

A woman dressed as a clown, with a red nose and a floral-patterned shirt, is kneeling on a sandy playground. She is blowing bubbles with a red ring. A young girl with a yellow bow in her hair, wearing a pink shirt and blue pants, stands facing her. Several bubbles are floating in the air around them. The background shows playground equipment and trees.

Annual Report 2023



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Dear readers,

As we reflect on the journey of the past year, it's evident that a great deal of change has taken place within our organisation. The complexities of change can prove to be a challenge but as our founders gracefully passed the torch to a new generation of leaders, we collectively forged ahead, guided by the belief that our internal strength is paramount to our mission: to bring humour and laughter to those in need of joy.

Throughout this journey, our hearts have been full of gratitude. Gratitude for the steadfast leadership within the RED NOSES system and the countless colleagues who rose to the occasion, guiding RED NOSES through uncharted waters with courage and determination.

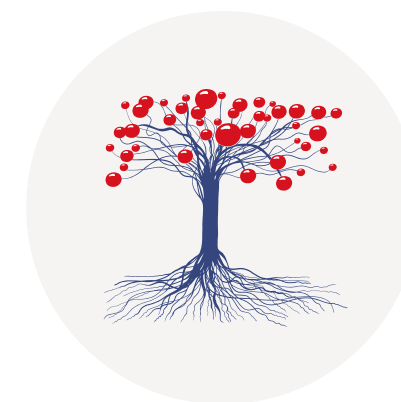
As we turn the pages of our narrative, we celebrate the triumphs achieved with pride. Yet, in the spirit of transparency and growth, we acknowledge areas where intentional action and adaptation are necessary. Looking ahead with a steadfast commitment to deepening our impact, we have set our sights on elevating the quality of our partnerships through a renewed focus on the impact of our artistic interventions. Recognising the delicate balance between expansion and stability, we plan to consolidate our Emergency Response programme while nurturing a robust artistic education system and fostering ongoing capacity building for all staff.

Our role within the healthcare clowning movement has evolved, and we are resolute in our dedication to sharing knowledge and forging connections, while prioritising our own continuous learning.

We are dedicated to cultivating a culture of inclusivity and diversity, ensuring that every voice is heard and valued. Through strategic planning and thoughtful stewardship, we lay the groundwork for a future where RED NOSES continues to flourish, bringing laughter and joy to communities worldwide for generations to come.

To you, esteemed readers of this annual report, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for your role in our collective achievements. As we move forward, we aim to remain steadfast in our resolve, fuelled by joy, optimism, and unwavering courage. Together, we are equipped to confront any challenges that may lie ahead.

*With warm regards,
The RED NOSES Board of Directors
Natalie Porias, CEO
Christophe Dumalin, Chief Artistic Director
Eric Pflanze, CFO*



Leadership transition

A new era of leadership

Thirty years ago, Monica Culen and Giora Seeliger laid the foundations of RED NOSES, shaping it into the international organisation it is today. Their visionary leadership steered the group through formative eras, leaving an indelible mark on its journey.

On April 1, 2023, a new chapter began as they handed over the reins of RED NOSES International to a new management team. Natalie Porias, assuming the role of CEO, along with Christophe Dumalin as Chief Artistic Director, and Eric Pflanze as CFO, embody the essence of the organisation's long-standing core team.

While Monica and Giora transition into a new phase, their wealth of knowledge and experience remains invaluable. They now lead as part of a newly formed Board of Trustees, with Monica at the helm, continuing to champion the interests of RED NOSES internationally through conferences, lectures, and networking events.

From its humble beginnings, where convincing doctors of the role of clowns in hospitals was a challenge and funding scarce, RED NOSES has evolved into a beacon of hope, contributing to more patient centred healthcare systems across continents.

Today, our work extends beyond hospital wards to diverse audiences, including older citizens, people with disabilities, and those affected by humanitarian crises. Our focus now lies in the holistic approach of leveraging laughter to bolster resilience and contribute significantly to mental health in society. This endeavour is only possible through collaboration with our esteemed partners, including hospitals, retirement homes, schools, therapy centres, and international organizations such as Doctors Without Borders, Red Cross, UNICEF, and WHO.

The change in the leadership of RED NOSES is not merely a passing of the torch; it is a celebration of collective efforts - from the founders and clown artists to every individual involved - who have tirelessly worked to ensure that the organisation continues to thrive.

Together, we forge ahead, armed with creativity, resilience, and laughter, towards a future brimming with hope and positive impact.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has contributed to this transition, infusing Monica and Giora's original vision with renewed vigour and purpose each day.

As we embark on this new journey, we honour the past, embrace the present, and envision a future filled with laughter, joy, and transformative change.

An introduction to to RED NOSES

Our core values:
guiding principles for
impactful change

Embedded within the fabric of
RED NOSES are seven core values
that serve as our compass,
guiding every endeavour and
interaction:

JOY

We promote the
joy in life and create a
positive outlook. We be-
lieve in the beauty of human
emotions and focus on what
connects us instead of
what divides us.

We value courage
and believe in exploring
and taking bold steps to reach
our goals. We inspire by example
and trust our vision. In balancing
risks, we do not let fear or failure
overcome our desire to learn
and succeed. We do not take
courage for granted.

COURAGE

CREATIVITY

We engage in
creating new concepts
using the art of clowning
in our endeavours to develop
novel ideas that are advantageous
and meaningful to society. We
welcome the unexpected and
allow ourselves sufficient time
to discover the perfect
answer.

Since its inception in Austria
in 1994, RED NOSES has em-
bodied a commitment to
spreading joy and laughter
as a non-profit organisation.

Evolving from humble begin-
nings, we have expanded glo-
bally, establishing eleven part-
ner offices and fostering a
dedicated international team.

Our journey has been guided
by unwavering dedication to
our core values and mission,
ensuring that laughter re-
mains a powerful tool for
psychosocial support.

OUR MISSION:

RED NOSES is one of the lar-
gest and leading healthcare clown
organisations in the world. Founded
in Austria in 1994, RED NOSES is a non-pro-
fit foundation on a mission to share the
healing power of laughter through the art
of clowning. Today, RED NOSES partner
offices operate in Austria, Croatia, Czech
Republic, Germany, Hungary, Jordan,
Lithuania, Palestine, Poland,
Slovakia, and Slovenia.

Our stake-
holders can expect
the best from us as we
strive for excellence. We are
ambitious and professional in
always going the extra mile
to serve our mission and
the people we work
with.

EXCELLENCE

RESPECT

We offer respect by
acknowledging the needs
and feelings of our beneficiaries
and stakeholders. We gain the respect
of others through our commendable
actions and because we are a law-abiding
organisation. We listen to and engage with
the communities in which we operate. We
are compassionate and assist others
who need our help. We welcome di-
versity and are inclusive in our
approach.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We fulfil our
promises towards our
stakeholders and see it as
our obligation to take respon-
sibility for all consequences of
our decisions and actions. Being
answerable forms the basis
of our principles for good
governance.

We are
truthful and authentic
in speaking openly and acting
according to our honest beliefs
and emotions. We have nothing
to hide in that we are sincere with
ourselves and our environment.
We are not afraid to stand
up for ourselves and our
values.

TRUTH



RED NOSES

Artistic Education

At RED NOSES International, we prioritise maintaining the highest artistic standards. To achieve this, our teams carry out regular education and training for our RED NOSES artists.

RED NOSES International Curriculum

The RED NOSES International Curriculum was created to ensure that all our artists have undergone extensive training.

Since its inception in 2015, this curriculum has evolved significantly, equipping our clown artists with essential skills for working with diverse groups and ensuring top-notch professionalism.

Through our international curriculum, we guarantee artistic excellence by investing in the education and training of our clown artists, thus ensuring our continued growth and quality at RED NOSES International.

Since the curriculum's inception in 2015, more than 250 artists have earned certification, contributing to the legacy of laughter worldwide.

International School of Humour: Celebrating 20 years

This year, we celebrated 20 years of the RED NOSES International School of Humour (ISH) in Vienna. Founded by RED NOSES founder Giora Seeliger as a sanctuary for mastering the art of healthcare clowning, the ISH has evolved into a dynamic centre of encounter and inspiration.

Today, the ISH stands as a beacon of learning and international exchange for RNI artists, hosting approximately 18 workshops annually. These workshops attract participants from all corners of RED NOSES. Moreover, the ISH extends its reach through „ISH-to-go“ workshops, bringing international expertise directly to partner organisations.

Beyond training for certification, the ISH provides ongoing education for certified artists, ensuring continuous growth and enrichment of the RED NOSES healthcare clowning community.



20
Years



Capacity building at RED NOSES

Capacity building at RED NOSES International is a dynamic process encompassing a wide range of workshops covering relevant topics from our curriculum and beyond.

We continuously integrate new themes and share our learnings and experiences, fostering co-creation and engagement through initiatives like Clow-Nexus and outreach to new audience groups.

Every year, we commemorate the achievements of artists who successfully complete our curriculum and attain certification.

Furthermore, we honour artists who have reached the milestone of 1,000 visits. In a noteworthy development in 2023, we celebrated 18 individuals who surpassed this, achieving an impressive 2,000 visits.

The RED NOSES International Academy

The RED NOSES International Academy serves as a central hub for advancing education and nurturing the distinctive style of RED NOSES International.

Designed as a programme for „teaching the teachers,“ it invites certified artists to shape RNI's future as experts. After 2.5 years of preparation, a comprehensive curriculum spanning three semesters and totalling 260 hours was developed. This curriculum was developed collaboratively by experts from RNI partner organisations, encompassing both leadership and artistic perspectives.

The pilot phase, launched in 2023, offers two majors: „Humour in Healthcare“ and „Slapstick Techniques and Physical Comedy,“ with plans for additional specialisations, such as „Coaching.“

With 25 participants from nine partner organisations, the Academy marks a significant stride in RNI's commitment to continuous learning and growth.



RED NOSES

core programmes

At RED NOSES, we joyfully carry out our mission through four core programmes, targeting four main audiences with a holistic, human-centred approach. Our efforts are tailored to creatively address the unique needs of our audiences and tap into their resilience and full potential.

RED NOSES artists receive ongoing, comprehensive training that equips them with the skills necessary to promote emotional wellbeing and actively contribute to creating an uplifting environment through the transformative power of art, play and humour, in a variety of contexts, from hospitals to crisis situations.



Healthcare

The Healthcare Programme focuses on promoting psychosocial health and resilience among children undergoing medical treatment. Clown artists use humour and playful interactions to alleviate stress and anxiety, fostering a positive coping mechanism for patients and their families. Operating in diverse healthcare settings, this programme addresses specific medical and psychosocial challenges while supporting the broader healthcare community.

Audiences: The primary audience of the Healthcare Programme is patients from infancy to age 18 who are currently receiving medical care in healthcare facilities.

Goals:

- Enhance psychosocial wellbeing, recovery, and quality of life for young patients during and after healthcare journeys.
- Provide support for caregivers and healthcare professionals to promote holistic care and healing.

- Establish collaborative relationships with healthcare institutions to enhance patient experience and emotional well-being, align efforts for comprehensive care.
- Raise awareness and advocate for children's rights to complete health and access to cultural activities promoting healing and resilience throughout healthcare processes.

Crisis Affected People Programme



The Crisis Affected People Programme aims to enhance the psychosocial health, resilience, and inclusion of individuals affected by crises, displacement, and natural disasters. Implemented through Emergency Smile missions, this programme delivers artistic interventions during acute crises and sustained activities in collaboration with humanitarian partners. Clown artists engage communities through playful interactions, fostering joy, hope, and creativity in various crisis settings.

Audiences: The Crisis Programme works with all people affected by crisis. However, a big focus of the programme is directed to supporting Children (age 3-12) and Youth (age 13-18) affected by Crisis and Displacement.

Goals:

- Promote psychosocial health, emotional wellbeing, and inclusion of children and youth affected by crisis and displacement, fostering resilience and development.
- Provide holistic care and support for caregivers, contributing to an environment that supports wellbeing, positive coping, and sustained development.



Disability Inclusion

The Disability Inclusion Programme fosters emotional wellbeing and cultural participation among children with multiple disabilities. Through tailored artistic activities and co-creation processes, clown artists create inclusive spaces where children can express themselves freely. This programme emphasizes equal opportunities for cultural engagement and extends support to children, their caregivers, and the broader educational community. Audiences: The primary audience of the Disability Inclusion Programme is children with multiple disabilities who are currently engaged in special educational settings.

Goals:

- Enhance emotional health, wellbeing, and inclusion of children with multiple disabilities through equal cultural participation opportunities.
- Provide support for caregivers and educational professionals to foster co-creation, engagement in arts, and social inclusion.
- Establish collaborative relationships with educational institutions to prioritise cultural participation and emotional wellbeing of children with multiple disabilities.
- Raise awareness and advocate for children with disabilities' rights to access cultural activities promoting healing, social inclusion, and resilience throughout their lives.



- Establish collaborative relationships with humanitarian organisations to improve care experiences, emotional wellbeing, and recovery of affected children and youth.
- Raise awareness and advocate for the rights of children and youth in crisis, emphasising access to cultural activities for healing, social inclusion, and resilience.

Older Citizens

The Older Citizens Programme aims to enhance the psychosocial well-being and resilience of older adults living in social care settings. Through joyful interactions and appreciation of individual life experiences, clown artists create a supportive environment that fosters a sense of belonging and dignity in later life. This programme offers tailored interventions for older adults and extends support to their caregivers and the wider care community.

Audiences:

The primary audience of the Older Citizens Programme is older adults who are currently living in social care facilities and/or receiving social care in other ways.

Goals:

- Enhance psychosocial well-being, social inclusion, and life quality of older citizens in social care settings.
- Provide support for caregivers and professionals to promote holistic care and healthy aging.
- Establish collaborative relationships with social care institutions to improve care experience.
- Raise awareness and advocate for older citizens' rights to complete health and access to cultural activities promoting healing, social inclusion, and resilience in later life.



Emergency Smile

RED NOSES crisis response programme

In 2013, RED NOSES International launched the Emergency Smile programme, a comprehensive initiative designed to enhance emotional well-being, foster social inclusion, and address psychosocial needs in crisis settings. Through Emergency Smile, specially trained healthcare clowns are deployed to crisis areas, collaborating with existing international aid organisations.



“Amidst the rubble and despair, we witnessed the resilient spirit of the people we encountered. Through the power of clowning, we brought laughter to hearts burdened by tragedy. It was a truly perspective shifting experience for us!”

Natalie Porias, RED NOSES CEO



„The Emergency Smile programme is a breath of fresh air! Having the RED NOSES clowns every day at our community centre improved the atmosphere not only for our visitors but also for our volunteers and team members. No matter how stressed you are, the clowns always find a way to distract you for a moment from the struggle you might be going through and make you smile... the RED NOSES have taken such good care of our community this year and we can't wait to host them again next year!”

Silvia Lucibello, Field Coordinator, Europe Cares, Paréa Community Center

2023 in numbers

- In 2023, Emergency Smile reached 11,000 people in total, including 4,976 youth and 832 unaccompanied minors.
- 108 days were spent on mission, and our teams worked together with a total of 43 partners.
- Missions took place in Athens, Lesvos, Türkiye, Italy, Georgia, and Mozambique.
- In 2023, our aim was to solidify Emergency Smile as a vital component of the humanitarian sector. To achieve this goal, we pursued two distinct approaches.

One significant example is our work in Parea Community Centre, where hundreds of individuals gather daily for lunch and community activities.

In this collaborative space, our activities have become integral. Amidst long food line queues and heightened tensions, our clowns help transform the atmosphere by creating a safe space for people to connect through art and music. Their presence not only alleviates stress but also fosters a sense of community and solidarity among those enduring challenging circumstances.

Our presence on Lesvos

By establishing a longer and more stable presence on the island of Lesvos, we witnessed a notable shift in how our work is perceived by both our audiences and partners in the field.

Our efforts are no longer seen as just a pleasant addition, but rather as essential and impactful contributions to the well-being of people on the move.



Crisis response

In our ongoing efforts to address real emergencies and ensure that mental health and psychosocial well-being remain central in crisis responses, we embarked on our first Emergency Response mission in Turkey in 2023, following a catastrophic earthquake.

Amidst the aftermath, where communities grappled with displacement and uncertainty, our team encountered individuals still reeling from shock and struggling to navigate their new reality.

Our approach, grounded in fostering emotional connections through clowning, enabled the team to navigate delicate subjects such as grief and displacement, facilitating profound moments of sharing and healing.

Breaking through the veil of silence, individuals opened up about their experiences before and after the earthquake, fostering connections and catharsis. Our ability to facilitate such meaningful interactions left aid workers from partner organizations astounded, underscoring the transformative power of our approach in times of crisis.

ClowNexus: The final year

From 2020 to 2023, RED NOSES International spearheaded an innovative project called ClowNexus, involving clown artists from seven countries. The project aimed to develop co-created and participatory approaches for interacting with people with neurological conditions, particularly older individuals with dementia and children with autism. This endeavour focused on sensory engagement, creating safe environments for creative interactions, and exploring new artistic and humorous tools to connect with these unique groups. Moreover, ClowNexus prioritised learning and artistic development processes, emphasising documentation and organisational learning at the intersection of arts and healthcare.

ClowNexus is a project co-funded by the European Union.

 Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Arts, Culture,
Civil Service and Sport

 Co-funded by
the European Union

Project milestones

Artistic laboratories: During the frame of the project each artistic working group met three times, to delve into refining approaches for engaging with their target groups. During the last laboratory on the topic of dementia in Austria, artists received insights from expert Magdalena Schamberger on co-creational approaches, while artists in Croatia continued their work on working with children with autism, collaborating with the Zagreb Autism Center.

Advocacy event: In May, ClowNexus partnered with RED NOSES, Culture Action Europe, and the Lithuanian Permanent Representation to host an advocacy event titled „Culture and Mental Health. Policies and Practices,“ featuring discussions on the positive impact of arts and health at the policy level.

Closing meeting: The project culminated in a closing meeting in Vienna in September, bringing together participating artists and cultural managers. Reflections encompassed project processes, co-creation techniques, international exchange, and capacity building opportunities for future collaborations.

Resources: The creation of the ClowNexus website marks a significant milestone in the project's journey, serving as a comprehensive platform to showcase its story and provide access to valuable resources. Among these resources are a co-creation map and a plethora of artistic and learning materials, curated to support artists in their work. These resources are readily available for download, empowering artists to incorporate innovative approaches into their practice. Visit clownexus.eu to explore the ClowNexus website and discover the wealth of resources it offers.



Outcomes and future plans

Capacity building: ClowNexus emphasised the development of artistic tools and co-creation approaches. Participants discussed plans for future collaborations, including workshops for staff and families, relaxed performances, and adapted theatre plays for children with autism.

Conversely, the endline evaluation consolidated learnings and assessed the project's impact on various stakeholders, including organisations, artists, audiences, caregivers, and family members.

These evaluations ensured that all participants had the opportunity to learn and share new discoveries, contributing to the continuous improvement and success of the project.

Measuring impact

The ClowNexus project included a baseline and endline evaluation conducted by external teams which aimed to document the project's impact and effectiveness. Furthermore, these evaluations provided valuable insights and recommendations for future endeavours. The baseline evaluation analysed the project's initial conditions, setting the stage for subsequent assessments of activities and achievements.



Our year in pictures



ROTE NASEN: The ROTE NASEN Summer Circus, held twice in 2023, offered a unique platform for children with refugee backgrounds and those from the local community to bridge cultural divides and language barriers through collaborative activities. Together with clowns, they learned various acts, culminating in a spectacular final performance. This initiative exemplified the transformative power of transcending borders, origins, languages, and cultures, showcasing the potential for unity and understanding.



Austria

RDEČI NOSKI: Humor in Healthcare – Sharing Experiences for Closer Cooperation: Since last year, in collaboration with the University of Ljubljana Faculty of Medicine, Rdeči Noski has been sharing its knowledge of humor with medical students and young family doctors. They are proud and honored to advocate for humor as part of the curriculum.



Slovenia

PIROS ORR: In 2023, PIROS ORR actively engaged in numerous events aimed at raising awareness for the organisation. They orchestrated a charity bike ride encircling a lake, appeared as special guests at one of Hungary's prominent summer music festivals nestled by Lake Balaton, and spearheaded efforts to garner support for clown doctor visits by initiating a charity steeplechase race in a rural town.



Hungary

CRVENI NOSOVI: On October 10th, CRVENI NOSOVI celebrated the culmination of the European project ClowNexus with an interactive exhibition showcasing three years of impactful work with children with autism and elderly individuals with dementia. The event united field experts and garnered media attention. Alongside, CRVENI NOSOVI premiered video portraits from a forthcoming documentary capturing the essence of the ClowNexus journey, soon to grace festival screens.



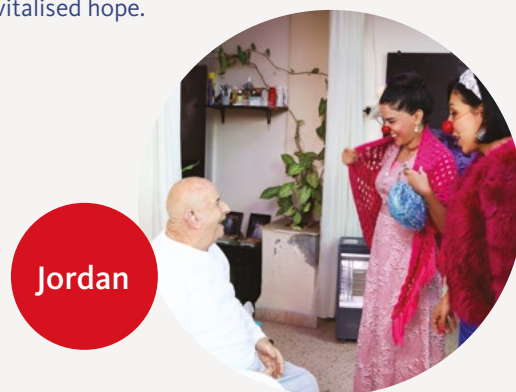
Croatia

ROTE NASEN: In 2023, ROTE NASEN in Germany celebrated its 20th anniversary with a symbolic relay race. Starting at the children's hospital of the Berlin Charité in May, the relay baton journeyed through clinics and nursing homes nationwide, symbolising the laughter spreading from one healthcare facility to another. As the baton returned to Berlin, it coincided with the BMW BERLIN-MARATHON. Clown Bartusch proudly carried it across the finish line in front of the Berlin Reichstag, culminating the event with joy.



Germany

RED NOSES Jordan: Red Noses Jordan undertook a moving outreach initiative, extending visits to the homes of Al-Fuhais City's most vulnerable elderly. This touching endeavour highlighted their longing for belonging, human connection, shared laughter, and revitalised hope.



Jordan

RAUDONOS NOSYS: In 2023, significant strides were made in the development of the Klaipėda region. RAUDONOS NOSYS introduced the Geriatric programme and launched the innovative „iSmile“ initiative at Klaipėda Children's Hospital. The introduction of „iSmile“ aimed at assisting children in managing their emotions prior to surgeries, along with efforts to enhance the emotional well-being of the elderly in residential homes, garnered widespread appreciation throughout Klaipėda.



Lithuania

CZERWONE NOSKI: In 2023, Czerwone Noski continued its hospital activities, expanded outreach to new groups, and addressed critical social issues such as children's mental health, senior loneliness, and hospice care for terminally ill children. They initiated two new programmes: one supporting terminally ill children in hospices, and another fostering connections between teenagers and seniors. With 738 visits to pediatric hospitals and 43 medical clowns reaching a record 20,593 children, Czerwone Noski positively impacted 26,000 people.



Poland

ČERVENÝ NOS: On World Smile Day, President Zuzana Čaputová of the Slovak Republic welcomed representatives of ČERVENÝ NOS to her presidential palace. She commended the noble mission of healthcare clowns, stating, „People from ČERVENÝ NOS Clowndoctors help sick children overcome their fear of the hospital or treatment and make them smile when they need it the most.“



Slovakia

RED NOSES Palestine: In 2023, RED NOSES Palestine and Afkar Organisation for Educational and Cultural Development launched a new partnership. For the first time, healthcare clowns from RNPS brought smiles to children in 20 underprivileged schools across Qalqilya, Salfeet, Hebron, and Jericho during May and June. This initiative was co-facilitated by the Ministry of Education and funded by the Occupied Palestinian Territories Humanitarian Fund (oPt HF). The positive psychological impact on students, teachers, and staff was profound, earning widespread appreciation for this novel approach to healing and hope.



Palestine

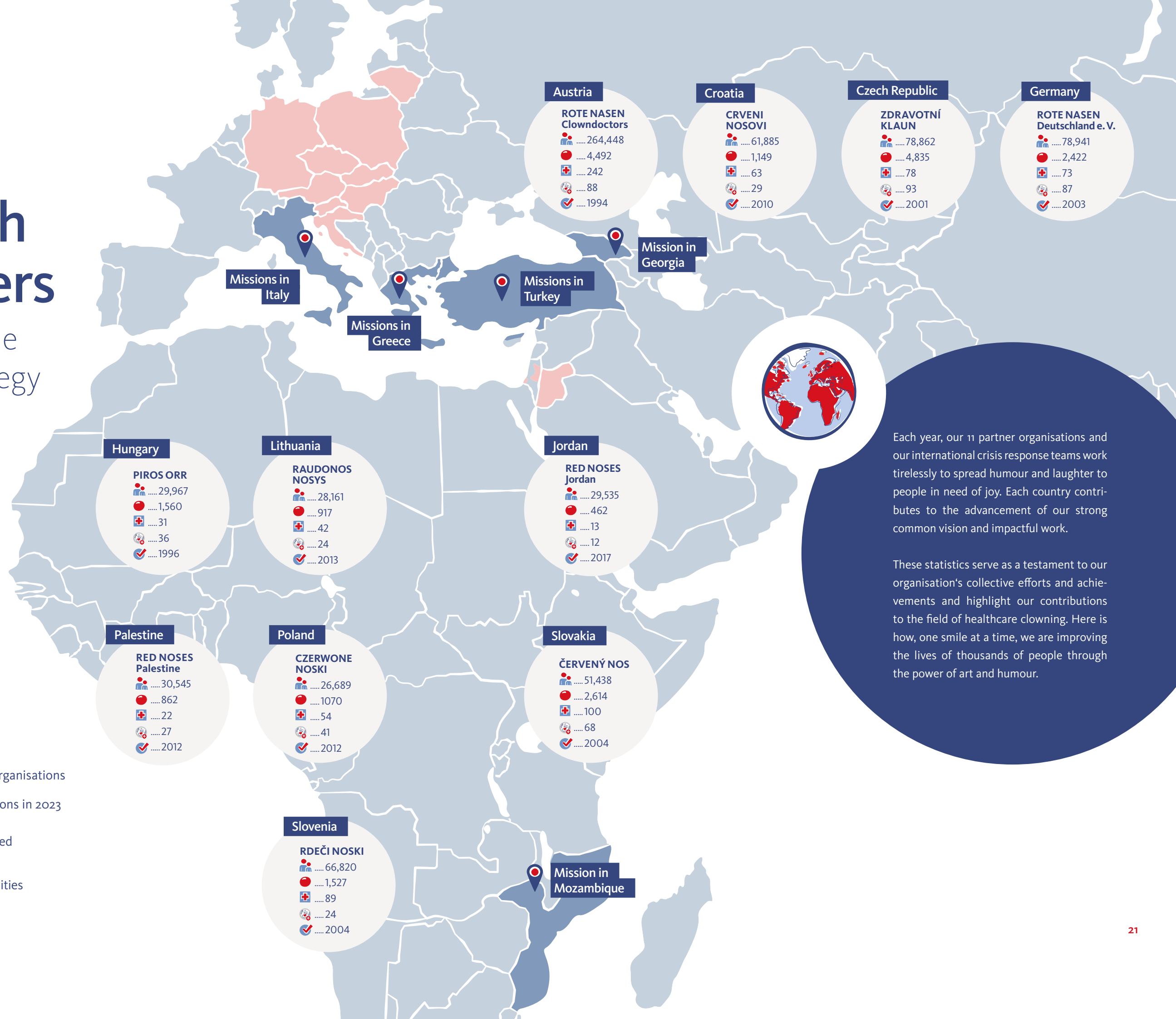
ZDRAVOTNÍ KLAUN: In 2023, the documentary „Powerful Sound“ premiered, offering an artistic portrayal of the Zdravotní Klaun team's work within an intensive care unit at Hořovice Hospital. The film offers insight into the clowns' unique approach to connecting with children, predominantly through music therapy. It vividly captures the unexpected and heartening responses of children with diverse challenges. „Powerful Sound“ has been showcased at various film festivals across the Czech Republic and hospitals, garnering enthusiastic receptions from audiences.



Czech Republic

Our reach in numbers

One mission, one
vision, one strategy



Each year, our 11 partner organisations and our international crisis response teams work tirelessly to spread humour and laughter to people in need of joy. Each country contributes to the advancement of our strong common vision and impactful work.

These statistics serve as a testament to our organisation's collective efforts and achievements and highlight our contributions to the field of healthcare clowning. Here is how, one smile at a time, we are improving the lives of thousands of people through the power of art and humour.

Research & learning at RED NOSES

At RED NOSES, we're dedicated to constantly improving our work as well as the emotional wellbeing of those we encounter.

Evaluation is embraced at all levels of our work, in the spirit of continuous improvement. Using joyful and artistic tools, we assess our interventions creating a dynamic process of learning and refinement. By monitoring and evaluating all levels of our work, we aim to provide the best quality interventions and generate profound opportunities to learn from the practice of healthcare clowning.

Extensive studies consistently highlight the positive impact healthcare clowning has on mental and physical wellbeing in various settings. Here, we will provide an overview of the various research and learning activities that take place at RED NOSES.

RED NOSES research and evaluation webpage

Our Research & Evaluation webpage consolidates various studies on the impact of healthcare clowning across diverse demographics, including children in hospitals, older citizens in care facilities, children with disabilities, and displaced populations.

Here, you can find the RED NOSES Research Database, housing over 300 evidence-based articles continually updated to reflect the latest findings. This database serves to advocate for healthcare clowning's mental health benefits within healthcare institutions and policymaking circles.

Research Nuggets

Introducing RED NOSES Research Nuggets: concise summaries of research findings on specific topics and clowning interventions. These summaries blend literature reviews with practical examples from diverse settings, including hospitals, elderly homes, refugee camps, and online platforms. Current topics include Clowning in Emergency Context and Clowning with Children in Hospital, with Clowning with Older Adults coming soon.

Objectives: Enhance comprehension of healthcare clowning and its effects; bolster partnerships by showcasing professionalism; facilitate communication and fundraising efforts.

Research at a glance

Introducing Research at a Glance: succinct one-page summaries of healthcare clowning studies. Topics include clowning during intensive smile, clowning with older adults with dementia, and clowning with children with ASD.

Objectives: Serve as a powerful communication and fundraising tool, showcasing our impact to partners and donors in a snapshot. Enhance partnerships by demonstrating professionalism and the tangible effects of our work.

Evaluation activities with children in crisis settings

In 2023, RED NOSES embarked on the „Creating Evaluation Activities with Children in Emergency Smile“ project, co-funded by the Alta Mane Foundation. The project aimed to develop a toolbox of evaluation activities engaging children of varying age groups, allowing them to personally express the impact of clown activities on their lives.

Recognising the importance of children's voices in assessing artistic engagements, this initiative sought to fulfil Article 12 (1) of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, ensuring children's perspectives are valued and considered

in all matters affecting them. By employing methods like „Draw and Tell,“ children could effectively process their experiences with the clowns, fostering long-term positive memories and enhancing their emotional well-being.

During a field mission in Tbilisi, Georgia, the „Draw and Tell“ method was piloted with groups of children who had participated in Clown activities. Led by RED NOSES' Research and Learning Department and a University of Vienna psychology PhD student, the activity aimed to gather feedback on clown activities' suitability and their impact on children's daily lives.

Results revealed children's increased engagement with their families, indicating the clowns' role in fostering connections and creating joyful memories within households, thus demonstrating the profound impact of clowning beyond mere entertainment.



Safeguarding

at RED NOSES

At RED NOSES, we are dedicated to promoting access to arts and culture while prioritising the safety and wellbeing of children and individuals facing crisis situations. Recognising the paramount importance of protecting children and vulnerable individuals from harm, our organisation maintains a zero-tolerance policy towards any form of abuse, exploitation, neglect, or violation of privacy and rights.

To uphold these standards, we have implemented a streamlined Children and Vulnerable Persons Safeguarding (CVPS) Policy.

This policy draws guidance from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

All members of our community, including employees, freelancers, partners, and collaborators, are bound by this policy and are expected to promptly report any concerns or incidents of potential abuse.

Our CVPS Policy is structured around four key pillars:

- 1. Awareness:** We empower RED NOSES artists and staff members with the knowledge and skills to prevent abuse and identify warning signs.
- 2. Prevention:** We provide tools and mechanisms aimed at proactively preventing instances of abuse.
- 3. Reporting:** Any safeguarding concerns are diligently assessed by a trained Safeguarding Team, ensuring a swift and responsible response.
- 4. Response:** Concrete actions and decisions are taken based on the outcomes of the assessment, with mechanisms in place to address and rectify issues effectively.

In line with our commitment to continuous improvement, we have established 11 local and international Safeguarding Teams responsible for implementing and upholding our policy.

These teams convene regularly for exchange and training sessions to ensure the ongoing effectiveness of our safeguarding measures.

Our commitment to safeguarding is unwavering. We strive to ensure that all individuals involved in our programmes, regardless of their circumstances, can fully enjoy the professional art of clowning with confidence and security.



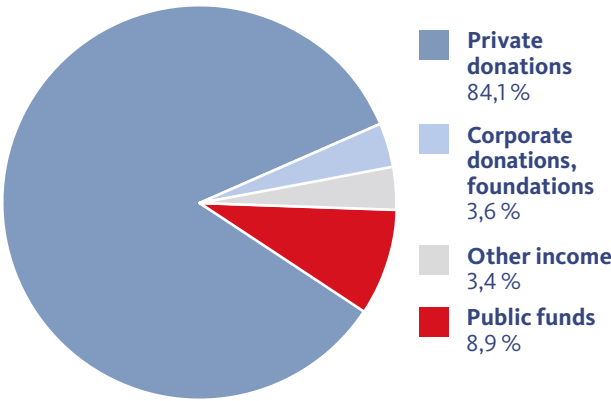
Financial overview

RED NOSES is a non-profit foundation working locally in 11 countries. In our overall strategic ambition, strong financial stability is a key element, as it defines our objective of working in a sustainable manner and having a long-term impact. The following page provides an overview of our sources of international income and our programme expenses for 2023.

RED NOSES programmes all run on a regular basis during the year. This requires steady and sustainable sources of income. To finance their respective programmes, all our organisations raise their own funds locally. Independent and reputable national auditors according to internationally accepted accounting standards audit their financial reports annually. The percentages shown below are based on the collectively generated revenue streams from all our local partner organisations as well as from the headquarters of RED NOSES

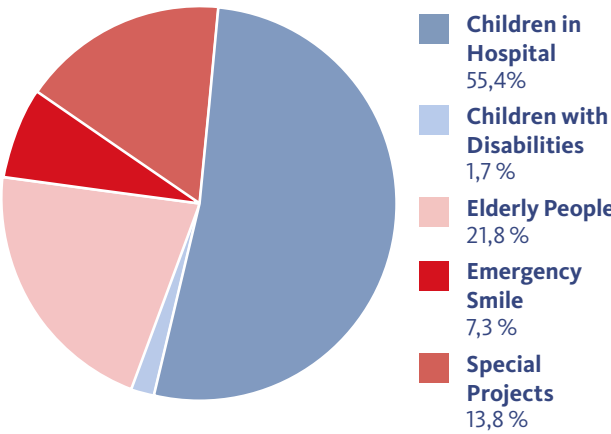
Our sources of funding

RED NOSES' income of more than 28 million Euro relies heavily on private donations to guarantee our independence and strengthen the organisation's connection with the public. In 2023, private donations amounted to 84,1% of the total RED NOSES income. In an effort to strengthen our financial co operations with other foundations and international organisations that share our values and goals, we envision reaching an even greater number of people in the future



Distribution of costs on programme level

Since our founding in 1994, children in hospitals have always been the core focus of our work. The refore, 55,4% of our expenses are dedicated solely to activities concentrating on this target group. The second major expenditure of 2023 was on the senior citizens programme, with 21,8% of our activities dedicated to improving the quality of life for senior citizens in geriatric wards and care facilities. We have been increasingly working with people in crisis areas and implementing additional outreach missions every year. In 2023, our Emergency Smile missions benefitted from 7,3% of our total expenses.



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RED NOSES is an artistic organisation bringing humour and laughter to people in need of joy.

For 25 years, RED NOSES has been making a difference for patients, families and medical staff in countless health and care facilities in Europe and beyond.

RED NOSES International empowers vulnerable audiences, such as children in hospitals, people in geriatric centres, patients in rehabilitation centres, youth with mental and multiple disabilities, refugees and other displaced persons.

The figure of the clown is extremely human and touches individuals deeply by bringing them relief and hope in moments where they cannot connect to their positive emotions.

RED NOSES International is based in Vienna, Austria, and is the headquarters for the largest clown doctor group in the world.

RED NOSES International

Non-Profit Foundation

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