

# USP's ERIKS Development Partner

**ERIKS**  
Development Partner

## ERIKS is a Swedish child rights organisation founded in 1967

The identity of the organisation rests on three pillars:

### The character of Erik

Our founder Erik Nilsson had a warm heart and cared for others despite his lifelong suffering from haemophilia. As an organisation, we strive to apply what characterised Erik – empathy, creativeness and a focus on opportunities. We are deeply committed to manage our donors' and costumers' gifts and funds responsibly – just like Erik did.

### Christian values

ERIKS' values are based on Christian values with particular emphasis on the following principles:

- All human beings are loved by God and have equal value
- All human beings are entitled to a dignified and fulfilling life
- All human beings are responsible for the earth, to use and not misuse it



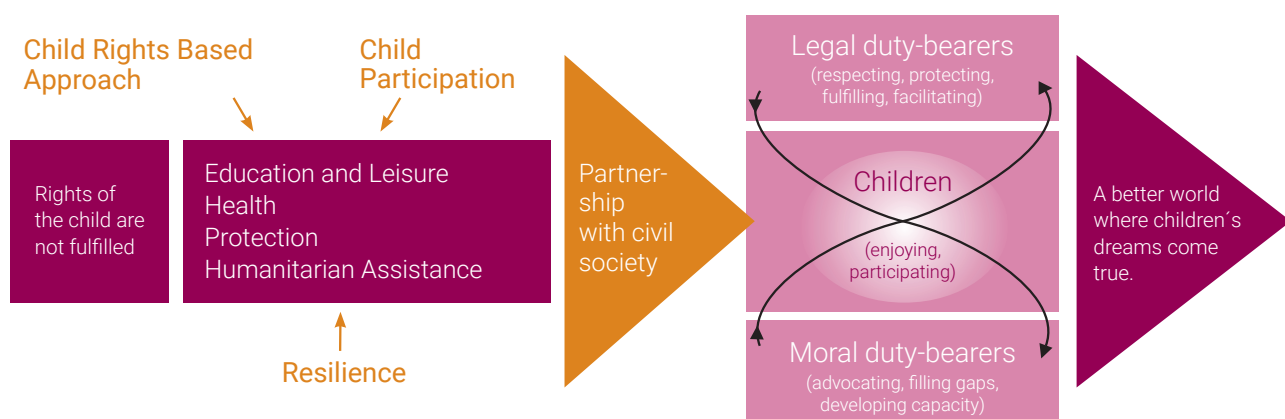
### The Convention on the Rights of the Child

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) outlines the universal conditions under which children have the right to live. These are conditions that ERIKS strive to promote, including respect for the equal and unique value of every individual, irrespective of gender, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, beliefs and religion.

ERIKS is a foundation with headquarters in Sweden and regional offices in East Africa (Uganda), West Africa (Burkina Faso and Mali), Asia (Cambodia) and Eastern Europe (Romania).

## Main Objectives and Theory of change

ERIKS' theory of change illustrates the rationale behind ERIKS' mission and vision. The theory of change is not to be understood as a linear process, but rather as a dynamic interaction between stakeholders and actors (children, moral and legal duty-bearers). Moreover, the following strategic approaches form the basis of all ERIKS' programmes.



## Child Rights-Based Approach

ERIKS plans and implements its programmes using a child rights-based approach (CRBA) with particular emphasis on children's perspective. Applying a CRBA means to look beyond the effects of poverty and child rights violations to identify and address its root causes.

## Child Participation

Children's right to participate in decisions that affect their lives is a core principle in the UNCRC and challenges the perception of children as passive recipients of support. ERIKS is committed to promoting child participation at all stages of the project cycle. Child participation should not be limited to ad-hoc activities but rather mainstreamed in all ERIKS' programmes and interventions.

## Resilience

ERIKS' theory of change has a holistic and child focused perspective on development. An important aspect of that is to strengthen the resilience of families, caregivers and communities. This means to strengthen the ability of children, households, communities, and systems to anticipate, prevent, withstand, manage and overcome cumulative stresses and shocks in ways which advance the rights of every child. ERIKS' approach to resilience includes both humanitarian and development programmes and interventions – where for instance livelihood interventions are an important strategy to build resilience in local communities.

## Partnership with civil society

ERIKS recognises the strategic importance of working in partnership with civil society to bring about lasting change for children. A vibrant civil society is essential for peaceful and democratic development, and the possibility for people to organise themselves is an important prerequisite for an inclusive and healthy society.

## Reach

ERIKS' programmes are currently run in the following 15 countries: Sweden, Romania, Moldova, Mali, Burkina Faso, Benin, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Laos and Cambodia.

Each country programme has its specific country strategy that includes ERIKS' result framework and strategic direction. The result framework is based on ERIKS' global objectives that cover the following thematic areas:

- **Partnership** – ERIKS and partner organisations are contributing to the fulfilment of the rights of the child.
- **Education and leisure**
  - Children are enjoying their right to education and leisure.
- **Health** – Children are enjoying their right to the highest attainable standard of health.



- **Protection** – Children are enjoying their right to protection.
- **Humanitarian assistance and disaster risk reduction** – Lives are saved, human suffering is alleviated and the right to life with dignity is supported

## Areas of expertise in programming

ERIKS have expertise in:

- **Human/child rights-based approach**
- **Child participation in planning, implementation, and evaluation**
- **Child empowerment structures** (child parliament, child rights clubs etc.)
- **Child perspective in/on emergencies**
- **Community empowerment/advocacy**
- **Empowerment/capacity building of moral/legal duty bearers**
- **Anti-trafficking** (case support/advocacy)
- **Anti-Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)** (awareness and behavior change)



## ERIKS' added value

ERIKS' main added value in partnerships and consortia is its broad experience and knowledge within the area of child rights programming. More specifically, ERIKS contributes with for instance expertise within child participation and anti-trafficking and has solid partnerships with local grassroot organisations and networks in 15 countries across four regions.

### Child Participation

ERIKS has a long experience of practicing and developing child participation at all stages of the project cycle. Child participation has proven to be an efficient approach that brings about results for children and helps to hold legal and moral duty bearers accountable.

### Anti-trafficking

ERIKS' programmes in Southeast Asia have during the last eight years been focused on anti-trafficking. ERIKS are working together with local anti-trafficking partner organisations in liaison with the local government and international actors to combat trafficking of children.

### Strong partnerships with grassroot organisations

ERIKS works alongside local grassroot organisations with capacity to operate and advocate within local as well as regional and national child rights networks. ERIKS are committed to build long-term partnerships and invest in building capacity of local partners and networks.

## Innovations

### Spacerpad

ERIKS is currently working together with a Swedish University to test a new type of reusable sanitary pad that has been developed for use in humanitarian and development settings.

### Research on anti-trafficking

ERIKS is engaged in a five-year long research project on anti-trafficking, together with the Swedish organisation InterAct and Umeå University. The research is focused on faith-based organisations' strategies to counter trafficking of children in Thailand and Cambodia.

## Local government advocacy

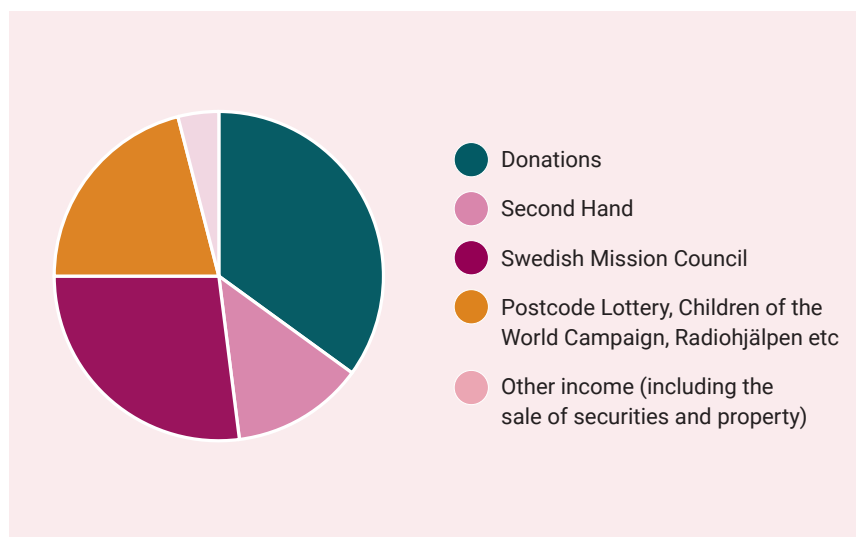
ERIKS has, through liaisons with local partners and local government structures, successfully advocated for changes in the legal systems in Cambodia. These are changes that will have a direct impact on children's lives and wellbeing.

## Portable schools

ERIKS are partnering with local organisations in Bangladesh to provide portable schools for children residing on remote and inaccessible river chars. Children can continue studying in times of monsoon rains and flooding thanks to innovative portable constructions, solar panels, online teaching, and training in crisis management for both adults and children.

## Funding

ERIKS Development Partner is well-known to the general public in Sweden, both as a fundraising organisation, and as a leading second-hand brand. This is reflected in the below presentation of ERIKS' sources of funding. About 50-60% of the organisation's total income consists of funds raised from private donors and revenue from ERIKS' 60 second-hand shops in Sweden and Norway. The other half of the organisation's fund base derives from institutional donors, where a major share is government funding channelled via the Swedish Mission Council (SMC). Other major institutional donors with whom ERIKS have long-term contracts are The Swedish Postcode Lottery and the Swedish public service's Radio Aid.



### Total annual funding

#### Annual funding 2022

194 000 000 SEK/  
17 570 000 Euro

#### Annual funding 2021

160 737 000 SEK/  
15 623 600 Euro

#### Annual funding 2020

137 799 000 SEK/  
13 394 600 Euro



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### Contact person and e-mail:

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