



Engineering Without Borders Argentina

ANNUAL REPORT 2016



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About us, What We Do

Engineering without Borders Argentina (EWB-Argentina) is an interdisciplinary non-profit civil association working for the development of socially deprived local communities by means of engineering projects.

Since 2012, we have been making an effort to collaborate in the construction of a more supportive, inclusive and fairer society through the participative elaboration of technology-based projects, promoting engineering oriented towards sustainable human development, Human Rights fulfillment, care for nature, and the empowerment of socially deprived populations.

In EWB-Ar, we deal with problems from an interdisciplinary perspective, proposing that the knowledge of engineers, professionals from other disciplines, and workers from different trades get together to accompany the sustainable development of the country's most forgotten communities.

We promote collaborative work, diversity and participatory management.

Through the different projects, we seek to strengthen the exploitation of resources and local knowledge to ensure the sustainability of the intervention through time. We encourage community development through the creation of alliances among the State, Universities and civil society organizations.

Moreover, we share our approach and experiences by means of courses and training activities with the aim of having an impact on the training of students and professionals.

Areas of work

EWB-Ar projects help communitarian development processes while focusing on the following areas:



Participation



Territorial Integration



Housing



Labor



Education



Water and Sanitation

Works Teams

Board of Directors

President: Guillermo Poltarak, Eng.

Vice president: Estela Cammarota, Eng.

Secretary: Jorge Fontán Balestra, Eng.

Treasurer: Iara Culla Bonzini, Lic.

Regular Board Members: Alejandra Portatadino, Marta Bendomir y Agustín Lohigorry

Alternate Board Members: Joaquín Fernández Bugna y Gaspar Oyuela Palacio.

Auditor: Víctor Liste, Eng.

Auxiliary Auditor: Luciano Buglioni, Eng.

Staff

Adán Levy, Eng. - Executive Director

Natalia Zlachevsky, Lic. - Institutional Development

María Hernández, Eng. -Infrastructure

Kurt Miguens - Coordinator of campaign in public places



Board of director, Staff and Coordinator

Five years engineering a better world

2012



EWB-Ar is born

2013



Opening of Carrillo Community Room

2014



Building of carpentry in La Cárcova

Opening of First Bridge, Santiago del Estero



First edition of the course Management of Social Projects in UTN (National Technological University)

2015



Opening of Second Bridge, Santiago del Estero



Start of the project Access to water in El Negrito, Santiago del Estero

First edition of the Diploma course in Energy and Sustainable Development – UNLaM (National University of La Matanza)



2016



Start-up of projects in Quilmes, La Plata y Córdoba

Inauguration of classrooms in EFA Avellaneda



2017



Launch of virtual school



We reached 1,800 monthly donors!

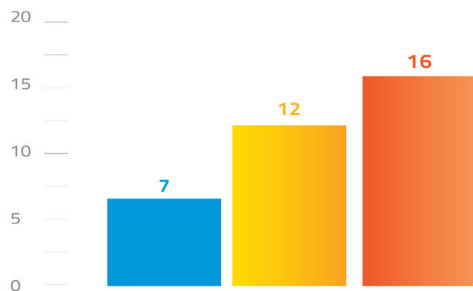


Highlights of the year

EWB-Ar in Numbers

By the end of 2016, we have 230 active volunteers, 16 completed projects and 11 ongoing projects, in 5 provinces of the country.

Completed Projects



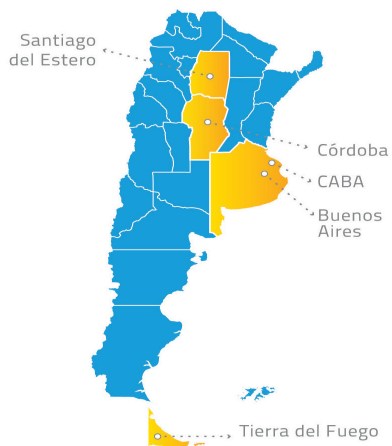
Completed projects 2014 / 2015 / 2016

Active volunteers

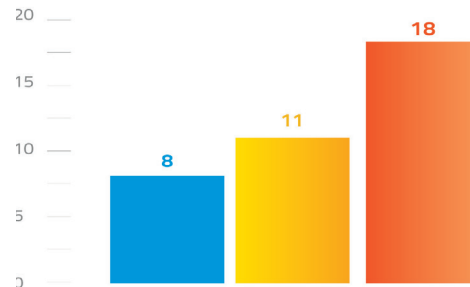


Active volunteers 2016

Number of provinces covered

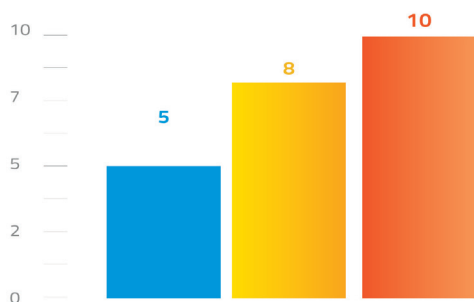


Universities



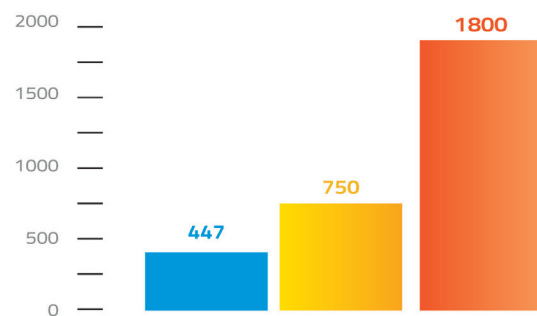
Universities 2014 / 2015 / 2016

Companies that cooperate regularly



Companies that cooperate regularly 2014 / 2015 / 2016

Monthly Donors



Monthly donors 2014 / 2015 / 2016

Towards federalization

The federalization of our misión has been a common dream since the beginning of EWB-Ar. For this to be possible, it is necessary that local teams that share our values and working method come together and organize themselves into a project. This year, we started working in this sense and, little by little, the dream is coming true.

Córdoba

In December 2015, a key objective was met: the creation of a local team in the city of Córdoba. In order to follow up and complete the projects it was essential to have a local team, due to the distance between such location and the city of Buenos Aires. Currently, a team of 14 people is carrying out the first work in the province.



Volunteers working in La Plata

La Plata

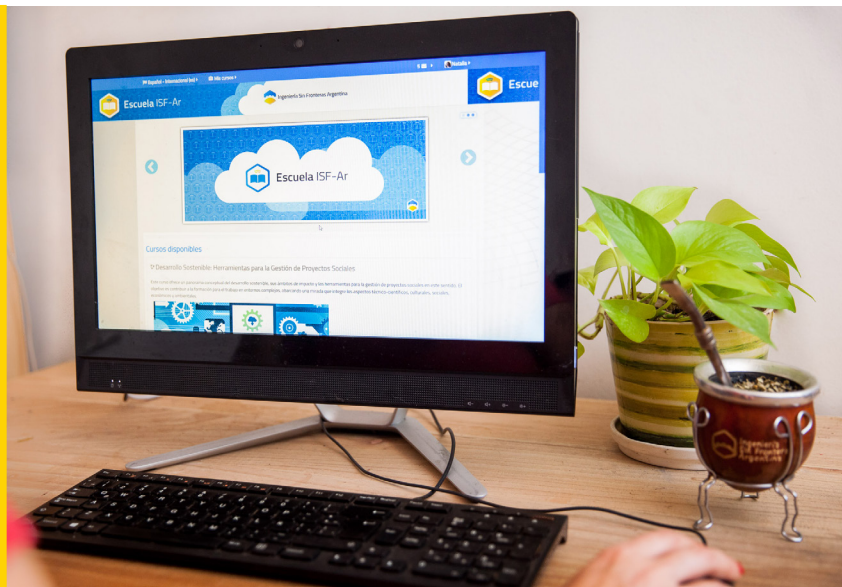
Following a lecture given in National University of La Plata (UNLP in Spanish), a group of volunteers from the southern area of Buenos Aires decided to create a bigger local team to carry out the expansion of the soup kitchen in Altos de San Lorenzo, La Plata. Currently, a regular team of 15 volunteers, most of them engineering students, attends every Saturday to move forward with the work.

EWB-Ar School

EWB-Ar virtual school

We developed EWB-Ar school on a virtual platform, with the purpose that all those interested in attending our courses can do so from anywhere in the country. This year we launched, together with the National Technological University – Santa Fe Regional Faculty, our first virtual course “Sustainable Development: Tools for the management of social projects”.

This was achieved thanks to the prize awarded by Alcoa that we received in 2015 from a contest organized by EWB International (Engineers without Borders International).



With the online course, we could reach students in different provinces of Argentina and other countries such as England, Spain, Costa Rica, Brazil and Australia. The course takes four months and includes different lessons such as Sustainable Development, Engineering and Social Projects, Human Right to Water, Energy Sustainability. In addition, the course provides tools for the management of social projects such as social assessment, problematization, communication and team work, voluntary work, fund raising, and project implementation.

Exchanges without Borders

Five Civil Engineering students traveled from Australia to the City of La Plata and began the construction of a room for the Todos por una Sonrisa Soup Kitchen: Louis Clarke, Gurseerat Khalsa, Mohammad Swaid, Darryal Kemp and Liam Richer.



Nuria Marin and Maite Pérez Zabala, Chemical Engineering students from the Basque Country, spent two months in Santa Rosa, Santiago del Estero, evaluating the water condition as their final paper.



The Energy Engineering student from France, Matthieu Giustini, spent three months in Colonia Dora, Province of Santiago del Estero, working on the construction of classrooms for the EFA Avellaneda Farm School.



Seven members of EWB-France came to visit us to exchange experiences and learn about our work methodology.

The Systems Engineering student Sabina Van Rooij spent a month in Buenos Aires working on the development of applications to improve our management.



Alliances with the State

In Engineering without Borders, we work on projects oriented towards the enforcement of rights, such as the right to drinking water, to participation, to housing, to work and to education. To ensure their enforcement within the communities we work for, working jointly with government agencies is of utmost importance. This year, we managed to form alliances with three municipalities in different parts of the country, which ensures a better viability of the projects we undertake, and also helps notice local issues and join forces to achieve a fairer and more inclusive society.

In this regard, we promised to work together with the Municipality of Quilmes for the expansion and adaptation of the building of the Kindergarten N°3 of Villa La Florida. In addition, we signed an agreement in which the Municipality of Quilmes, through the institutions empowerment projects, promised to grant a subsidy to build a space for a child support center for the organization 'Una mano que ayuda' ['A Hand That Helps'].





Together with the Municipality of Colonia Dora, we are working to ensure that Santa Rosa has wells and rainwater harvesting systems so that it has water supply throughout the year. Also, the Government of the Province of Santiago del Estero granted a subsidy which will cover the full cost of the materials for the construction of such project.

Finally, the Municipality of San Martín, province of Buenos Aires, made available the land for the construction of a day-care center in the borough of La Cárcova, and it will also manage the institution once the work is finished.



Projects

Projects in final stage



Construcción Building of classrooms in farm school

Colonia Dora, provincia de Santiago del Estero

The EFA Avellaneda School offers access to high school education with an alternation modality in which young people of rural areas live at the school two weeks per month. The educational proposal aspires to improve household economies of the families of the area. Therefore, by extending the enrollment capacity, we extend the possibilities to generate an impact on the community's local development. During 2016, we built two classrooms with the capacity to lodge 48 students in each classroom, and a room where the teachers who stay at school can sleep. This expansion enables the increase of the students' enrollment in a 70 percent and the inclusion of more farmer young people. This construction was built along with volunteers from EWB-Switzerland, teachers, parents and school's students. vecinos de la escuela.



New classrooms in EFA Avellaneda



Expansion of kindergarten

● Villa La Florida, Quilmes district

Every day, 70 children between the age of 4 and 5 attend the kindergarten N° 3 of Villa La Florida, a neighborhood in which live families in vulnerable situations. We are finishing the construction of a multipurpose room to improve the conditions for daily activities, and later, the municipality will build two classrooms to expand the educative offer.



Progress in the multipurpose room in kindergarten of Villa La Florida

Electrical system in community center

● La Nango,
Monte Grande,
Esteban
Echeverría
district



EWB-Ar working on the electrical system

“Dejando Huellas” [“Leaving Marks”] is a social and supportive center of the Nonprofit Organization “SonRisas”, located in La Nango neighborhood, of Monte Grande, in the south of Buenos Aires province. From EWB-Ar, we work together with “SonRisas” and the community so that the center has a safe electrical system. “La Nango” is an informal settlement where 85 families in vulnerable situations without access to basic services live. The center provides school support, entertainment workshops, sports and afternoon snack for all the children of the families of the neighborhood and of the area.

Projects in progress 2016 - 2017



Expansion of Community Center

● Córdoba

Obispo Angelelli neighborhood, which is located ten kilometers to the south of Córdoba city center, was born as a result of a relocation process of informal settlements. Nowadays, it has a facility where the locals are provided with school tutoring and literacy programs, and where lunch bags are delivered. We are working on the transformation of a tin roofed masonry room into a multipurpose room (MPR) in order to encourage community bonds by means of the improvement of the infrastructure, and to promote the development of new activities as well. In 2016 we managed to make progress in the construction of this building and we also fostered networks in the neighborhood, which will allow for the strengthening of this place.



Progress in the construction of the multipurpose room in Córdoba



Access to water and energy in a rural community: Second stage

Colonia Dora, Province of Santiago del Estero.

El Negrito is an isolated community of 60 people. Its members drink rainwater which they store in water wells. During droughts they are forced to resort to alternative water sources unfit for human consumption. We have already completed the first stage of the project. It consisted in the development of a safe water supply system. We are currently working on the second stage to provide access to 30 liters of water a day per person, for personal hygiene and cleaning, as well as to improve the quality of the water sources for animals and to expand them.



Installation of Pumps in El Negrito





Construction of a Day-Care Center

La Cárcova Neighborhood, San Martín

We are building a day-care center from rests of industrial structural bars in La Cárcova, a neighborhood subject to constituent, environmental and social issues in a complex way. The goal of this project is to create a place for support and learning for boys and girls, and to help their mothers, which have no access to formal employment, partly because of the lack of places like this one for their children.



La Cárcova Neighbourhood

Expansion of the community soup kitchen

La Plata, province of Buenos Aires



The soup kitchen "Todos por una Sonrisa" provides food for more than 100 children

The soup kitchen for children "Todos por una Sonrisa" has been working for three years in "Altos de San Lorenzo" neighborhood where most of the neighbors do not have access to basic services. In this place out in the open, the volunteer neighbors cook in a firewood oven to provide food for more than 100 children. They also conduct workshops and work in alphabetization. We are building a venue so that this soup kitchen can operate safely and increase the number of activities it offers.

Projects in the initial stage



Expansion of the Children Support Center

● Villa La Florida, Quilmes district

The Children Support Center “Nuestra Señora de la Esperanza” receives 60 children between 5 and 15 years old daily, who are given the four meals, educational support, music, recycling, and reading workshops, among other activities. Today, this place works in a precarious building which has insufficient sanitary facilities and it is constantly exposed to flooding. With the extension project, we seek to adapt the center for the activities in progress and to facilitate the incorporation of new proposals. In October of 2016 we began the first stage, which foresees the building of a multi-purpose room of 60 m² and the improvement of the facilities.



Volunteers working on the building of a multi-purpose room



Access to water in rural community

Santa Rosa, Santiago del Estero

Santa Rosa is a rural and difficult-access location, located at 20 km of Colonia Dora, where about 65 families live. The water provision is made through a tanker truck sent by the Local Government but it does not cover the necessary quantity per person per day for consumption, cleaning and hygiene. For this reason, the settlers supplement with water they obtain from diverse sources, not all suitable for human consumption. We are beginning the execution of a project by stages with the purpose of facilitating secure sources of water provision and encouraging the local productive development.



Santa Rosa, Santiago del Estero



Training and Impact

One of the foundations of our mission is to have an impact on the training of students and professionals of different areas sharing our point of view and systematizing our experiences. To that end, we create networks with renowned educative institutions, such as the National Technological University and the National University of La Matanza, to provide training that contributes to the development of skills in sustainable development

Strategic management of social projects: Towards sustainable development

On-site university course

Universidad Tecnológica
Nacional Regional
Buenos Aires [Buenos
Aires Regional National
Technological University]
Third edition: May-
September 2016
Graduates: 18
Academic Director: Estela
Cammarota, Eng.



2016 Graduates

Energy and sustainable development: Tools for practice

Post graduate Degree

National University of La

Matanza (UNLaM)

Second edition: June-

October 2016

Graduates: 33

Academic Director: Mg.

Agustín Lohigorry



E2016 Graduates

Sustainable Development: tools for the management of social projects

On-line course

Universidad Tecnológica

Nacional- Facultad

Regional Santa Fe [National

Technological University-

Santa Fe Regional Faculty]

First Edition: August -

November 2016

Graduates: 30

Academic Directors: Estela

Cammarota, Eng.; Natalia

Zlachevsky, Lic.





Supporters

Without the sustained support of the following institutions, organizations and companies over these years, it would not have been possible for us to carry out our projects. We thank each one of them for the confidence and the commitment undertaken for engineering together a better world.

Professional Councils

Civil Engineering Professional Council (CPIC in Spanish) - CABA

Industrial Engineering Professional Council (CPII in Spanish) - CABA

Architecture and Urbanism Professional Council (CPAU in Spanish) - CABA

Universities

National Technological University – Buenos Aires Regional Faculty (UTN – FRBA in Spanish)

National Technological University – Santa Fe Regional Faculty (UTN – FRSF in Spanish)

La Matanza National University (UNLaM in Spanish)

General Sarmiento National University (UNGS in Spanish)

La Plata National University (UNLP in Spanish)
 National Technological University – La Plata Regional Faculty (UTN – FRLP in Spanish)
 Quilmes National University (UNQ in Spanish)
 National University of Santiago del Estero (UNSE in Spanish)
 Buenos Aires Technological Institute (ITBA in Spanish)
 Argentinean Catholic University (UCA in Spanish)
 Catholic University of Córdoba (UCC in Spanish)
 San Juan Bosco National University of Patagonia (UNP in Spanish)
 Pepperdine University
 Siglo 21 University
 Flores University (UFLO in Spanish)
 EHigher Technical School - Army Engineering Faculty
 Jujuy National University
 National Technological University – Haedo Regional Faculty (UTN – FRH in Spanish)
 National Technological University – Río Grande Regional Faculty (UTN – FRRG in Spanish)

Civil Society Organizations

IngOG+
 Red TISA
 CEDA Washington
 SonRisas
 Nuestras Huellas
 500 RPM
 Una mano que ayuda

Companies

ADIMRA – Car transfer to the construction sites for volunteers
 Cablevisión S.A. – Project support
 Colectando Sol – Backing our Certificate of Energy and Sustainable Development.
 Din S.A. – Supply of storage space for building materials
 Fibertel – Internet connection.
 Flecha Bus Viajes S.A. – Bus discounts
 IBM Argentina S.R.L. – Project support
 Marsh – Transport and Volunteers' insurance
 MRM Worldwide Argentina S.R.L. – Broadcasting and Media
 Pentaka S.A – Construction profiles donations
 Sodimac S.A. – Supplies for projects and security.



Acknowledgments

We would like to thank Pablo Kulbaba and Ramiro Walti for the workshop on efficient stoves in the Post Graduate Degree in Engineering and Sustainable Development held at the UNLaM.

Kleer, for providing the premises to film material devoted to the online course.

Luis Ricci and the team of MECASUR, for their genuine willingness.

Gustavo Saralegui and Marcos Actis for their support on the launching of our first project in La Plata.

Pampa Energía Foundation for helping with the scholarships awarded to seven students to take the Degree on 'Engineering and sustainable development: tools for practice' held at the UNLaM.

Fabian Monti and Rodrigo Mon, and the team of Pentair, for their generous donation of devices and materials valuable for our works.

Proseind, for donating security shoes.

Acerolatina, for their generous donation of materials.

Transporte Nahuel García that collaborates with deliveries to Santiago del Estero.

Expressbeer, for the shipment of materials to Córdoba.

MyM, for the tanks, biodigesters and the support on sanitary installation in La Plata.

Grundfos, for the technical support and the donation of the pump and panels for the project 'El Negrito.'

ADIUNGS, for collaborating with the repair of our truck

Instituto Argentino de Siderurgia for the scholarship in the course on Structural Welding Code Steel AWS D1.1.

Eng. José María Casas for donating the concrete devoted to the construction of a kindergarten in La Cárcova.

Akzo Nobel Argentina for donating security materials.

Bakers Hughes, for the donation of security shoes.

And, Kalop, for the donation of electrical materials.

To Carlos A. Fama and Julian E. Herreros and the company Heavy Service S.A. for lending us the forklift truck and to Suma Transporte for its transfer to Montegrande.

To CALCIC S.A. for the donation of fire extinguishers.

To the Materials and Structures Laboratory of the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Buenos Aires, for the analysis of soil samples and materials trials.

To Juan and Alejandro of the ITBA workshop for the help with the repair of our vehicles.

To Norberto Pazos of the CPIC for his generosity.



To the Chamber of Metalworkers and Components of Córdoba [CIMCC in spanish]for providing us with a space for institutional meetings.

To central Dock (Cementos avellaneda) and Holcim for the concrete donation for the Córdoba project.

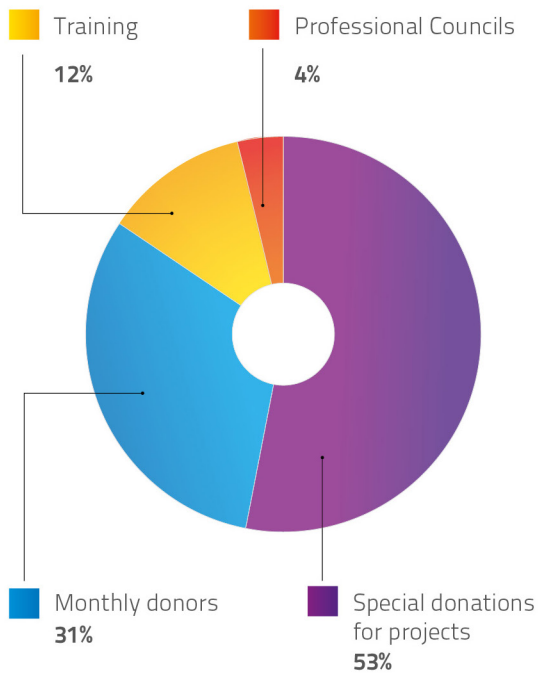
To Richetta for the donation of electrical installations for the Córdoba project.

To DICON for the donation of blocks for the Cordoba project.

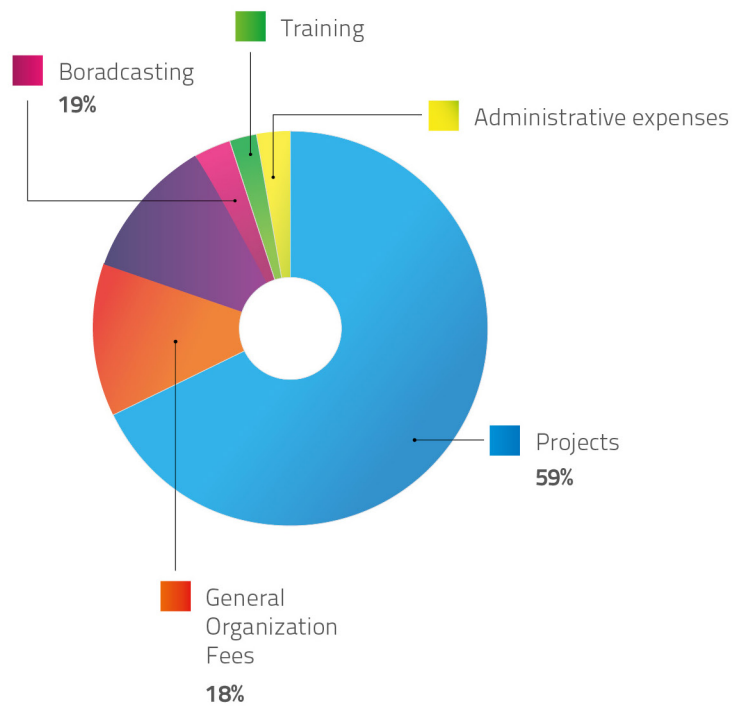
To the volunteers' team based in Houston, who is collaborating with fundraising activities and with dissemination of the organization, led by Joaquín Maqueda and Pablo Arena.

Financial report

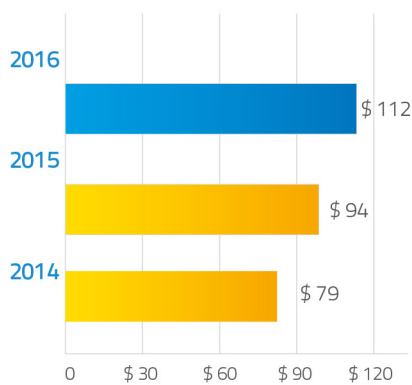
Income composition



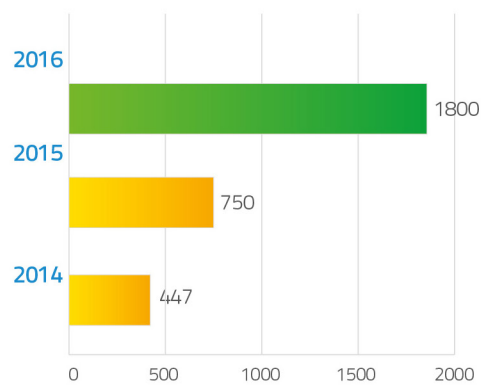
Cost Composition



Average amount



Number of donors upon completion of this report





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