

Fondo Beneficenza

Activity report as of December 31, 2023

Final disbursements as of 31 December 2023

The total disbursements in 2023 amount to **€18,902,600**, an increase of 20% compared to 2022.

Overall, **approximately 912,000 direct beneficiaries were reached** (net of medical research projects).

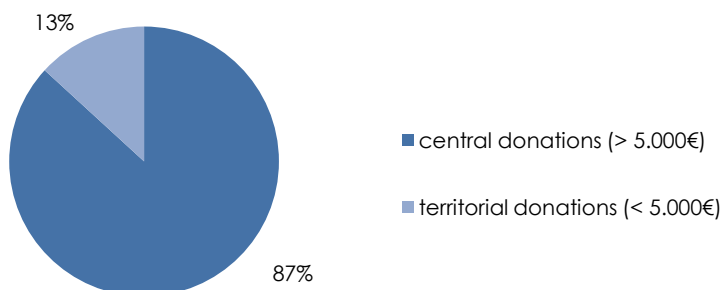
In 2023, **a total of 2,272 requests were managed** (approximately +11% compared to 2022):

- 714 received support;
- 1,417 were rejected;
- 141 were postponed to 2024, as they were deemed worthy, but not sustainable due to the exhaustion of funds.

The number of **rejected requests** is growing, which stands at around **60%**, because they are not in line with the Regulation and/or the Guidelines in force, due to the lower quality of the project or the limited estimated social impact of the initiatives.

At the end of December 2023, €18.9 million had been disbursed (€16.4 million for central donations and €2.5 million for territorial donations; approximately +26% and -6% respectively vs 2022), for a total of 714 donations (31 less than in 2022), of which **134 central donations and 580 territorial donations** (approximately +16% and -8% respectively vs 2022).

Disbursed 2023 (€18.9 million)



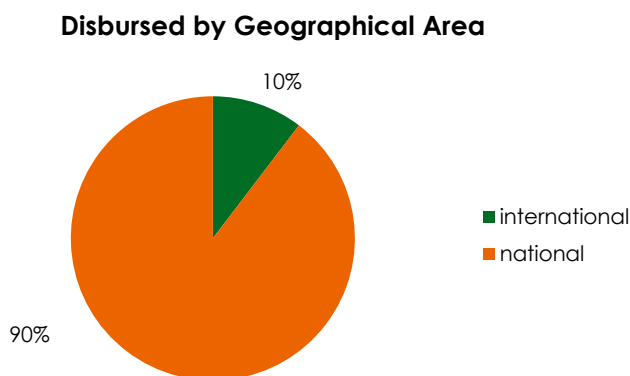
The amount of central disbursements has increased significantly given the slightly higher number of projects supported than the previous year. **The average value of disbursements of roughly €120,000 is growing, with 35% of central disbursements placed between €100,000 and €200,000.**

To ensure that organizations submitting requests to the Fund take on greater economic and financial responsibility, many project budgets have been revised to include or increase **co-financing by the proponent**, envisaged by the Guidelines in force to the extent of at least 10%¹. This contribution was equal to €11.3 million (42% of the total costs of the projects supported) and ranges from a minimum of 5% to a maximum of over 90%. **On average** co-financing stands at **25%**. The most frequent co-financing percentages are between 10% and 17%. The contribution from the Fund stands at 54%, the contribution from the organization and/or partners at 42% and donations from other supporters at 4%.

As regards **territorial donations**, there was a decrease both in the overall amount disbursed (which reflects a lower initial availability) and in the number of projects supported, which demonstrates the positive tendency to disburse **higher contributions on average (€4,300 in 2023)**.

a. Geographical destination of donations

A predominant commitment at a national level is confirmed for 2023, in line with the traditional positioning of the Charity Fund, which historically concentrates resources on the Italian territory. Both central and territorial donations therefore continue to represent a tool to support the communities in which the Intesa Sanpaolo Group is present and operates with its branch network.



Overall, as of December 2023, **€16,409,200 had been disbursed for projects in Italy** (€14.7 million for central donations and €2.5 million for territorial donations), **guaranteeing coverage of all regions of the country**.

A prevalence of disbursements in favor of projects carried out in the North is confirmed. This can be attributed, as always, to a numerical majority of non-profit organizations in the northern regions²,

¹ Proposing organization with project partners, if present.

² According to the latest Istat data (2020), there are 363,499 non-profit institutions active in Italy, of which 50.2% in the North, 22.2% in the Centre, 27.6% in the South and Islands.

traditionally very active both in the implementation of projects and in fundraising activities. At **47%**, disbursements **are less than half of the resources disbursed**, a consolidated trend dating from 2021³. In particular, we note **the increase in resources allocated to Friuli-Venezia Giulia (+68%)** and **Liguria (+57%)**. As regards Lombardy, it remains the first recipient of donations with a total disbursement of €3.8 million. In this regard, it is worth remembering the weight of the commitments undertaken within the QuBì program and the Territorial Co-planning Line which amount to €1.9 million, almost half of the total disbursements in the region.

Support for other areas of the country remains significant. Southern Italy and the Islands received 27% of the resources (+2% compared to 2022), with **Sicily** and **Campania** confirming themselves as the **first beneficiary regions in the area and, respectively, the fourth and seventh receiving regions in absolute terms**, with disbursements of approximately €1.3 million for the first and €1 million for the second, equal to approximately 8% and 6% of the allocated funds.

During 2023, **contributions to Umbria more than doubled and those to Molise grew by more than 50%**. These are regions that are traditionally poorly covered. Also noteworthy is the increase in resources in favor of Emilia-Romagna (approximately +55%), in particular at the central level, for the support guaranteed to the populations affected by the floods in May and to Sardinia (approximately +57%) with a considerable increase in sustained realities.

Data in thousands of €



³ Disbursements in the northern regions amounted to 49% in 2021 and 45% in 2022.

International donations concern exclusively central donations. The funds disbursed for projects abroad amount to €1,959,300. Over 50% of the disbursements were allocated **to interventions in the countries in which the Intesa Sanpaolo Group operates with its subsidiaries**, a strategic orientation which started in recent years and continued in 2023. Overall, **11 projects** were supported, of which 7 were presented through the Banks of the International Subsidiary Banks Division, in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Ukraine and Hungary. These were almost entirely the continuation of interventions already supported in previous years. The donations went to people in food poverty, unemployed young people, vulnerable and disabled minors, the homeless, women victims of violence and people with intellectual disabilities.

In **Ukraine**, the Charity Fund has confirmed, for the second year, its support for **Medicines Sans Frontieres (MSF) and Soleterre Strategie di Pace** with a total commitment of €349,000.

The Charity Fund has also supported the fight against poverty in the world **with interventions in countries with a low or medium Human Development Index and in poor or emerging countries affected by natural disasters**.

b. Areas of intervention

At the end of December 2023, **91% of the resources** were disbursed to **projects in the Social Area**, for a total of **€17,221,150** (€14.7 million at the central level and €2.5 million at the territorial level), an increase compared to the previous year (+23%).

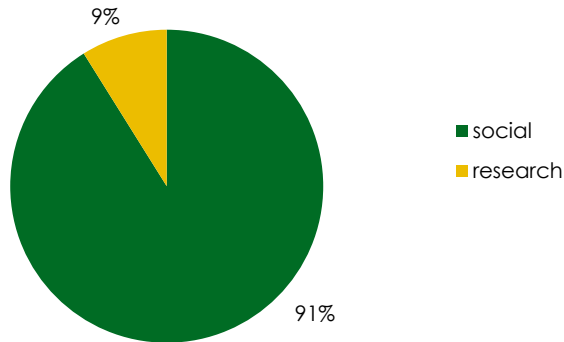
Among the projects supported in 2023, we highlight work placement projects for people in situations of fragility and social disadvantage, psychological support for young people in difficulty and for caregivers, educational courses for the autonomy of young care leavers and fragile adults, support to day centers and diagnostic centers for minors in difficulty, health interventions for vulnerable people, home care, reception and recreational projects for cancer patients - with particular attention to children -, cultural activities in prisons, social farming experiences.

The **Research Area** records a total **disbursement of €1,681,450**. As regards **Medical Research**, **13 projects** were supported (total donations of **€1.4 million**) by leading national institutions, for the study of Respiratory Syncytial Virus, metabolic disorders, chronic pain, multiple sclerosis, rare genetic diseases, post-stroke recovery, Parkinson's disease, autism, vision disorders, coronary heart disease, tumors. The initiatives in this area were evaluated and selected only at the **central level. Refereeing is provided by external experts** who draw up detailed evaluation sheets on qualitative and quantitative elements such as objectives and methodology, impact, research team and budget.

New in the 2023-2024 Guidelines is the support for **Social Research** in which **3 studies** have been identified (total donations of **€300,000**) on **usury; school dropout** in Sardinia and Sicily and the

phenomenon of **gang mastering** in Northern Italy.

Disbursed 2023 by Area of intervention

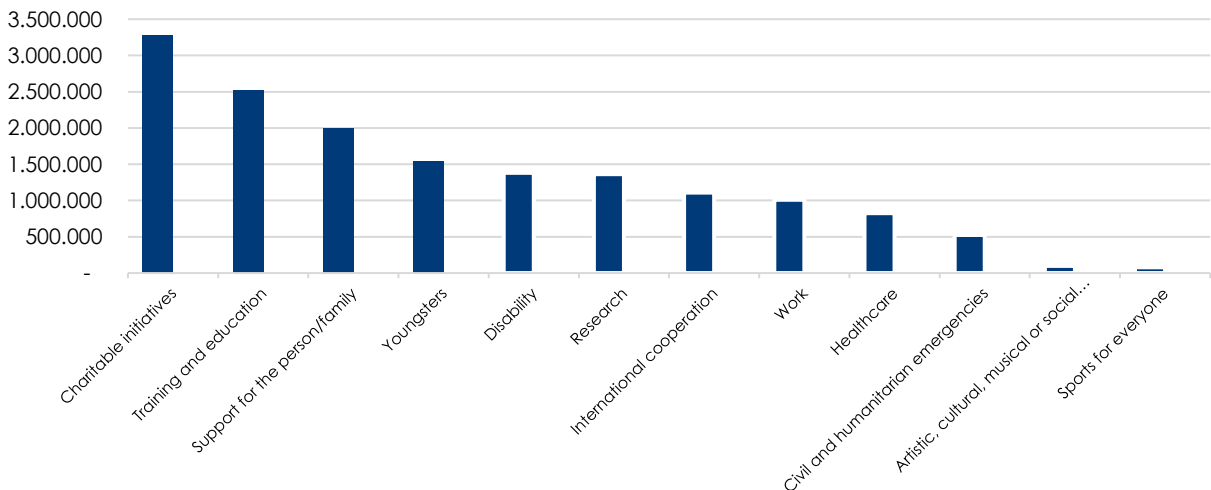


c. Purpose of the projects

The Charity Fund continued **to favor initiatives** in favor of the **weakest members of society**: approximately **99%** of the **funds disbursed at the end of December 2023** were **dedicated to initiatives with this purpose** which cover, among others, the issues of inclusion social issues, the fight against social hardship and poverty, the prevention and treatment of diseases, support for disabilities and international cooperation projects.

Here is a summary of donations by purpose:

Disbursed 2023 for purposes



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The five main purposes - equal to 70% of the resources provided in 2023 - are personal support, charitable initiatives, training and education and support for youngsters. They reflect the focus of the Guidelines for the two-years and the contribution of the Charity Fund to the Business Plan. The first

aim includes initiatives against violence and discrimination. The second purpose includes projects linked to the social objectives of the Business Plan (supply of meals to the poor), some of the interventions of the territorial co-planning line and the QuBì program. The third is actions aimed at reducing educational poverty and the digital divide. In the fourth and fifth, the programs support the job placement of vulnerable individuals, with particular attention to NEETs.

The initiatives in the field of **disability** - approximately **7% of the resources provided** - demonstrate the continuous support guaranteed to this target both from a health point of view and in terms of socio-economic inclusion. The commitments are especially important at a territorial level, where these interventions represent the primary aim of the intervention (**27% of the disbursements made by the Banca dei Territori**). **Cultural projects with social impact** and those of **inclusion through sport** remain residual.

d. Thematic focuses of the Guidelines

The 2023-2024 Guidelines have identified four issues of particular importance and urgency:

- Emergency interventions against poverty (only for the year 2023);
- Fight against educational poverty and the digital divide;
- Support for NEETs and ELETs
- Support for women and minors victims of violence and those subject to serious discrimination

for which a total of **over 7 million euros were disbursed (37% of the 2023 donations)**.

As regards emergency **interventions against poverty**, a total of **74 projects** were supported, for a total of **over €1 million** disbursed. The Charity Fund has guaranteed temporary reception, paths for people in a fragile housing situation, territorial HUBs for material aid (canteens, emporiums and solidarity shops), and initiatives to support families in accessing basic goods and services and to pay rent and bills. All interventions included personalized support for emerging from poverty.

There were 69 projects to fight educational poverty and the digital divide, for a total of almost €2.5 million disbursed, and they involved the entire school cycle; particular attention was paid to pupils with a migrant background, with special educational needs and to overcoming the gender gap. At a geographical level, the interventions focus on peripheral areas and urban areas where socio-economic marginalization is evident. Methodologies have been adopted for the improvement of learning abilities, the development of soft skills and the priority needs of children, involving families and school staff, to strengthen the support of the educational community in the long term.

As for **support for NEETs and ELETs**, **24 projects** were supported, for a **total of €960,000 disbursed**. The initiatives involved the identification and engagement of beneficiaries to help them define their life

path, through (re)orientation, training and work tutoring activities. The projects have made it possible to address the recovery of young people through the safeguarding of ancient traditions and crafts and with training linked to emerging professionalism.

Regarding the latest focus on **support for women and minors victims of violence and those victims of serious discrimination**, **74 projects** were supported, for a **total of €2,530,600 disbursed**. This is the focus with the greatest coverage, dealing with particularly sensitive and diversified issues. The beneficiaries of the projects are women victims of violence and their children, agricultural workers subjected to exploitation, first- or second-generation migrants who have difficulty integrating into the community of reference, individuals with physical or cognitive disabilities who struggle to achieve autonomy, people discriminated against because of their sexual orientation.

e. Projects supporting the Business Plan

The Presidency continued to support some initiatives in 2023 for the realization of the social objectives of the 2022-2025 Business Plan (Program "Food and shelter for the needy"). Overall, **€2.4 million** was disbursed for initiatives against **food poverty**, i.e. intended to cover or increase the number of meals distributed by charitable structures across the country. The estimate of **annual meals supported by the Charity Fund is almost 1.5 million, corresponding to approximately 4,000 meals a day**.

f. 2022 disbursements: progress of the projects reported

Regarding **projects supported during 2022 and concluded in 2023**, approximately two-thirds of the expected reports were received. The remaining interventions are still ongoing.

The checks carried out on the completed projects returned an **overall positive picture**: most of the organizations **achieved and, in some cases, exceeded the set objectives**, actively involving the reference communities in the development of the initiatives and expanding the local networks. Numerous collaboration networks between private social organizations, institutions and other key subjects (schools, social services, etc.) have been launched or consolidated, evidence of the territory's appropriation of the experiences activated and a guarantee of the sustainability of the interventions over time.

The **impact** of the initiatives is significant and, in some cases, has **guided public policies**. In other cases, **the attention of the media and institutions was drawn to problems that were still underestimated**.

The project **deadlines** were substantially **respected**, except for the physiological delays in starting initiatives in the first year of operation and in the case of medical research, for which extensions are

often requested for the publication of the results achieved. Some additional difficulties were encountered in the implementation of international cooperation interventions in difficult socio-political contexts, overcome thanks to the ability of the organizations to reorganize themselves by leveraging a long-term presence on site and a solid network of relationships woven in the reference territories.

The allocated **resources** were **used correctly**. Budget adjustments (not significant) during the implementation of the activities have always been agreed with the Charity Fund.