



Microjustice

**ANNUAL REPORT &
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
2023**



Content

1.	Annual Report.....	3
1.1.	General	3
1.2.	The Board of Microjustice	4
1.3.	Report on activities by the Director	5
2.	Financial Statements	8
2.1.	Balance sheet	8
2.2.	Statement of income and expenditure	9
2.3.	Explanatory notes.....	10
	General	10
	Principles of valuation of assets and liabilities	11
2.4.	Notes to the balance sheet	12
	2.4.1. Receivables and accrued income.....	12
	2.4.2. Cash and cash equivalents.....	12
	2.4.3. Continuity reserve	12
	2.4.4. Short term liabilities	13
	2.4.5. Assets and liabilities not recognized in balance sheet.....	13
2.5.	Notes to the Statement of income and expenditure	14
	2.5.1. Income	14
	2.5.2. Other income	15
	2.5.3. Expenditure on the objective	16
	2.5.4. Other costs.....	17
2.6.	Signing of the Annual Report.....	17
3.	Other information	18
3.1.	Appropriation of result for the financial year 2023	18
3.2.	Subsequent events	18

1. Annual Report

1.1. General

Incorporation

Stichting Microjustice4All, referred to as 'Microjustice' was incorporated on December 3th, 1996 by notarial deed. The foundation has its official seat in The Hague, and its headquarters in Belgrade.

Microjustice is registered with the Chamber of Commerce, number 41160018 (RSIN: 805877447) and is a charitable foundation under Dutch Law ("ANBI").

Objectives Microjustice

Microjustice is an organization dedicated to legally empower the poor and victims of humanitarian disasters. By providing people with legal documentation and enabling them to live under the shelter of the law and enjoy the protection and opportunities it provides, Microjustice helps them to get out of the poverty cycle.

Microjustice's mission is to promote universal access to legal rights protection globally. For this global mission Microjustice has developed the Legal Rights Protection Barometer research method and the digital Legal Aid Platform.

By enabling people to have easy access to information on the legal protection of their rights and to related affordable legal aid Microjustice aims to enable all people to participate in society and encourage them to be self-reliant.

Legal Rights Protection

Over the past twenty-seven years Microjustice has developed its method to promote legal rights protection of all in practice through the implementation of field programs in three continents. This method consists of standardized legal service provision in identified basic legal needs of the target group(s), while undertaking bottom-up legal reform and advocacy activities. In this way Microjustice aims to establish sustainable legal service provision infrastructures for the legal rights protection of marginalized people and victims of humanitarian disasters.

Focus

Microjustice helps to set up an affordable quality legal aid provision infrastructure in a county, focused on the needs of the target communities:

1. Various civil documents as birth certificate to enable access to e.g. education, health care, social benefits, microfinance and voting;
2. Housing and land registration for property protection, access to collateral and investment opportunities;

3. Setting up businesses, cooperatives and other legal entities, and drafting contracts to increase income-generating activities and civil society participation;
4. Legal issues related to the above, mostly related to family law and inheritance matters.
5. Legal issues that are specific to a context, especially in post-humanitarian crisis rehabilitation processes.

1.2. The Board of Microjustice

Ms P. van Nispen tot Sevenaer is the sole Director.

The Supervisory Board is composed of the following members:

- F. Bakx, Chairperson
- M.J. Verweij, Secretary
- J. Schretlen, member

The Supervisory Board members do not receive any compensation other than compensation for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

Report on activities by the Supervisory Board

In 2023 the Supervisory Board met 5 times together with the Director. During these meetings the Supervisory Board discussed all significant issues related to the management of the Foundation and projects as well as the fundraising strategy. The most common aspects analysed and approved (when needed) by the board are:

- Annual Accounts and the Annual Report for 2022;
- Current projects and programs and new activities in preparation;
- Team: organisational structure, capacity, composition, recruitment;
- Administrative and financial matters;
- Fundraising strategy;
- Director: periodic performance review;
- Annual Work Plan and Budget 2024

- F. Bakx, Chairperson
- M.J. Verweij, Secretary
- J. Schretlen

1.3. Report on activities by the Director

HQ in Belgrade: Promotion of Legal Rights Protection Globally

After having developed the new tools for promoting legal rights protection and upscaling legal aid services with the support of the Dutch of Foreign Affairs through field work in Kenya, Bolivia, Serbia, Egypt, Jordan and Ukraine from 2018- 2022, the focus in 2023 has been on its promotion globally, to create awareness, to build reputation and to get engagement. Microjustice core team in the Microjustice HQ in Belgrade has worked intensively on this through social media channels and has doubled the followers and visits to the official MJ website <https://microjustice.org/>.

In 2023, we made significant strides in promoting the cause of legal rights protection across multiple regions. Our comprehensive efforts have not only raised awareness but have also fostered meaningful engagement with various stakeholders in the global community.

One of our key accomplishments this year was the extensive dissemination and review of the Legal Rights Protection Barometer reports for Serbia, Ukraine, Kenya, Jordan, and Egypt. These reports have been widely distributed and thoroughly examined by the global civil society community, donor community, and the international legal community. The insights and findings contained in these reports have sparked important discussions and have served as a catalyst for further action in these regions.

Our online presence has been equally impactful. We have built informative blog posts on our official website, providing detailed analyses and updates on our initiatives. These posts have become a valuable resource for those interested in our work and have helped to keep our community informed and engaged.

In summary, 2023 has been a year of remarkable achievements for us. Our efforts have resonated within the global civil society, the donor community, and the international legal community, furthering our mission to protect and promote legal rights. We look forward to building on this momentum in the coming years, continuing to advocate for justice and legal empowerment worldwide.

Legal Rights Protection Program for Egypt

This Program is funded through two projects, the general development of the program and its digital Legal Aid Platform is funded by the Dutch Embassy in Egypt, and a smaller one with focus on women's empowerment is funded by a Dutch Charity.

The Program was prepared in the end of 2022, and made its start in January 2023 with a team of Egyptian attorneys, led by local implementing partner El Seidi law firm.

Advocacy with the legal rights protection barometer report Egypt

The legal rights protection barometer research maps the situation of legal rights protection in civil and administrative law regarding the basic legal needs of all regarding civil documents, family matters, inheritance, housing & property, work related issues. The research results are reflected in the legal rights protection barometer Egypt report 2023, of which the first version was discussed in March 2023 in a round table meeting with lawyers, judges, civil society, the EU delegation and some embassies attending. With

the feedback the final Barometer report July 2023 has been issued and is available at <https://microjustice.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Legal-Rights-Protection-Barometer-Egypt-Report-July-2023.pdf> . As the report's focus is on family law related issues, explaining all relevant family related legal needs and pointing out also the problematics, it is a useful tool for Egyptians to understand the current situation, and the needs for reform to be reflected in the new Personal Statue Law that is being prepared, and will pass through Parliament in the coming year(s).

Preparing the Digital Legal Aid Platform (The LAP)

Developed, standardized and uploaded over 120 digital legal aid handbooks, providing detailed legal know-how for the lawyers' referral network. These handbooks cover a wide range of basic legal rights and services, identified as crucial legal issues as per Barometer report. Handbooks are bilingual, catering to both Arabic and English speakers.

The Legal Aid Platform, available at <https://microjusticeegypt.org/lap/en/> aims to be a transparent, efficient, effective, and affordable tool for legal aid and serves for empowering the entire Egyptian population in need of legal assistance and enhance legal literacy.

The information campaign for the Legal Aid Platform has been effectively implemented, achieving significant outreach and engagement. Through a well-structured social media strategy and impactful training sessions, we have successfully educated the public and prepared a network of legal professionals to support the platform. The campaign has laid a strong foundation for the official announcement and subsequent launch of the Legal Aid Platform, ensuring broad awareness and readiness among both the public and legal community.

Microjustice conducted training sessions that reached over 150 lawyers from various districts, including but not limited to: 1- Assiut, 2- Aswan, 3- Beheira, 4- Bani Suef, 5- Daqahliya, 6- Gharbiya, 7- Ismailia, 8- Kafr El Sheikh, 9- Luxor, 10- Marsa Matrouh, 11- Monofiya, 12- Sharqiya, 13- Red Sea. Each session introduced the Digital Legal Aid Platform, highlighting its benefits for both the public and legal professionals. The training focused on legal topics in the LAP relevant to the participants, ensuring practical and immediate applicability.

Microjusticia Bolivia

Country-wider registration and renewal has reached its final stage, which is very important in the complex situation of civil society in Bolivia.

In November/December 2024, Microjustice Program Manager Vanja Ilic and ICT officer Ronald Chura worked with the Microjusticia Bolivia (MJB) team on the following matters:

- Restructuring the MJB organisation and the appointment of a new Director, Andrea León Cabrera . The core team now includes 3 legal Consultants and 2 financial-administrative, and paralegals-interns from two Universities with which MJB has a collaboration agreement.
- Microjustice held a few educational sessions in terms of preparation of the full project proposal (objectives, outcomes, outputs, activities, risks and mitigation actions) along with revision of the concrete Project Proposals (Inter American Foundation, Canadian embassy proposal, Australian embassy and other opportunities).

- An Agreement was signed between Ministry of Justice and MJB – Protocol for case referral. All the cases that cannot be covered by the free legal aid of the Ministry will be referred to the MJB and other registered legal aid providers (for now 6 registered organizations including MJB are registered in La Paz and El Alto)
- Old Case Management System (CMS) has been revised and compared to the new CMS of the Digital Legal Aid Platform. It is clear that the number of cases has been smaller since we launched the digital Legal Aid Platform in late 2021. The digital legal aid platform is used as a basic tool to provide legal information and legal aid. However, it is complemented by the old method of having help desks in the main office and branches of Banco de FIE, and field work. The focus of this is on conducting mostly cases for “*Personalidad Juridica*”, which had helped MJB in being sustainable and generating small funds.
- The MJB team has finally achieved full understanding of the Barometer research and has been agreed that upon National registration and a sound funding basis, MJB will upscale on a nation-wide level the digital Legal Aid Platform and do continued Barometer research, registering all the obstacles in the case solution registered in the CMS.

Microjusticia Tunisia

The director of MJ has conducted a scoping mission in Tunisia in November-December to identify how to start a legal rights protection program in Tunisia, helping to set up an affordable legal aid system through the digital legal aid platform, and identifying the justice gaps. For the latter a cooperation has been developed with the Justice Governance Group.

Development of Justice Audit in Tunisia and Western Balkan in partnership with the Justice Governance Group

Microjustice and the Governance & Justice Group (UK) are complementary in their objectives and have agreed on mutual cooperation in order to conduct a comprehensive Justice audit as a baseline to achieve Legal Rights Protection. The joint Program will produce a comprehensive data-driven evidence base of a country’s justice system in criminal, civil and administrative justice to:

- provide the basis for programme design, aligned with programme objectives, national policies and priorities, and nested within an over-arching monitoring and evaluating framework;
- include a gap analysis across the justice system;
- identifying a range of investments for Government and development partners to support, as well as skeleton Programme Documents for UN agencies;
- design a Roadmap with benchmarks towards clear and achievable targets drawn up in consultation with key stakeholders; and
- set up the digital Legal Aid Platform

We are developing the buy-in and contacts to pilot the overall Justice Audit in Tunisia and various countries of the Western Balkan.

Vélez-Málaga, 28 June 2024

Patricia van Nispen tot Sevenaer
Director Microjustice

2. Financial Statements

2.1. Balance sheet

Assets		<u>31 December 2023</u>	<u>31 December 2022</u>
		€	€
Receivables and prepayments	2.4.1	6.000	44.991
Cash and cash equivalents	2.4.2	215.497	244.473
		<u>221.497</u>	<u>289.464</u>

Liabilities		<u>31 December 2023</u>	<u>31 December 2022</u>
		€	€
Reserves and funds continuity reserve	2.4.3	47.446	50.118
Short term liabilities	2.4.4	174.051	239.346
		<u>221.497</u>	<u>289.464</u>

2.2. Statement of income and expenditure

		2023 Actual	2022 Actual
		€	€
Income:			
Income own fundraising	2.5.1	88.865	85.296
Interest income		0	0
Other income	2.5.2	30.000	40.025
Sum of income		118.865	125.321
Expenditure:			
Expenditure on the objective			
Legal Empowerment of the poor	2.5.3	88.865	85.296
Expenditure on fundraising	2.5.4		
Other costs		32.672	34.779
Sum of expenditures	2.5.5	121.537	120.075
Deficit/Surplus		-2.672	5.246
<u>Appropriation of result</u>			
Allocation or withdrawal from continuity reserve		- 2.672	5.246

2.3. Explanatory notes

General

a. Activities

The Activities of Stichting Microjustice, having its legal seat at The Hague in the Netherlands, primarily consists of attracting donations for the international delivery of legal services to poor people in developing regions.

b. Related parties

Microjustice is running legal protection programs with Microjustice Country Organizations currently in Bolivia and Egypt.

In The Netherlands the foundation has the following related parties: Stichting Friends of Microjustice. Stichting Friends of Microjustice aims to promote the interests of Microjustice and to support her activities financially.

c. General accounting principles for the preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Guideline RJ650, which applies to Dutch fundraising organizations.

Valuation of assets and liabilities and determination of the result takes place under the historical cost convention. Unless presented otherwise, the relevant principle for the specific balance sheet item, assets and liabilities are presented at face value. Income and expenses are accounted for on accrual basis. Profit is only included when realized on balance sheet date. Losses originating before the end of the financial year are taken into account if they have become known before preparation of the financial statements.

For the purpose of understanding, the classification of certain items in the financial statements has changed. The comparative figures have been adjusted accordingly. These adjustments have no effect on the equity and result of the previous financial year.

d. Translation of foreign currency

Receivables, liabilities and obligations denominated in foreign currency are translated at the exchange rates prevailing at balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currency during the financial year are recognized in the financial statements at the exchange rates prevailing at transaction date. The exchange differences resulting from the translation as of balance sheet date, taking into account possible hedge transactions, are recorded in the profit and loss account.

e. Estimates

In applying the principles and policies for drawing up the financial statements, the directors of the entity make different estimates and judgments that may be essential to the amounts disclosed in the financial statements. If it is necessary in order to provide the transparency required under Book 2, article 362, paragraph 1, the nature of these estimates and judgments, including related assumptions, is disclosed in the notes to the relevant financial statement item.

Principles of valuation of assets and liabilities

a. Receivables

Receivables are included at face value, less any provision for doubtful accounts. These provisions are determined by individual assessment of the receivables. Payments on projects that have been executed without having any contribution but for which contribution is likely are reported on an accrual basis.

b. Current liabilities

Current liabilities are included at face value. Project related contributions for which the granting period does not match the annual reporting period are reported on an accrual basis.

c. Principles for determination of the result

Revenues arising from the project related contributions are reported as long as the granting period matches the annual reporting period. Project related contributions received for which the activities have not yet been performed are reported on an accrual basis.

Operating costs arising from project activities are reported at face value and whereas the project activities have been performed.

Services rendered in kind consist of contributions received for the execution of services for internal purposes (overhead costs). The contribution for these internal services are identical to the expenditures for these internal purposes.

2.4. Notes to the balance sheet

2.4.1. Receivables and accrued income

	31-12-2023	31-12-2022
	€	€
Prepayments on projects	0,-	14.991
Friends of Microjustice	6.000	30.000
Book value at December, 31	<u>6.000</u>	<u>44.991</u>

In the year 2023, Friends of Microjustice committed € 36.000 core funding for development, promotion and overhead. € 6.000 of this commitment was still receivable.

2.4.2. Cash and cash equivalents

Most of the cash and cash equivalents were used for the projects, overheads and operational & development costs, and transitoria, including the Legal Rights Protection Program Egypt.

2.4.3. Continuity reserve

The continuity reserve is specified as follows:

	31-12-2023	31-12-2022
	€	€
Balance at January, 1	50.118	44.873
Release of provision for Invoices of previous years		
Result for the financial year	-2.672	5.246
Balance at December, 31	<u>47.446</u>	<u>50.118</u>

2.4.4. Short term liabilities

The short-term liabilities and accruals can be specified as follows:

	31-12-2023	31-12-2022
	€	€
Grants received in advance		
Advance LIM project	0,-	0,-
Advance Egypt project	120.587	152.202
Accounts payable		
Creditors	53.464	78.684
Transitoria	0,-	8.460
Book value at December, 31	<u>174.051</u>	<u>239.346</u>

In the course of 2023 Egypt project have been implemented for which funds had been received earlier. This explains the drop in 'Grants received in advance' during the year.

2.4.5. Assets and liabilities not recognized in balance sheet

Stichting Friends of Microjustice has a rotating fund of EUR 250.000 which it may use to finance the development and operating costs of Microjustice.

2.5. Notes to the Statement of income and expenditure

2.5.1. Income

The income out of own fundraising can be specified as follows:

	2023	2022
	€	€
Implementing LIM	0,-	76.42
Implementing Egypt	88.865	9.254
	<u>88.865</u>	<u>85.296</u>

2.5.2. Other income

	2023	2022
	€	€
Exchange differences realized	0,-	25,-
Non project related donations	30.000	40.000
	<u>30.000</u>	<u>40.025</u>

2.5.3. Expenditure on the objective

	2023	2022
	€	€
Implementing Project LIM	0,-	76.42
Implementing Project Egypt	88.865	9.254
	<u>88.865</u>	<u>85.296</u>

2.5.4. Other costs

	2023	2022
	€	€
Overhead and operational & development costs	32.672	34.533
Overspending on LIM project	0,-	246
	32.672	28.185

2.6. Signing of the Annual Report

The Director approves the annual accounts, resulting in total assets of € 221.497

The foundation's capital of € 47.446 and a negative result on the balance sheet of € 2.672.

Vélez-Málaga, 28 June 2024

Zeist, 28 June 2024

Patricia van Nispen tot Sevenaer
Director Microjustice

Frank W. Bakx
Chairman Supervisory Board Microjustice

3. Other information

3.1. Appropriation of result for the financial year 2023

The negative result of Euro 2.672 will be subtracted from the continuity reserve of the Foundation.

3.2. Subsequent events

There are no subsequent events known, which may affect the information included in these financial statements, or in the presented balance sheet items and their valuations or in the explanatory notes.