



SfL International

Annual Report 2025

Star for Life was founded at a school in South Africa in 2005, but has since grown into an international collaboration of legally independent organizations that share values, expertise and concepts. The non-profit association SfL International is responsible for the leadership and coordination of the entire international operation in South Africa, Namibia, Tanzania, Sweden, Ukraine, Jerusalem, Germany & Norway. The Secretary General of SfL International is Jessica Grundström Ahldin and the Chairperson is Dan Olofsson.

The Secretary-General's opening remarks

After more than twenty years of activity, it is a pleasure to welcome you to something new - SfL International. This is the name of the association and umbrella organization that now has the task of uniting, strengthening, and developing the work of Star for Life countries for the self-esteem, health, and academic results of children and young people around the world. We do not exist to build administration or bureaucracy - but to coordinate key expertise and ensure that we maintain the same high quality - regardless of language, culture, or country.

Through SfL International and our board as well as management team, we ensure leadership that carries for a new era and cross-country knowledge in programs, evaluation, communication, finance, and fundraising.

It makes us stronger and enables our countries to learn from each other. But above all, it makes us better equipped to face a world where the needs are greater and the challenges more complex than when we started 21 years ago.

Already now this work has proved fruitful. In 2025, we applied for and were granted funding for the first time from the Swedish aid agency Sida. In cooperation with Star for Life Ukraine, SfL International will carry out a project that strengthens young people and contributes to building a democratic infrastructure in a country marked by war and unrest.

When we look ahead, we can therefore do so with confidence and with optimism. Not because the challenges have lessened, but because our ability to face them has increased. We are building for a new era - with the same core as always. But together we gain greater reach and strength. And together we are strong!



Jessica Grundström Ahldin

Secretary General

Organization and Board

SfL International is a non-profit association and umbrella organization for the Star for Life foundations that currently exist in South Africa, Namibia, Tanzania, East Jerusalem, Ukraine, as well as in Sweden, Norway, and Germany. The operations are led by a board and a Secretary General who, together with the Deputy Secretary General and management team, coordinate Star for Life's global work and ensure key expertise in programs, evaluation, communication, finance, and fundraising.

Together, they create the conditions for quality in programs and evaluation, increased awareness and visibility, higher revenue, and better financial management.

In parallel, operations in each country are carried out by independent organizations led by Country Directors. This model combines local anchoring with global coordination – where experiences are shared, expertise is strengthened, and quality is secured across borders.



Dan Olofsson
Chair



Anders Dahlvig
Board Member

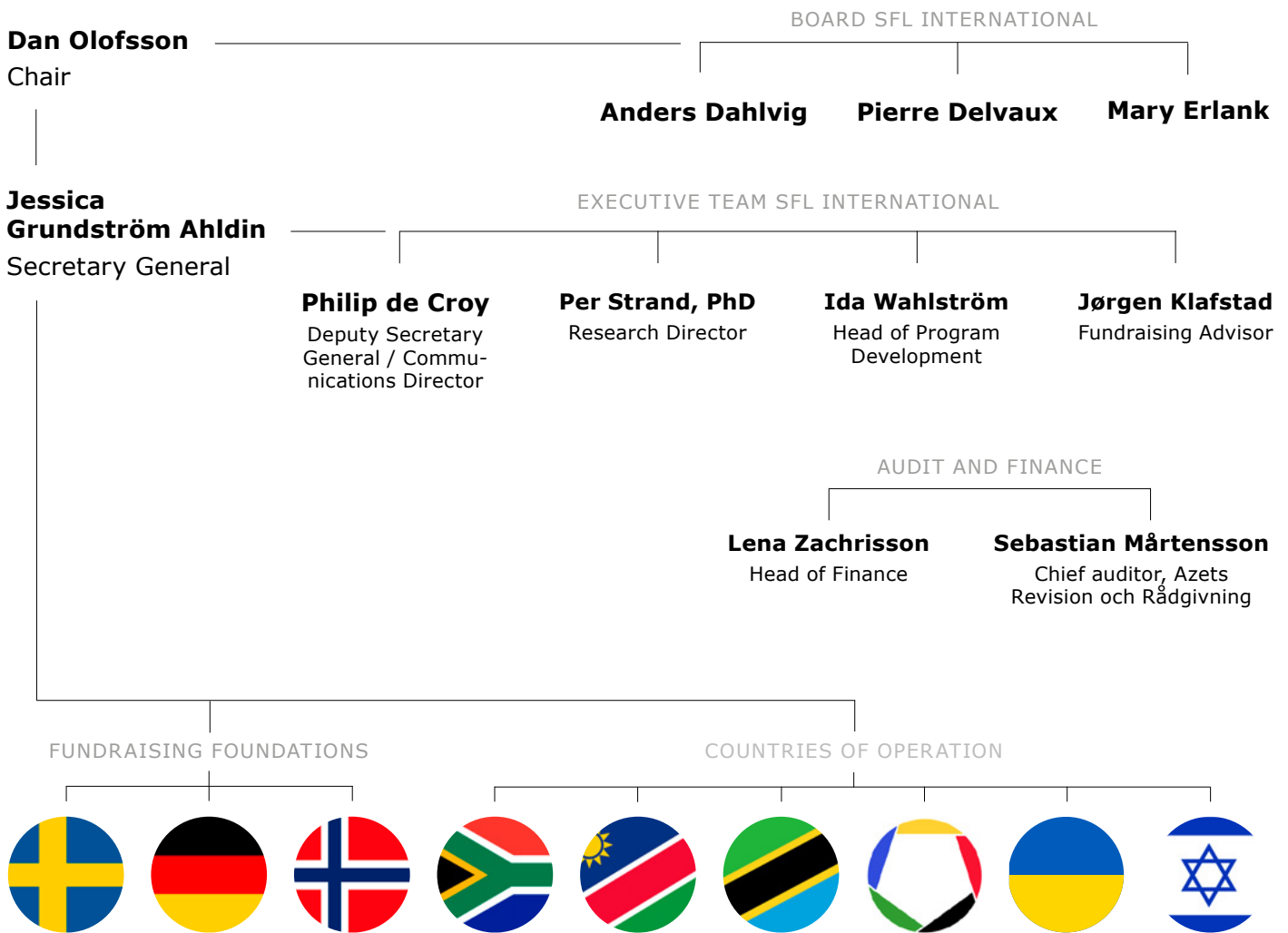


Pierre Delvaux
Board Member



Mary Erlank
Board Member

Organisational Structure



Administrative report

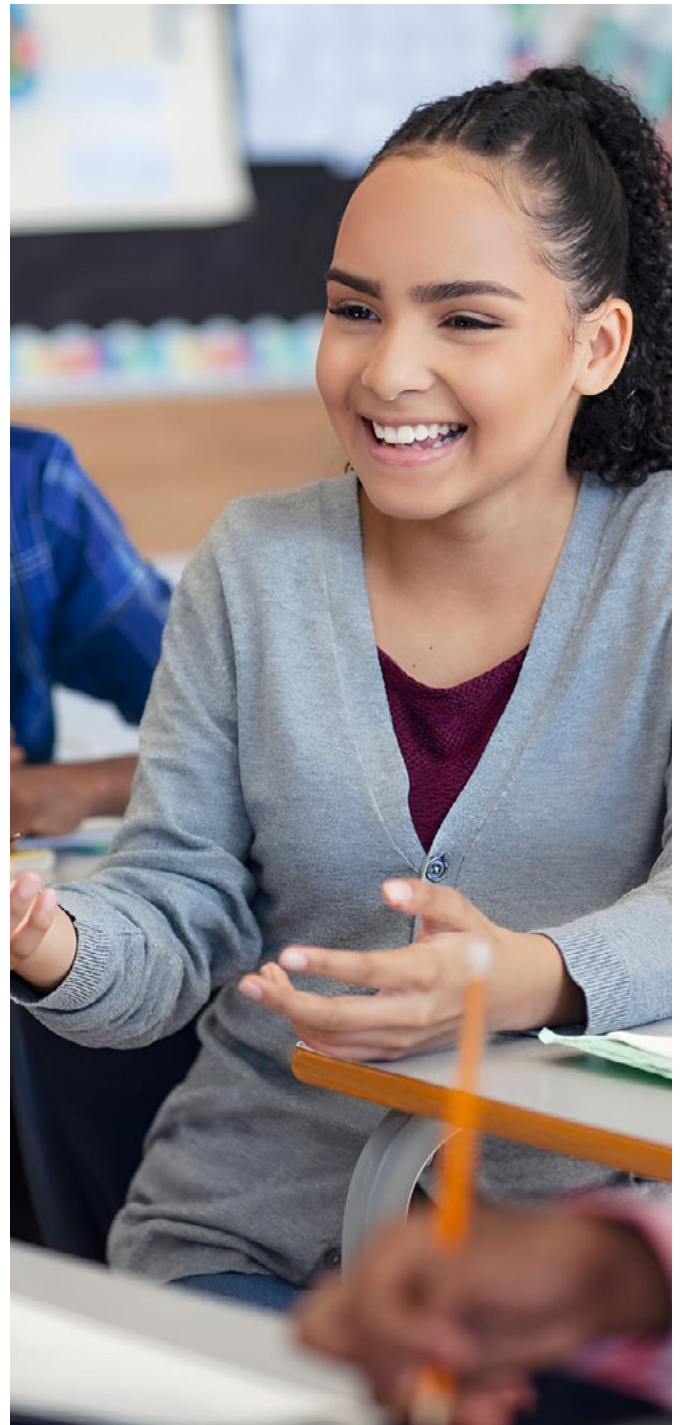
General information about the organisation

SfL International, 802546–9514, is a non-profit association based in Malmö that was formed in December 2023.

The association's purpose shall be, through voluntary fundraising work and without profit motive or limitations to certain individuals, groups, or geographic areas, to promote and conduct educational and health-promoting work primarily among school youth.

The association functions as a global umbrella organization for the countries where Star for Life runs school and health programs for children and young people's self-esteem, health, and academic results and/or fundraising activities to make this work possible.

Each Star for Life country operates independently under the leadership of the respective country director. SfL International ensures uniformity and quality. The organization is globally led by a Secretary General who, together with their management team, ensures specialized expertise in organization, communication, program development, evaluation, and fundraising.



Significant events during the year

PROJECT FUNDS FROM SIDA

Since its inception in 2005, Star for Life has not only grown in scope but also in trust, including in the institutional aid sector.

During the year, SfL International, together with Star for Life Ukraine, applied for funds from Sida for a project focusing on young people and democratic infrastructure in a war-affected society.

For the first time, we were granted support, which at the same time became recognition of our professionalization. It is a trust that we approach with both joy and respect.

SfL International is responsible for coordinating the project, supporting implementation, evaluating the efforts, and managing the financial reporting and accountability.

FUNDRAISING FOR UKRAINE - "22 THOUSAND DREAMS INTERRUPTED"

Sweden and Ukraine are united not only by our blue and yellow colours but also by history and a shared longing for peace. As early as 1782, Gammalsvenskby was founded on the Dnieper River as a bridge between the North and the East. In our time, Star for Life is another such bridge.

In the shadow of the war, Star for Life Ukraine continues its work undeterred. When Russian drones fall over Kharkiv, Donetsk, and Sumy, underground classrooms, summer schools for programming, and online language lessons are created. In addition, psycho-social support is offered to young people living with anxiety, stress, and various types of war trauma.

During 2025, SfL International therefore held a large fundraising dinner with and for the benefit of Star for Life Ukraine. The theme was 22 thousand Dreams Interrupted, and thanks to the great generosity of our guests and Eurovision star Maria Sur, we were able to raise funds equivalent to the entire annual budget for Star for Life Ukraine.



Use of financial instruments

To ensure good internal control, we follow the governing documents that describe the rules for our operations, the Governance manual and the Finance management policy. The application also forms the basis for the annual independent audit of our operations.



Sustainability

SfL International addresses several of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, with a particular focus on:



GOAL 1. NO POVERTY

The students in SfL International’s classrooms often come from low-income families. However, while this may be their background, it does not have to define their future. To help them succeed, we work systematically to strengthen young people’s self-esteem and provide them with the knowledge and skills needed for further education, employment, and entrepreneurship. On this foundation, we help build a better tomorrow free from poverty.



GOAL 2. ZERO HUNGER

No student can perform well in school — or even manage to get there — if they are constantly hungry. That is why we are proud of our partnership with Dandelion, an organization that supports the most vulnerable students through monthly food parcels and self-help initiatives, including assistance in starting vegetable gardens. From the soil comes not only food, but also a source of income through sales.



GOAL 3. GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Star for Life was founded out of a desire to combat HIV and AIDS among schoolchildren in Southern Africa. Since antiretroviral treatment became available and HIV was no longer regarded as a fatal threat, Star for Life’s health work has both broadened and deepened. Today, our coaches support children and young people in areas such as mental health, self-esteem, and leadership.



GOAL 4. QUALITY EDUCATION

As Nelson Mandela once stated, education is the most powerful weapon for changing the world. That is why SfL International’s educational programmes are implemented in existing schools, where we strengthen the curriculum, support teachers in the classroom, and assist principals in their leadership. Above all, we coach our students to take their education — and thereby themselves, their dreams, and their opportunities in life — seriously.

Sustainability



GOAL 5. GENDER EQUALITY

In Southern Africa, many girls grow up facing discrimination, limited educational opportunities, and poverty, while boys are often exposed to destructive norms linked to violence and abuse. Through the SfL Girls Club and SfL Boys Club, we promote consent, education, entrepreneurship, and respectful leadership, helping young people build a future based on knowledge and equality rather than violence. In other countries, we also work to challenge harmful gender norms — for example through tech and programming schools for girls in Ukraine and initiatives to strengthen the recruitment of young women in Jerusalem.



GOAL 10. REDUCED INEQUALITIES

A sustainable society requires a fair distribution of both resources and power. However, many of the students in the countries where SfL International operates live in poverty and lack access to clean water, medicine, and electricity. Through our work with self-esteem, education, and entrepreneurship, we help young people create better opportunities for themselves — making the greatest difference for the most vulnerable youth, especially girls. In this way, Star for Life contributes to reducing inequalities both locally and globally.



GOAL 16. PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Through Star for Life Ukraine and Star for Life Jerusalem, SfL International operates in regions affected by unrest, armed conflict, and war. We work preventively by strengthening the next generation, while also providing targeted support to children and young people living with stress and trauma caused by conflict and war.



GOAL 17. PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Our work is carried out by local staff in each country, with the ambition that no generation should be left behind in society's development. With support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), we are currently implementing a project focused on youth and democratic infrastructure through Star for Life Ukraine.

Expected future development

Our direction moving forward is clear: to continue developing the quality of our programs, strengthen fundraising activities through various events, and measure and report our results.

To enable this work, we will continue to strengthen existing partnerships and develop new collaborations.

Possible expansions to new countries will only occur after a thorough process regarding both financial and educational conditions and in dialogue with the countries' education and health authorities.

However, expanding fundraising activities to countries outside Sweden is important—both in each operating country and in completely new and financially strong countries.



Proposal for the allocation of this year's result

As shown in the financial statements, the surplus amounts to approximately 5 thousand SEK. Since funds from Sida generate interest, this will be paid to Sida. The board proposes that the net amount be carried forward.



Results and Financial Position

Income Statement (SEK thousand)	Note	2025	2024
Operating income:	2		
Donations		890	-
Contributions		202	-
Other income		-	-
Total operating income		1 092	-
Operating expenses:			
Program expenses	3	1 092	-
Fundraising expenses		-	-
Administration expenses		-	-
Total operating expenses		1 092	-
Operating result		-	-
Financial income and expenses:			
Others interest income and similar items		5	-
Interest expenses and similar items		-	-
Result from financial items		5	-
Net income		5	-

Balance Sheet (SEK thousand)	Note	2025-12-31	2024-12-31
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Accounts receivable		500	-
Cash and bank	5	3 141	-
Total current assets		3 641	-
Total assets		3 641	-
EQUITY AND LIABILITES			
Equity			
Retained earnings		-	-
Net income		5	-
Total equity		5	-
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payable		202	-
Liabilites received unused grants	6	2 243	-
Accrued expences and deferred income	7	1 191	-
Total liabilites		3 636	-
Total equity and liabilities		3 641	-

Equity (SEK thousand)

Opening balance	0
Net income	5
Total equity	5

Explanatory notes to the financial statements

Note 1 Accounting and valuation principles

The non-profit association's accounting and valuation principles comply with the Annual Accounts Act and BFNAR 2012:1 (K3) and Giva Sverige's governing guidelines for annual reporting. The applied principles are unchanged compared to the previous year.

INCOME STATEMENT

OPERATING INCOME

Only the inflow of economic benefits that the non-profit association has received or will receive for its own account is recognized as income. Income is measured, unless otherwise stated below, at the fair value of what has been or will be received. Below, for each income item, it is described when revenue recognition occurs.

GIFTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

A transaction in which the non-profit association receives an asset or a service that has value without giving back equivalent value in return is a gift or a received contribution. If the asset or service is received because the non-profit association has fulfilled or will fulfill certain conditions and the non-profit association has an obligation to repay the counterparty if the conditions are not met, it is a received contribution. If it is not a contribution, it is a gift.

DONATIONS

Gifts are generally recognized as income when they are received. Gifts that the non-profit association intends to use permanently in its operations are recognized as fixed assets. Other gifts are recognized as current assets. Gifts are generally measured at fair value. In cases where the non-profit association provides compensation to receive the gift, the value of the gift is reduced by the compensation.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions are recognized as income when the conditions for receiving the contribution have been met. Received contributions are recognized as liabilities until the conditions for receiving the contribution have been met. Contributions received to cover certain expenses (for example, for administration) are recognized in the same financial year as the expense the contribution is intended to cover. Contributions related to a fixed asset reduce the acquisition value. Received contributions are measured at the fair value of the asset the non-profit association has received or will receive.

OTHER INCOME

Income from ticket sales is recognized when the event takes place. Sponsorship income is recognized over the period to which the sponsorship relates, if such a period is specified. Otherwise, income is recognized when payment is received or if agreements are normally made at invoicing. Sales of goods are normally recognized upon delivery. All sales are reported net of VAT and any discounts.

OPERATING EXPENSES

Operating expenses are divided into the following functions: program, fundraising, and administrative expenses.

PROGRAM EXPENSES

Program expenses are costs that the non-profit association incurs to fulfill its purpose.

FUNDRAISING EXPENSES

Fundraising expenses are costs that the non-profit association incurs to raise money.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Administrative expenses are costs incurred in the work of administrating the organization itself.

LEASING

All the non-profit association's lease agreements are accounted for as operating leases, i.e., the lease payment (including the first increased rent) is recognized on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

COMPENSATION TO THE BOARD

According to the non-profit association's statutes, members of the board shall not receive any financial compensation or other remuneration for their work. However, members shall, upon request, be reimbursed for their reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out their board assignments. These expense reimbursements are recognized as costs in line with the services performed by the elected officials.

PENSION PREMIUMS

Since all pension obligations have been classified as defined contribution, an expense is recognized in the year the pension is earned.

BALANCE SHEET

Assets, liabilities, and provisions are valued at cost, unless otherwise stated below.

FINANCIAL ASSETS

Financial instruments are accounted for in accordance with the rules in K3 Chapter 11, which means that valuation is based on acquisition cost.

After the initial recognition, short-term investments are valued according to the lower of cost or market principle, i.e., at the lower of acquisition cost and net selling price at the balance sheet date.

Accounts receivable are valued individually at the amount expected to be received.

Receivables and liabilities in foreign currency are valued at the exchange rate on the balance sheet date.

INVENTORY OF MERCHANDISE

Merchandise is valued, applying the first-in, first-out principle, at the lower of acquisition cost and net selling price at the balance sheet date.

LIABILITIES FOR APPROVED BUT UNPAID GRANTS

In cases where the non-profit association has decided on the payment of grants/support and notified the recipient, but has not executed the payment, this amount is reported as a short-term liability.

Note 2. Operating income	2025	2024
Donations reported as income		
Donations from the public	348	-
Donations from companies	542	-
Total donations	890	-
Contribution reported as income		
Contribution from companies	187	-
Contribution from organisations	15	-
Total contribution	202	-

Note 3. Program expenses	2025	2024
Transfers Star for Life Ukraine	890	-
Sida-project	203	-
Total program expenses	1 093	-

Note 4. Management and board

The association had no employees during 2025

Gender distribution among board members & executive officers

	2025	2024
Board members		
Number at balance date	4	6
- Of which women	1	2
Secretary General and other senior officials		
Number at balance date	1	1
- Of which women	0	0

The association has no other commitments regarding pensions or severance pay to persons in managerial positions.

Note 5. Cash and bank	2025	2024
SEB	695	-
SEB Sida-account	2 446	-
Total cash and bank balance	3 141	-

Note 6. Liabilities from received unused grants	2025	2024
Sida-project	2 243	-
Total liability from unused grants	2 243	-

Note 7. Accrued expenses and prepaid income	2025	2024
Other accrued expenses/prepaid income	1 191	-
Total accrued expenses	1 191	-

Note 8. Significant events after the end of the financial year

No significant events to report.

Board Signatures

The contents of the annual report were finalized on 2026-05-08.
Malmö, Stockholm and Ballito, on the dates indicated by our electronic signatures.

Dan Olofsson

Chairperson

Anders Dahlvig

Board Member

Pierre Delvaux

Board Member

Mary Erlank

Board Member

The Audit Report is included in the Swedish version of the Annual Report.