



2023

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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CiFAR – Civil Forum for Asset Recovery e.V.,  
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[www.cifar.eu](http://www.cifar.eu)



# OVERVIEW

Berlin, 15 June 2024

The past year has seen us make remarkable strides in the work we have been aiming to achieve since founding the organisation: developing and promoting new and innovative research and policy, connecting and supporting the voices of civil society from across the world on asset recovery, and building an organisation fit to respond to national, regional and international developments. As the last year of our 2020 – 2023 strategy, it also saw us look back on our achievements over the past four years and plan for the years ahead.

Under our Global Priorities results area we continued to push forward important global debates. This included continuing our work on the relationship between sanctions and asset recovery through both our Sanctions Watch platform and with the publication of new research into legislative and policy links between sanctions and asset recovery. It also saw us take this work one step further and conclude our own investigation into enforcement of Russian sanctions in three EU jurisdictions. Through this investigation we uncovered possible sanctions evasion, were able to report for the first time on the total value of sanctioned assets in Italy and Spain, and identified further learnings for how sanctions can lead to asset recovery. We also published new reports into areas little researched in the asset recovery fields: Reconciliation Agreements and Indirect Return Mechanisms – the latter of which we picked up for discussion with governments at the UNCAC Implementation Review Group meeting in Vienna and in new work that emerged to support Venezuelan civil society.

Over the year we also developed three new sets of global civil society principles, aimed at setting out minimum framework standards for asset management, anti-corruption sanctions and victims and asset recovery. These principles lay important groundwork for our and our partners' advocacy in the years ahead.

We extensively engaged on asset recovery with the African Union and regional African bodies in 2023. Alongside joint events and briefings with officials, we developed, and began piloting, a tool to assess implementation of the Common African Position on Asset Recovery. This tool, which will be finalised in 2024, will be an innovative way to advance asset recovery legislation and policy across Africa, rooting reform in African standards.

We also led global debates throughout the year. At the UNCAC Conference of States Parties (UNCAC CoSP) in Atlanta, USA, in December 2023, we co-organised several events with the StAR initiative, civil society and government partners. At the CoSP, we also advocated for transparency, accountability and participation in asset recovery through our role as co-chair of the UNCAC Coalition Asset Recovery Working Group.

Activities under our Strengthening civil society results area underscored much of this work. Partners from across our priority countries and beyond were mobilised and drove much of the work we achieved at the global and regional levels.



We continued our commitment to strengthening the expertise and supporting the voices of our civil society partners across the world. This included providing trainings and ad hoc support to partners in Venezuela, Kenya, Uzbekistan, Mozambique and Angola, as well as enabling partners to engage with government officials in regional and global forums. Among others, we provided support to NGO partners over the year to attend meetings of the African Union and of the UNCAC CoSP, where they led discussions across the range of thematic topics we work with them on.

We also continued our support to advance investigative journalism into financial crime. We carried out Investigate programmes in Madagascar, East and Southern Africa and Peru, training over 50 journalists in financial investigations and supporting them to develop and publish stories. Stories published this year by these journalists had substantial impact and journalists across the programmes were empowered to continue their work beyond our programmes end. A new set of data on cases related to Madagascar was also made available globally following our programme there.

Our international Board, newly elected during the year, saw the addition of prominent experts and activists from different areas which will further strengthen the strategic guidance we much need in the next strategy cycle ahead.

Our achievements in 2023 ended the last year of our strategy strongly. We made progress across all priority areas and did so with a solid and energised team and partners. As we go into a new year and a new strategy, it is clear that 2024 will bring new challenges as conditions and commitment to anti-corruption change globally and as new cases arise. We will, however, also rise to meet the ambition set out in our new 2024 – 2027 strategy and remain ready to take on what the future holds, working as before towards asset recovery that contributes to stronger governance and a fairer world.

The CiFAR Team

## ORGANISATION OVERVIEW

### Registered Address

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 Köpenicker Str, 147  
 10997 Berlin, Deutschland  
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 W: cifar.eu

### Registration details

Registernummer: VR 34993 B  
 Registergericht: Berlin Charlottenburg  
 Steuernummer: 27 / 662 / 57629

### Bank account

#### GLS Bank

IBAN: DE56 4306 0967 1191 1213 01  
 BIC: GENODEM1GLS

## CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### Overall situation

Total available budget	€ 377.506.08
Cash in hand at year begin	€ 69.569.26
Total income	€ 308.146.82
Total expenses	€ 371.312.57
Year end balance	€ 6.403,51

### Income

Projects	€ 300.602.39
Refunds	€ 7544.43

### Project income per donor

GIZ	€ 158.756.83
NED	€ 102.734.30
IJ4EU	€ 27.000
NDI	€12.111.26



### Income by project

**NED Strengthening Collaboration to Combat Kleptocracy** € 102,734.30

*Strengthening the role of civil society in advancing the global debate on asset recovery, further work on the implementation of sanctions and their link to asset recovery, support for national CSO work and cross-regional cooperation.*

**GIZ Improving asset recovery frameworks in Kenya and East and Southern Africa** € 30,580.00

*Increasing the efficiency, transparency and accountability of asset recovery in Eastern and Southern Africa through work with civil society.*

**GIZ Investigate East & Southern Africa** € 82,052.63

*Training, mentoring and story development for teams of early and mid-career journalists in ES Africa working on cases of cross-border corruption.*

**GIZ Investigate: Madagascar** € 46,124.20

*Training, mentoring and story development for teams of journalists in Madagascar working on cases of cross-border corruption.*

**IJ4EU** € 27,000.00

*Support for an investigation into compliance with restrictive measures.*

**NDI** € 12,111.26

*Support to civic actor engagement in the Venezuela trust fund, including research development and communications support.*

### Expenditure by type

Bank service charge	€ 269.05	0.1%
Communication	€ 2,944.84	0.8%
Consultant	€ 73,337.34	19.8%
Misc.	€ 1,540.16	0.4%
Rent	€ 7,389.97	2.0%
Staff	€ 197,678.66	53.2%
Sub-grant	€ 12,194.00	3.3%
Subsistence	€ 33,308.34	9.0%
Supplies	€ 10,811.93	2.9%
Travel	€ 31,786.12	8.6%
Visa fees	€ 52.16	0.0%
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>€ 371,312.57</b>	<b>100%</b>



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