

# 2014-2015 REPORT UNV SPECIAL VOLUNTARY FUND

*The new Sustainable Development Agenda calls for a greater focus on innovation, participation and flexibility. The global development landscape has changed dramatically since the SVF was first established in 1970, and continues to change at a rapid pace. This brings challenges for traditional development actors, but it also brings profound opportunities for organizations that are agile and able to adapt.*

UNV is reorienting itself to be an innovative, creative and cutting-edge UN agency that is able to mobilize people, enable participation and catalyze change. Continued investment in the SVF is essential to preserving UNV's agility, ability to identify new development solutions, deepen the global understanding of volunteerism and invest in positive change.

The SVF, therefore, is the primary source of funding for piloting and scaling UNV initiatives that test and demonstrate the relevance and added value of volunteerism and of volunteer contributions to peace and development and in response to national development objectives.

## **SVF DISBURSEMENT 2014-2015**

The SVF is an indispensable component of UNV funding. Many SVF-funded projects are highly innovative, respond to critical development challenges, and are quite often pilot projects. They demonstrate the relevance of volunteerism to sustainable development and are in line with the five new global programmes outlined in the 2014-17 UNV Strategic Framework.

Developing a new pipeline of SVF-supported joint UN programmes and projects at the country level has enabled UNV to engage more systematically in the UN common country programming processes. It has also shaped, in consultation with governments and civil



*His Excellency Ruben Armando Escalante Hasbun, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the UN speaks at the UNV launch of the second State of the World's Volunteerism report in New York. (Joel Sheakoski, 2015)*

National UN Volunteer Project Manager George Gachie (Kenya) shares a moment with another UN Volunteer in Kibera slums, after introducing a visiting consultant to the community where he is leading a Participatory Slum Upgrading Project (PSUP) for UN-Habitat. Launched in 2008, the PSUP is a joint effort of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, the European Commission and UN-Habitat. (UNV, 2015)



society, the role that volunteers and volunteerism can play in tackling sustainable development challenges and providing solutions. According to the 2014-2015 report to the Executive Board of the UNDP, UNFPA and the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS), 50 project concept notes have been endorsed, with US \$5 million from the SVF invested in joint projects strategically leveraging a significant 18-fold multiplier effect, by engaging a total financial envelope of nearly US \$90 million in commitments from partners. It is anticipated that as these projects are implemented, UN partners will provide more effective development solutions integrating volunteers and volunteerism, and scale up and replicate accordingly.

### SVF DONORS

Contributions to the SVF, critical for continued innovation in integrating volunteers and volunteerism with UN partners through seed funding, and for the production of knowledge products, declined by 11 per cent in the 2014-2015 biennium. For this period, the SVF received US \$7.9 million from UN Member States, including the governments of **Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Czech Republic, China, Germany, India, Ireland, Israel, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Morocco, Switzerland, Sweden and Thailand.**

### UTILIZATION OF SVF FUNDING FOR PROJECTS

To ensure that the money contributed to the SVF generates maximum impact on the ground, a strategic approach is used to select projects for funding. Projects funded by SVF comply with the UNV Strategic Framework and contribute to achieving the organization's priority objectives. Moreover, in the interest of coherence of UN interventions on the ground, projects are also selected on the basis of the added value they can offer to the

efforts of partner entities within the UN system and to the achievement of the partner countries' national development priorities, as reflected in UN Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAF).

### GOVERNANCE

In the field, UNV strives to integrate results and indicators related to volunteerism into UNDAFs, *UN Delivering as One* plans and partner entity country programmes. UNV operates in a complex and mutually-reinforcing environment of UN organizations to which it contributes the unique added value of volunteerism.

All projects funded by the SVF are approved by UNV's Programme Advisory Board and Project Appraisal Committee. The main purpose of all UNV interventions is the achievement of development results through UNV's work with UN partners. Results-based management is applied at various levels. Like all UNV projects, those funded through SVF comply with the UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures monitoring and evaluation systems. This will translate into even more strategic planning, as well as more efficient and effective use of SVF funds.

### SVF GOING FORWARD

Continued investment in the SVF is essential to preserving UNV's agility, ability to identify new development solutions, deepen the global understanding of volunteerism and invest in positive change. UNDP Governing Council decision 92/35 by the Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS expanded the SVF mandate to facilitate the impact of volunteerism and, as such, was a strong show of support for UNV from UN Member States. The SVF is a critical resource for UNV, enabling the organization to make strategic investments through seed

funding; to develop creative and innovative solutions to development challenges, and to meaningfully contribute leading research and knowledge products to the global volunteering community. The flexibility of the SVF allows UNV to make strategic investments where UNV sees an opportunity to make a transformational, innovative or unique impact.

#### *Seed funding and scaling*

The SVF will continue to be leveraged by UNV to make targeted investments in areas where volunteerism has a transformative impact. Under UNV's five global programmes, the SVF will continue to better leverage volunteers and volunteerism in achieving results linked to the achievement of the SDGs in the priority areas of basic social services, community resilience for environment and disaster risk reduction, peacebuilding, youth, and national capacity development through volunteer schemes, all with a cross-cutting theme of knowledge and innovation.

The SVF represents UNV's investment in such programmes and associated projects, and is crucial for new partnerships to deliver relevant and creative solutions. In **Gabon**, for example, modest resources were invested toward a feasibility study and project drafting for a National Volunteer Scheme. This has led to a nearly US \$5 million cost-sharing agreement with the Government and a joint UNV, UNDP and UNFPA programme for the establishment of a volunteer infrastructure initiative in support of the youth in the country. A similar initiative is under exploration in **Cameroon**, again with UNV placing seed-resources into a feasibility study.

#### *Innovation*

The SVF is critical for continued innovation and systematic impact in integrating volunteers and volunteerism in peace and development efforts. UNV continues to reorient itself within an evolving development landscape towards being a partner- and innovation-focused organization, poised to deliver greater results. The SVF upholds the key pillar of innovation for UNV by enabling the agency to develop, pilot and scale innovative new approaches to its programming and research agenda. For example, in **Viet Nam**, alongside capacity building activities for volunteer leaders and the National Volunteer Awards, UNV provided SVF funding and collaborated with the Youth Union and the Viet Nam Volunteer Centre to develop an online matching platform to facilitate volunteering.

#### *Knowledge sharing and products*

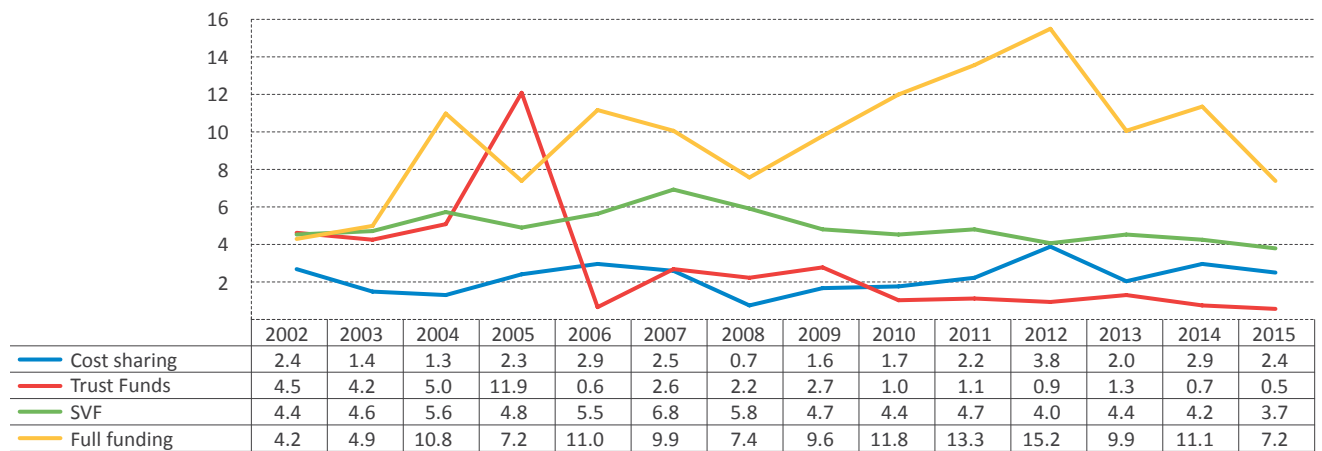
By recognizing UNV's comparative advantage in the global development arena, UNV is constantly improving knowledge-based expertise, leveraging innovative advisory solutions and developing leading knowledge and research products. In 2015, UNV contributed to 16 studies on volunteerism, supported workshops on Participatory Methodology for Assessing the Contribution of Volunteering to Development and developed knowledge products such as the 2015 State of the World's Volunteerism Report, *Transforming Governance*. The SVF will enable UNV to continue carrying out crucial research in the context of volunteerism for peace and development, in support of the new global research agenda on volunteerism.



*Stepanka Pechackova (Czech Republic) is a UN Youth Volunteer Communications, Outreach and Youth Officer with the UNV Field Unit and UNDP Country Office in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. She often gives presentations to local school children to promote volunteerism. (UNV, 2015)*

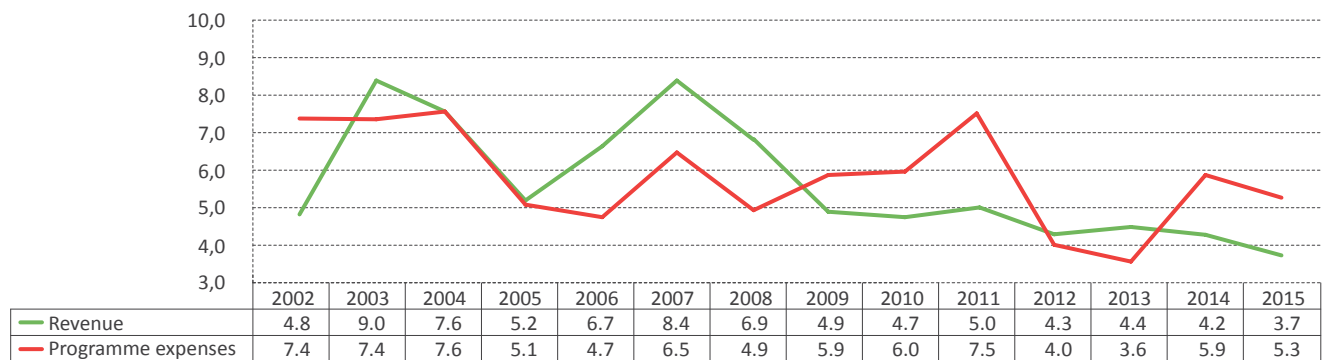
## SVF Revenue and Programme Expenses – 2014-2015

UNV FUNDS: REVENUE 2002-2015\* (Millions of US \$)

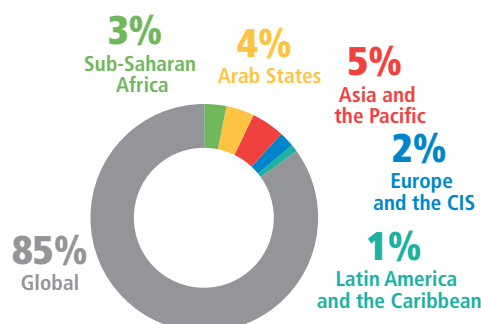


\*Interest and miscellaneous income not included.

SVF: REVENUE AND PROGRAMME EXPENSES 2002-2015 (Millions of US \$)

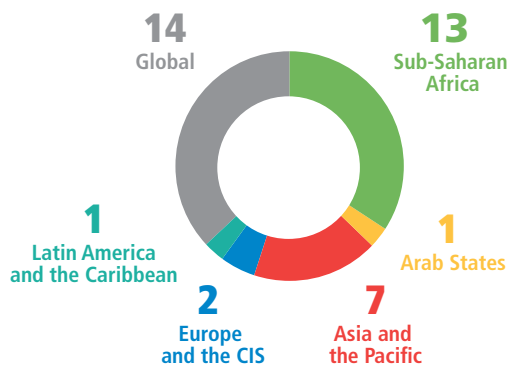


SVF PROGRAMME EXPENSES BY REGION – 2014-2015: US \$11.2 MILLION

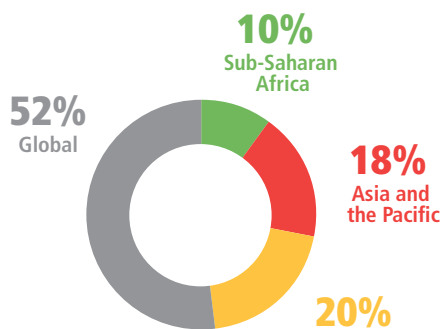




NUMBER OF ACTIVE SVF PROJECTS BY REGION – 2014-2015



SVF PROGRAMME EXPENSES ON YOUTH – 2014-2015: US \$2.6 million



Friends of UNICEF, a local Iraqi youth volunteer group, interacted with the public in Baghdad as part of International Volunteer Day 2015 celebrations. Iraqis expressed their hopes and sent out messages for partnership, peace, dignity and a safe and brighter future for Iraq. (UNAMI, 2015)



## Status of SVF-funded projects active during the period 2014-2015 (Thousands of US \$)

| COUNTRY                     | PROJECT Title (Including Business Unit/Budget Dept/Project Number)   | UNV Programme Results                                      | 2014-2015 Expenses | Total Project (All year Expenses + Budgets) |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--------------------|---|
| <b>SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA</b>   |  |  |                    |   |
| Regional – Africa           | ECOWAS: Youth Ambassadors for Peace – 50999  | Outcome 09 – Youth/Capacities                              | 269                | 354   |
| Burundi                     | BDI10: National Youth Volunteers for the Achievement of the MDGs – 86684   | NA (tagged to field unit results)                          | 235                | 500   |
| Mozambique                  | MOZ10 – B0358: Establishment of a National Volunteer Agency – 74799  | NA (tagged to field unit results)                          | 130                | 168   |
| Niger                       | NER10: B0362 National Crisis and Disaster Prevention and Management Programme – 69815  | NA (tagged to field unit results)                          | 107                | 202   |
| Guinea Bissau               | GNB10 – B0340: Reinforcement of the Capacity of Civil Society Organizations to attain the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – 76890                      | NA (tagged to field unit results)                          | 81                 | 288   |
| Mauritania                  | MRT10: National Volunteer Scheme – 88629/30  | NA (tagged to field unit results)                          | 78                 | 265   |
| Swaziland                   | SWZ10 – B0376: Swaziland HIV/AIDS – 78848  | NA (tagged to field unit results)                          | 60                 | 213   |
| Regional – Africa           | UNV Support to Ebola outbreak response – 92566   | Outcome 06 – Basic Social Services/ Local Capacities       | 45                 | 45  |
| Lesotho                     | LSO10 – B0344: Support to the implementation of a National Volunteer Corps of Young Graduates – 71140  | NA (tagged to field unit results)                          | 28                 | 280   |
| Cabo Verde                  | CPV10 – B0312: Appui à la mise en place d'un Programme National de Volontariat au Cabo Verde – 71937   | NA (tagged to field unit results)                          | 16                 | 346   |
| Zambia                      | UNV/UNCCD Framework – 53037  | Outcome 07 – Disaster Risk Reduction/ Capacity development | 15                 | 56  |
| Rwanda                      | RWA10 B0366: Delivery as One to meet Development Needs and Rights of Rwandan Adolescents and Youth 2009-2011 – 71981                                       | NA (tagged to field unit results)                          | 3                  | 44  |
| Ethiopia                    | ETH10: National Volunteer Scheme – 89707   | NA (tagged to field unit results)                          | –                  | 50  |
| <b>Subtotal</b>             |  |  | 1,067              | 2,811                                       |
| <b>ARAB STATES</b>          |  |  |                    |   |
| Regional – Arab States      | Arab Youth Volunteering for a Better Future – 85604  | Outcome 08 – Youth/Contributions                           | 257                | 453   |
| Regional – Arab States      | Arab Youth Volunteering for a Better Future – 85602  | Outcome 10 – Youth/Opportunities                           | 140                | 194   |
| Regional – Arab States      | Arab Youth Volunteering for a Better Future – 85603  | Outcome 09 – Youth/Capacities                              | 111                | 168   |
| <b>Subtotal</b>             |  |  | 508                | 815   |
| <b>ASIA AND THE PACIFIC</b> |  |  |                    |   |
| Sri Lanka                   | Support to Volunteerism: Volunteer Orientation and Information Centre – 51172  | Outcome 08 – Youth/Contributions                           | 195                | 614   |
| Nepal                       | UNV10 with ASL to B0422: Support for the Local Governance and Community Development Programme in Nepal, Phase II – 88539                                   | Outcome 09 – Youth/Capacities                              | 195                | 292   |
| Regional – Asia             | UNDP1 – B0441: Partners for Prevention, Phase I – 62541  | NA (tagged to field unit results)                          | 93                 | 551   |
| Regional – Asia             | Partners for Prevention, Phase II – 93008  | Outcome 06 – Basic Social Services/ Local Capacities       | 91                 | 309   |
| Viet Nam                    | UNV10 B0438: Strengthening the Capacity of the Viet Nam Volunteer Information Resource Centre for Promoting Volunteerism for Development, Phase II – 88183 | Outcome 10 – Youth/Opportunities                           | 91                 | 400   |

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| COUNTRY  | PROJECT Title (Including Business Unit/Budget Dept/Project Number)                              | UNV Programme Results  | 2014-2015 Expenses | Total Project (All year Expenses + Budgets) |
|--|---|--|--------------------|---|
| India  | Strengthening National Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan and National Service Scheme in India – 95970 | Outcome 13 – National and Sub-National Capacities              | 22                 | 113   |
| India  | Strengthening National Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan and National Service Scheme in India – 95968 | Outcome 13 – National and Sub-National Capacities              | 10                 | 214   |
| India  | Strengthening National Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan and National Service Scheme in India – 95972 | Outcome 13 – National and Sub-National Capacities              | –                  | 71  |
| India  | Strengthening National Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan and National Service Scheme in India – 95971 | Outcome 13 – National and Sub-National Capacities              | –                  | 73  |
| Indonesia  | IDN10 – B0408: People-centred Development Project, Phase II 76143                               | NA (tagged to field unit results)                              | (25)               | 177   |
| <b>Subtotal</b>  |   |  | 672                | 2,814                                       |
| <b>EUROPE AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES</b> |   |  |                    |   |
| Uzbekistan   | UZB10 – B0584: Social Innovation and Volunteerism in Uzbekistan – 83372                         | NA (tagged to field unit results)                              | 125                | 197   |
| Ukraine  | UKR10 – B0582: Youth Football Volunteers – Sports and Volunteering for the MDGs – 81158         | NA (tagged to field unit results)                              | 67                 | 141   |
| <b>Subtotal</b>  |   |  | 192                | 338   |
| <b>LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN</b>                   |   |  |                    |   |
| Peru   | UNDP1 – B0522: Joint UNDP-UNEP Poverty Environment Initiative, Phase II                         | NA (tagged to field unit results)                              | 124                | 124   |
| <b>Subtotal</b>  |   |  | 124                | 124   |
| <b>GLOBAL</b>  |   |  |                    |   |
| Global   | Advisory Services – 84493   | Outcome 12 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Enabling Environment     | 1,551              | 3,354                                       |
| Global   | State of the World's Volunteerism Report, Phase II – 88078/79                                   | Outcome 11 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Volunteerism Integration | 990                | 992   |
| Global   | UNV10 B0172: Programme Officer Empowerment Mechanism III – 15365                                | Other  | 969                | 6,103                                       |
| Global   | Youth – 95457   | Outcome 08 – Youth/Contributions                               | 746                | 2,264                                       |
| Global   | Rio+20 – 85861  | Outcome 12 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Enabling Environment     | 576                | 794   |
| Global   | Volunteer Management – 84491  | Outcome 11 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Volunteerism Integration | 488                | 563   |
| Global   | UNV Online Volunteering service – 84492   | Outcome 11 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Volunteerism Integration | 482                | 828   |
| Global   | Peacebuilding – 95461   | Outcome 01 – Peacebuilding/UN Capacity                         | 359                | 2,670                                       |
| Global   | UN Youth Volunteer Programme – 82945  | Outcome 09 – Youth/Capacities                                  | 325                | 469   |
| Global   | Volunteer Learning – 84713  | Outcome 12 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Enabling Environment     | 291                | 532   |
| Global   | Knowledge Management – 84648  | Outcome 12 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Enabling Environment     | 251                | 505   |
| Global   | Rio+20 – 85851  | Outcome 12 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Enabling Environment     | 222                | 244   |
| Global   | Rio+20 – 85858  | Outcome 12 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Enabling Environment     | 217                | 378   |
| Global   | Rio+20 – 85860  | Outcome 12 – Volunteer Infrastructure/Enabling Environment     | 178                | 237   |

| COUNTRY            | PROJECT Title (Including Business Unit/Budget Dept/Project Number) | UNV Programme Results                                       | 2014-2015 Expenses | Total Project (All year Expenses + Budgets) |
|--------------------|--|---|--------------------|---|
| Global             | Youth – 95470  | Outcome 10 – Youth/Opportunities                            | 157                | 1,049                                       |
| Global             | Support to Peacebuilding – 89075                                   | Outcome 01 – Peacebuilding/UN Capacity                      | 139                | 139   |
| Global             | Disaster Risk Reduction – 95459                                    | Outcome 03 – Disaster Risk Reduction/UN Effectiveness       | 127                | 1,695                                       |
| Global             | Youth – 95464  | Outcome 09 – Youth/Capacities                               | 106                | 899   |
| Global             | UNV Facility for Evaluation – 15131                                | Other   | 94                 | 552   |
| Global             | Support to Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction – 89133         | Outcome 07 – Disaster Risk Reduction/ Capacity development  | 85                 | 85  |
| Global             | Basic Social Services – 95458                                      | Outcome 06 – Basic Social Services/ Local Capacities        | 82                 | 1,253                                       |
| Global             | Support to Basic Social Services – 89132                           | Outcome 02 BSS UN Capacity                                  | 80                 | 80  |
| Global             | Peacebuilding – 95456  | Outcome 05 – Peacebuilding/Local Ownership                  | 52                 | 169   |
| Global             | Disaster Risk Reduction – 95467                                    | Outcome 03 – Disaster Risk Reduction/ UN Effectiveness      | 30                 | 210   |
| Global             | Field Unit personnel capacity development – 84092                  | Outcome 12 – Volunteer Infrastructure/ Enabling Environment | 24                 | 57  |
| Global             | Rio+20 – 85859   | Outcome 12 – Volunteer Infrastructure/ Enabling Environment | 16                 | 65  |
| Global             | Disaster Risk Reduction – 95463                                    | Outcome 07 – Disaster Risk Reduction/ Capacity development  | 7                  | 236   |
| Global             | Youth – 95468  | Outcome 09 – Youth/Capacities                               | 7                  | 327   |
| Global             | Basic Social Services – 96159                                      | Outcome 06 – Basic Social Services/ Local Capacities        | –                  | 100   |
| Global             | Youth – 96120  | Outcome 10 – Youth/Opportunities                            | –                  | 170   |
| Global             | Basic Social Services – 95465                                      | Outcome 06 – Basic Social Services/ Local Capacities        | –                  | 201   |
| Global             | Peacebuilding – 95987  | Outcome 01 – Peacebuilding/UN Capacity                      | –                  | 310   |
| Global             | Peacebuilding – 95462  | Outcome 05 – Peacebuilding/Local Ownership                  | –                  | 71  |
| Global             | Gender Promotion Initiative – 94825                                | Outcome 01 – Peacebuilding/UN Capacity                      | –                  | 42  |
| Global             | Gender Promotion Initiative – 94824                                | Outcome 05 – Peacebuilding/Local Ownership                  | –                  | 60  |
| Global             | Gender Promotion Initiative – 94823                                | Outcome 04 – Peacebuilding/Inclusive Participation          | –                  | 20  |
|                    | <b>Subtotal</b>  |   | 8,651              | 27,723                                      |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b> |  |   | <b>11,214</b>      | <b>34,625</b>                               |