants
- > Monitoring Partners

Finance

- > Financial Development



Letter from the Executive Director and Chair

Dear reader:

Growth was the theme for 2022. With the expansion of our team from seven to seventeen, our capacity **to help public sector organisations protect the rights of workers in their electronics supply chains** has increased substantially.

We welcomed 10 new affiliates from eight countries and scaled up our affiliate engagement services with a focus on supplier engagement. As a result, ICT companies made a major transparency leap: More than 40 brands have disclosed at least their tier one assembly facilities to affiliates.

We invested in monitoring methodology training and the development of effective grievance mechanisms with our monitoring partners, now located in 12 electronics manufacturing and four mining regions. We also expanded into the low emission vehicles sector through a collaboration with nine pioneering public buyers. And we launched an impact and innovation programme to explore creative ways to

support affiliates in more product categories and apply lessons from other sectors to our existing work.

Building on these achievements, we are poised to drive further improvements in affiliate supply chains in 2023 both through the remediation of individual cases and by addressing cross-cutting issues. Thank you to all those who have – and continue to – contribute to this important work.



Sanjiv Pandita

President, Board of Trustees



Björn Skorpen Claeson

Executive Director

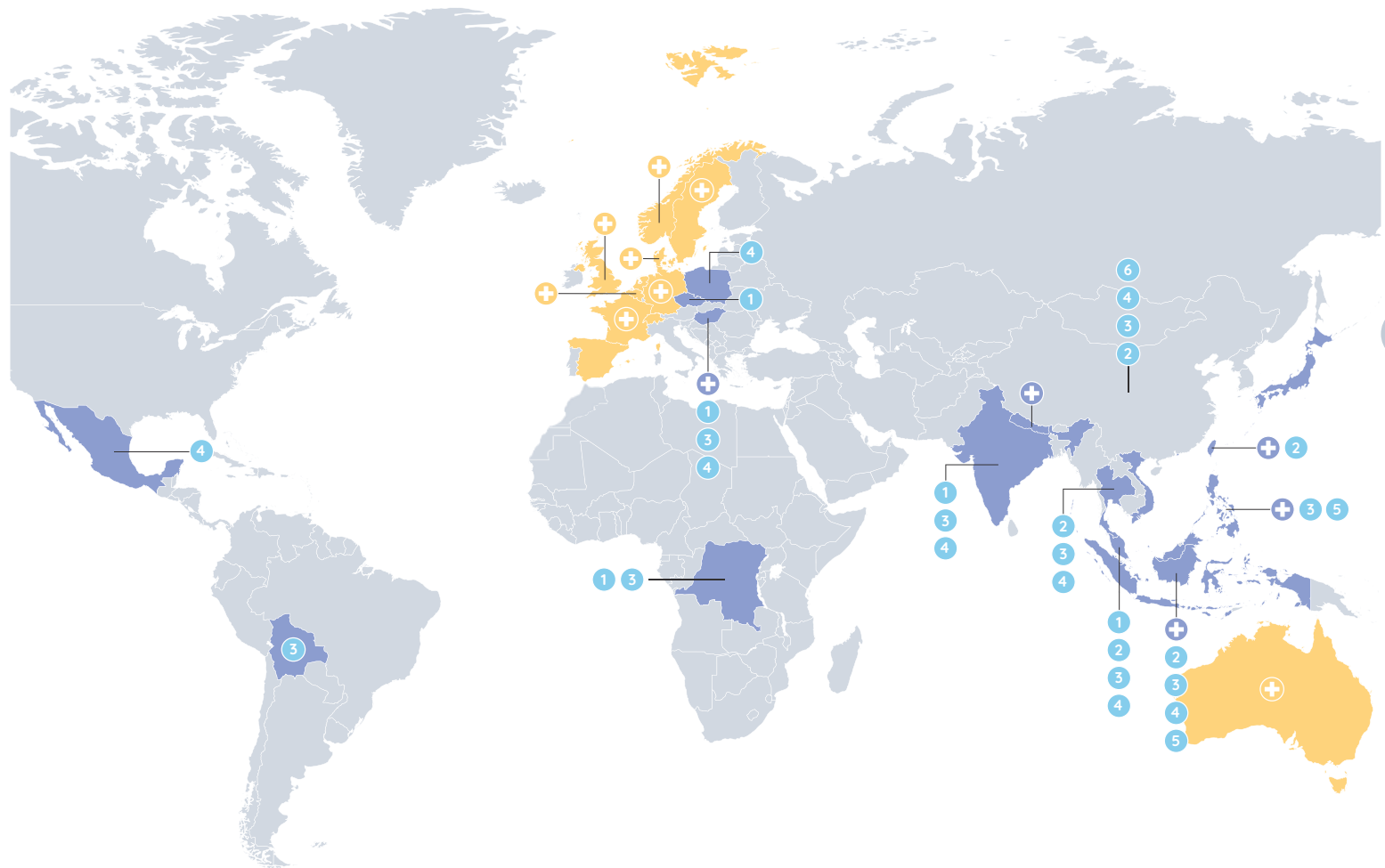
More Affiliates, More Monitoring Partners, More Leverage

- Affiliates from 11 countries
- + 13 new affiliates!

- Partners monitoring in 14 locations
- + 5 new monitoring partners!

● Addressed issues of...

- 1 **Freedom of association:**
Hungary, India, Malaysia, Poland
- 2 **Forced labour:**
China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Taiwan, Thailand
- 3 **Occupational health and safety:**
China, Hungary, India, Malaysia, Thailand.
In mining: Bolivia, DRC, Indonesia, Philippines
- 4 **Precarious labour:**
China, Czechia, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Thailand. In mining: Indonesia
- 5 **Environmental/Indigenous people/land rights:**
In mining: Indonesia, Philippines
- 6 **Piloted remote monitoring:**
China (7 factories)

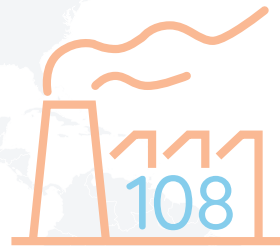


The Year in Numbers

Supply chain transparency is the central first step in any Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence system. In 2022, affiliates strengthened their engagement with suppliers to increase supply chain transparency. This resulted in more factory disclosures than ever before. Additionally, affiliates became more aware of their supply chains beyond final assembly (tier-1). Brands increasingly disclosed component factories (tier-2) and their linkages to specific product models.



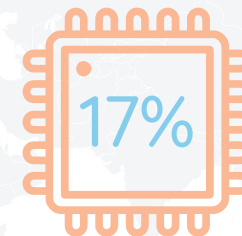
37
brands were
disclosed
to affiliates



108
factories
were disclosed
to affiliates



356
product
models were
linked to
factories



17%
of the
factories
disclosed were
component
suppliers



Affiliates
solicited
53
factory
disclosures
from their
contractors



Five worker rights complaints from Malaysia, Mexico, Thailand and DRC (mining).

Five compliance investigations in China.

Risk assessments on **four** factories in China and **one** regional risk assessment in Hungary.

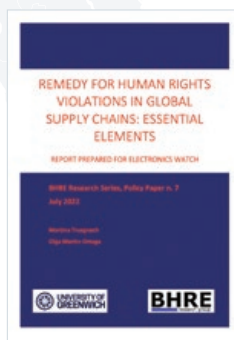
Five new monitoring partners trained in our Worker-Driven Monitoring Methodology.

Five impact stories, demonstrating the impact that public procurement can have on workers' rights.

Collaboration with trade unions to support monitoring and remediation in **five** countries.



- A new affiliate intranet, taking affiliates on a 'Procurement Journey', through Pre-tender, Tender, and Contract Management, with tools that can be used on the way.
- Monthly affiliate updates, with information on monitoring and remediation activities.
- Six reports published:





“Industry independence”

“Reliability of data”

“Expertise”

The Purchasing Directorate of the French State (DAE) has been driving responsible public procurement for the state and its various public institutions since 2009 through policies aimed at promoting social progress and environmental protection. In 2016, the state began introducing contract provisions concerning the human rights due diligence of suppliers awarded public contracts and in 2017, the law on the Duty of Corporate Vigilance was passed. The DAE continues to provide leadership and guidance to French public buyers on responsible procurement and, in 2022, became the first in France to affiliate to Electronics Watch.

The first inter-ministerial contract since DAE's affiliation to Electronics Watch will be tendered in 2023. It will be the subject of a broad communication aimed at encouraging other French State purchasers to affiliate.

“Affiliation represents an increased commitment to protecting human rights in state contracts, particularly in the electronics sector. Electronics Watch’s expertise and industry-independence, and the reliability of data gathered through its network of monitors help to leverage public procurement to promote the respect of human rights in global supply chains. Its support at all stages of the procurement allows public buyers to significantly improve their social and ethical responsibility.”

Malika Kessous, Director of Responsible Procurement at the DAE.

“The workers knew what happened and protested.”

“I thought I was going to die. Now, Electronics Watch is helping me.”

In 2022, migrant workers at a Malaysian factory saw first-hand how issues they report to Electronics Watch monitoring partners are addressed promptly. This helps to give them confidence in our grievance system. Affiliates' awareness of this case strengthened their resolve to demand that their suppliers support remedy for the migrant workers. This is what happened.

Debt bondage and deception

Ali* borrowed over €2,000 from local money lenders in his home country to pay recruitment agents for a job in a Malaysian electronics factory. This factory supplies components for major brand products procured by many of our affiliated public buyers. Before departure, they were made to record a video saying, "We are going on a free-visa, free-ticket recruitment." Ali and his fellow workers were later asked to sign a contract with different terms to those they had been shown back home (longer contract duration, less pay). Ali complained, and acted as spokesperson for the workers. They would not sign the contract. A commotion ensued.

Detainment and deportation

Some time later, the company HR and home country recruitment agent forced Ali into the back of a car and drove him to a location where he was locked up. He had his phone taken away, was detained overnight and deported the next day.

**Name changed to protect identity.*

His visa and contract were terminated without due process. The airfare was deducted from his wages. According to the company, Ali had committed major misconduct and was a hazard to the rest of the workers. These workers then went on strike to protest Ali's disappearance.

"The next day when we went to work, we realized that Ali had disappeared. He had been missing since 5pm the previous day. At 2am, Ali's phone stopped ringing. At 11am the following day, Ali called me from the airport and told me what had happened."

Impact of Electronics Watch intervention

When Ali contacted Electronics Watch via our monitoring partner, we immediately flagged this case with the Responsible Business Alliance (RBA). Companies took joint action to prevent migrant worker termination for speaking up. The RBA paid off Ali's debt from the recruitment fee, and compensated Ali for six months of wages. After initial resistance, the factory began cooperating in a corrective action process to address multiple serious issues including the lack of an effective grievance system. The combination of buyer pressure and worker involvement paved the way for Ali's grievance to be heard, and – although not there yet – he and his fellow workers are on the road to remedy.



Low Emission Vehicle Programme

We launched the [Low Emission Vehicle Programme](#) in the first half of 2022. This new programme aims to expand the existing Electronics Watch impact model to reinforce due diligence on human rights in low emission vehicle supply chains.



Activities and achievements:

- conducted monitoring activities in mines in the Philippines, Indonesia and in Bolivia and remote monitoring of a semiconductor factory in China
- conducted dialogue on human rights due diligence with automotive companies in participant supply chains in Germany and the UK
- developed channels of cooperation with IndustriALL, IG Metall and national level trade unions linked to LEV
- surveyed participants' procurements, a market overview and market engagement tools
- supported the City of Hamburg (Police Hamburg – who are managing the frameworks for vehicles) in its tendering for personnel vehicles
- reviewed a worker rights complaint in Malaysia

➤ Who are the **LEV participants**?

We are thankful for the financial support for this programme provided by Barcelona City Council, HEKS, and EPRM



One Year – Four New Projects

2022 was characterized by growth in every aspect at Electronics Watch. We launched four new projects.

Monitoring Mining in the Automotive Industry

January 2022 – December 2023

Donor: Bread for All (now HEKS)



Minerals: Nickel, tin and lithium

Goal: To support public buyers to use their leverage on mining.

Locations/Partners:



Bolivia
(CISEP)



Indonesia
(INKRISPENA)



Philippines
(PARC)



See Report: [Human Rights and Environmental Impact of Nickel Mining in the Philippines, May 2022](#)

Maximizing Due Diligence in Minerals Supply Chains

October 2022 – September 2025

Donor: European Partnership for Responsible Mining (EPRM)



Minerals: Tin and cobalt

Goal: To build capacity for worker-driven monitoring in mines in DRC and Bolivia, and support multi-stakeholder dialogue to improve working conditions.

Locations/Partners:



Bolivia
(CISEP)



DRC
(SARW)



Upscaling the Electronics Watch Grievance Mechanism

August 2022 – April 2024

Donor: GIZ – Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit



Goal: To increase the access of workers in the electronics supply chain to an effective grievance mechanism.

Locations/Partners:



Malaysia
(Tenaganita)



Taiwan
(SPA)



Vietnam
(CDI)

Impact and Innovation

July 2022 – June 2024

Donor: Open Society Foundations



Goal: To strengthen public leverage and corporate accountability on labour rights in global supply chains.



Affiliate Exchange: Back Together in Barcelona

Ajuntament de
Barcelona



After several years of digital exchange, *Affiliate Exchange for Impact* allowed affiliates to re-connect with one another in person, as well as with staff and monitoring partners.

“It was impressive to feel the power of the Electronics Watch network. For a new affiliate these two days were inspiring and is something we will definitely take home,” said Bram Vermeir of KU Leuven.

Beyond strengthening the community of public buyers, the event facilitated increased awareness about their collective leverage and how it can be strengthened to protect the rights of workers in global supply chains. “Listening to how colleagues address similar challenges was encouraging and eye opening. We got to think more innovatively about solutions,” reflected Amy Ledger of APUC.

The two-day programme offered opportunities to celebrate achievements and to problem solve around new and emerging challenges. “Monitoring partners shed light on the failure of voluntary corporate ESG programmes and the

disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on electronics workers in the Global South. These insights, together with public buyers’ economic leverage, will help transform society through responsible procurement,” said board member and monitoring partner Rochelle Porrás of EILER.

21 public sector organisations and 7 civil society organisations from 13 countries participated in the event, which was made possible thanks to sponsorship by event co-host and affiliate, Barcelona City Council.



Hundreds Participated in our Due Diligence Webinar Series

Nearly 400 people attended our educational series on human rights and environmental due diligence in public procurement.

“Public buyers must be able to require suppliers to conduct due diligence. The EU could lead through its own example, in its own public procurement as a buyer.”

Heidi Hautala, Member of European Parliament and Chair of the Parliament working group on Responsible Business Conduct

“We need to be able to follow the subject matter of procurement, the product itself, which means we need to know the factory address and we need the exact audit report for that factory.”

Kristin Tallbo, Sustainability Strategist, Adda Central Purchasing Body, Sweden

“I was a child labourer, and they hid me in the toilet when the auditors came by. We need a workers’ voice. Otherwise, due diligence and audits don’t make any sense to us.”

Kalpona Akter, Executive Director, Bangladesh Center for Worker Solidarity



“We need a working definition of remedy. It’s about consulting with rights holders and assessing if they are satisfied with the process and the outcomes.”

Pauline Göthberg, National Coordinator, The Swedish Regions’ National Secretariat for Sustainable Public Procurement

“Without trade unions you cannot implement due diligence.”

Kan Matsuzaki, Assistant General Secretary, IndustriALL Global Union

Watch all six sessions [here](#)



With the financial support of FPH



A Growing Team

To meet the growing demand for our services, in 2022 our team grew from 7 to 17!

Introducing new members of staff:

Cindy Berman – Director of Impact and Innovation

Aykut Kazanci – Manager of Monitoring Capacity

Petra Krčmářová – Programme Assistant

Isabel Menéndez – Finance Manager

Rocío Paniagua – Low Emission Vehicle Programme Manager

Stefania Ricci – Administrative and Communications Assistant

Kate Sullivan – Affiliate Engagement Manager

Haëndila Varela – Programme Assistant

Fabrice Warneck – Director of Monitoring

...joined existing staff and country representatives:

Björn Skorpen Claeson – Executive Director

Omana George – Manager of Monitoring and Civil Society Engagement

Martina Hooper – Director of Communications

Nuala Keyser – Finance Support

Peter Pawlicki – Director of Outreach and Education

Brigitte Demeure – Representative of Electronics Watch in France

Julie Petticrew – Representative of Electronics Watch in Australia

Judith Talvy – Representative of Electronics Watch in Spain

And more!

Olga Martin-Ortega joined us as **Senior Advisor for Remediation in Global Supply Chains**. With this new programme of action we are pioneering new models of worker-driven remedy to put workers and their representatives at the core of remedy processes.



Board of Trustees and Advisory Group

Elected representatives serve on Board of Trustees

Andy Davies – Natural History Museum, UK – Treasurer

Pauline Göthberg – Swedish Regions, Sweden

Cristian Martin – The London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

Michael McLaughlin – Advanced Procurement for Universities & Colleges, UK

Kate Murray – Edinburgh Napier University, UK

Jim Cranshaw – Strategic consultant, UK – Co-Secretary

Gemma Freedman – UNISON, UK – Co-Secretary

Rutvica Andrijasevic – University of Bristol*, UK

Anibel Ferus-Comelo – University of California*, United States

David Foust – Independent labour rights expert, Mexico

*For identification purposes only

Sanjiv Pandita – Asian Network for the Rights of Occupational and Environmental Victims (ANROEV), Hong Kong – Chair

Daisy Arago – Center for Trade Union & Human Rights (CTUHR), Philippines

Rochelle Porras – Ecumenical Institute for Labor Education and Research (EILER), Philippines

Shigeru Tanaka – Pacific Asia Resource Centre (PARC), Japan

Joanna Unterschütz – Polish Institute for Human Rights and Business (PIHRB), Poland

Elected representatives

BLOCK 1:

993 affiliated public buyers

Elected representatives

BLOCK 2:

22 organisations and **27** individual experts in human rights, labour rights, trade union rights, environmental rights, occupational health & safety, and global supply chains

Elected representatives

BLOCK 3:

25 representatives of free, independent and democratic trade unions as well as other types of independent civil society organisations that represent workers or advocate for worker rights and are located in the regions of production of electronics or other categories of public expenditure



Affiliates and LEVP Participants

Affiliates ▼ New Affiliates ■ Consortium Affiliates

- Adda, Sweden
- Advanced Procurement for Universities & College (APUC), United Kingdom
- Amsterdam City Council, Netherlands
- Barcelona City Council, Spain
- Bath and North East Somerset Council, United Kingdom
- ▼ Cardiff Metropolitan University, United Kingdom
- Catalan Association of Municipalities (ACM), Spain
- ▼ City of Copenhagen, Denmark
- ▼ City of Malmö, Sweden
- ▼ City of Oslo, Norway
- ▼ Crown Commercial Service, United Kingdom
- Curtin University, Australia
- Dataport, Germany
- Durham University, United Kingdom
- Gasunie, Netherlands
- Generalitat de Catalunya, Spain
- Ghent City Council/District09, Belgium
- Greater London Authority (GLA), United Kingdom
- ▼ Griffith University, Australia
- Haarlem City Council, Netherlands
- Hanze University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands
- ▼ ITDZ Berlin, Germany
- ITSH-edu, Germany
- ▼ KU Leuven, Belgium
- Lewisham Council, United Kingdom
- London Universities Purchasing Consortium (LUPC), United Kingdom
- ▼ Ludwigsburg City Council, Germany
- Metropolitan Transport of Barcelona, Spain
- Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, Netherlands
- ▼ Monash University, Australia

- ▼ ■ North Eastern Universities Purchasing Consortium (NEUPC), United Kingdom
- North Western Universities Purchasing Consortium (NWUPC), United Kingdom
- Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)
- Partenariat des Achats Informatiques Romand (PAIR), Switzerland
- Sant Boi City Council, Spain
- Southern Universities Purchasing Consortium (SUPC), United Kingdom
- Swansea University, United Kingdom
- Swedish Regions, Sweden
- ▼ Sydney University, Australia
- The Flemish Agency for Facility Operations, Belgium
- ▼ The Purchasing Directorate of the French State (DAE), France
- Tower Hamlets London Borough Council, United Kingdom
- Unison, United Kingdom
- University Medical Centre Utrecht (UMC-Utrecht), Netherlands
- University of Ghent, Belgium
- University of Groningen, Netherlands
- University of Leeds, United Kingdom
- University of New South Wales, Australia
- Utrecht City Council, Netherlands
- Zurich University of the Arts, Switzerland

LEVP Participants

- Advanced Procurement for Universities & College (APUC), United Kingdom
- Barcelona City Council, Spain
- City of Oslo, Norway
- Federal Institute for Sustainable Development (FIDO), Belgium
- Greater London Authority (GLA), United Kingdom
- Hamburg City Council, Germany
- Hamburger Hochbahn, Germany
- Metropolitan Transport of Barcelona, Spain
- The Flemish Agency for Facility Operations, Belgium



Monitoring Partners

Monitoring Partners ▼ New Monitoring Partners

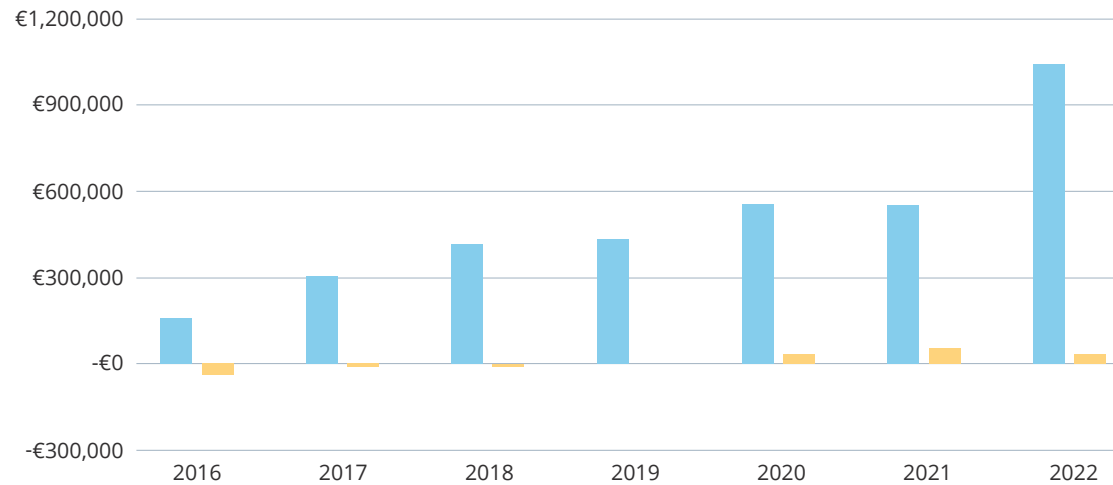
- Center for Development and Integration (CDI), Vietnam
- Center for Trade Union and Human Rights (CTUHR), Philippines
- Centre for Social Issues (SPOT), Czechia
- Centro de Investigación y Servicio Popular (CISEP), Bolivia
- Centro de Reflexión y Acción Laboral (CEREAL), Mexico
- Civil Initiatives for Development and Peace (CIVIDEP), India
- Economic Rights Institute (ERI), Hong Kong
- ▼ Ecumenical Institute for Labor Education and Research (EILER), Philippines
- ▼ Inkrispena, Indonesia
- Migrant Worker Rights Network (MWRN), Thailand
- ▼ Migration Dristi, Nepal
- Pacific Asia Resource Centre (PARC), Japan
- ▼ Periféria Policy and Research Center, Hungary
- Polish Institute for Human Rights and Business (PIHRB), Poland
- Sedane Labour Resource Center (LIPS), Indonesia
- ▼ Serve the People Association (SPA), Taiwan
- Southern Africa Resource Watch (SARW), South Africa
- Tenaganita, Malaysia



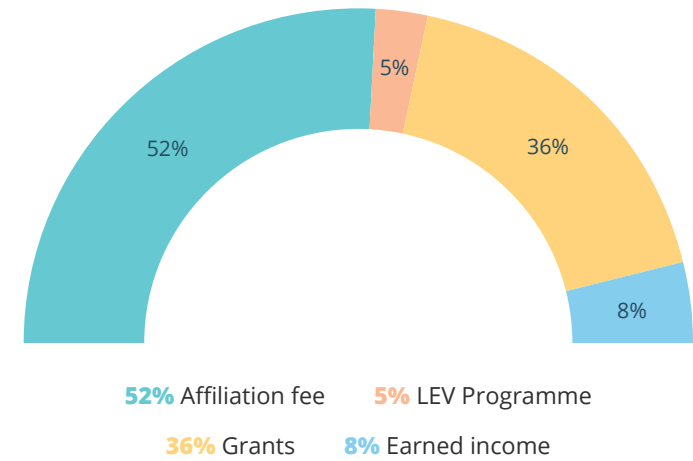
Financial Development

Income

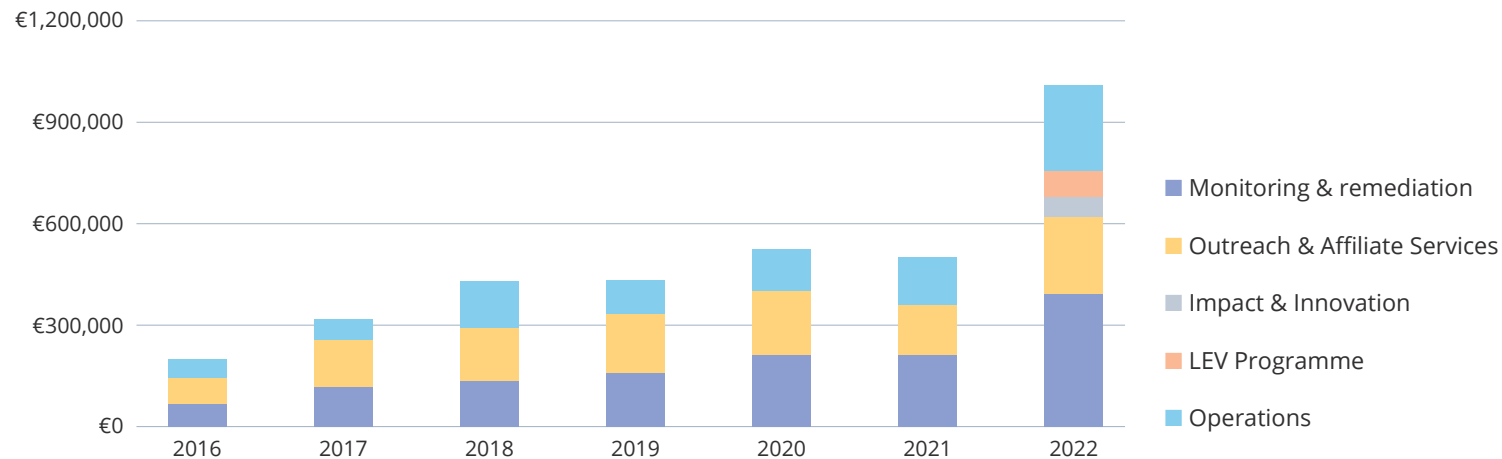
The net income for 2022 was **€ 36,201** (2021 **€ 53,461**)



Sources of income 2022



Distribution of Expenditure



Annual Report

2022



Responsible public
procurement.
Rights of
electronics workers.

