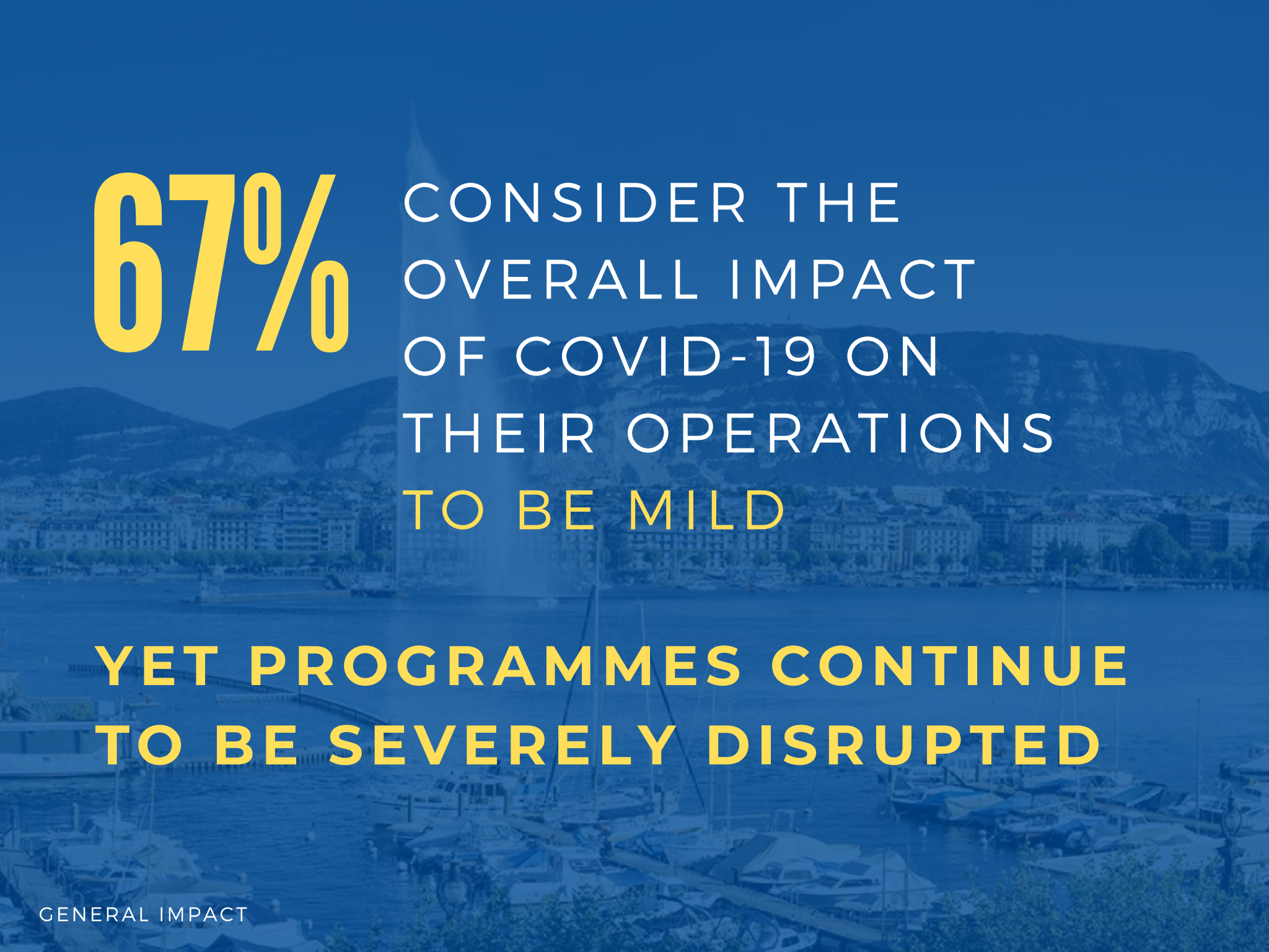


2021 SURVEY

# HOW COVID-19 IMPACTED THE WORK OF NGOS IN GENEVA



67%

CONSIDER THE  
OVERALL IMPACT  
OF COVID-19 ON  
THEIR OPERATIONS  
TO BE MILD

**YET PROGRAMMES CONTINUE  
TO BE SEVERELY DISRUPTED**



# ALMOST HALF

had to put some of their programmes on hold

# 7 IN 10

had to significantly adapt their programmes, including adjusting them to online settings

# ALMOST HALF

put in place new programmes, notably related to COVID

## **AN ONLINE SHIFT ACCELERATED BY THE PANDEMIC**

9 in 10 managed to  
organise online, in whole  
or in part, the meetings  
and conferences that they  
were planning to hold in  
Geneva in 2020


## **ONLINE MEETINGS BETTER IN REACH BUT WITH LIMITED OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVOCACY AND INTERACTION**

7 in 10 rate the impact of  
those virtual meetings as  
lower or much lower in  
comparison to in-person  
meetings



# 9 IN 10

WISH TO RESUME ORGANISING  
IN-PERSON MEETINGS AND  
CONFERENCES IN GENEVA IN WHOLE  
(30%) OR IN PART (60%) IN 2021  
SHOULD THE SITUATION ALLOW IT

The background of the slide is a blue-tinted photograph of a harbor. In the center, a tall, slender fountain sprays water upwards. The harbor is filled with numerous sailboats and yachts moored at docks. In the background, a city with various buildings is visible, nestled at the foot of large, rugged mountains.

**37%**

FACED A  
DIMINUTION OF  
THEIR REVENUES  
IN 2020

**YET 2020 BUDGET TARGETS  
WERE ONLY PARTLY MET**

# HIGH DEPENDENCY TOWARDS NATIONAL PUBLIC FUNDING

More than half are primarily funded by taxpayers' money

Private donations and membership fees are other important sources of funding while commercial activities stay relatively modest with only 22% of NGOs getting part of their funding through commercial activities

At the exception of commercial activities, which strongly dropped in 2020, all sources of funding seem to have been mostly stable last year





# LESS THAN 2 IN 10

HAD TO REDUCE THEIR  
GENEVA-BASED STAFF  
IN GENEVA

EMPLOYMENT HAS BEEN RELATIVELY  
PRESERVED FOR NOW



# PUBLIC AUTHORITIES' SUPPORT

Close to 60% of the NGOs that employ staff in Geneva did not use any of the schemes put in place by public authorities in the context of COVID-19

Unemployment benefit (RHT) has been the most used scheme with 30% of respondent NGOs employing personnel in Geneva requesting to furlough some of their staff

Success rate differs vastly between schemes

Common feeling that schemes were not adapted to the NGOs funding and business model

## **INNOVATION AND DIGITAL LEAP LED BY DISRUPTION**

NGOs were able to innovate and adapt their operations to the situation. They experienced an overdue digital leap that led to some efficiency gains and better outreach

## **A TIME TO REFLECT AND RETHINK**

Opportunity to adapt their business model and long-term goals to the "new normal" and stay relevant

## **A NEW WAY OF WORKING**

Less travel led to some positive environmental impact and better work life balance; generalization of work from home practices, which seem here to stay

# 1/3 NGOS

CONSIDER THE  
SITUATION AS POSING A  
SIGNIFICANT RISK FOR  
THEIR ORGANIZATION

**42% ESTIMATE THAT THE HIGHEST  
DANGER IS YET TO COME**



# CONTACTS

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