



act:onaid

ANNUAL REPORT

AUSTRALIA 2021

WELCOME

This 2021 Annual Report shares how together we are rising up and supporting women on the frontlines of injustice to lead change in their lives and communities.

Thank you for being part of this journey.



Front cover: Vivienne, 30, Uganda.
This page: Hibaq Mohamed, 38, goes to the nearest well point to collect water in Burao, Somaliland.

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Ndikomaa, Kenya.

IMAGINE A JUST,
EQUITABLE AND
SUSTAINABLE
WORLD WHERE
WOMEN ARE
DECISION
MAKERS.

**A place where
women thrive.**



Janet Nyevu Nyanje and her community in the village of Garithe have been supported by ActionAid to take legal action against Munyu Salt Company for destroying homes and livelihoods.

WHO WE ARE

ActionAid is a global women's rights organisation creating opportunities for women on the frontlines of injustice to lead and drive change in their communities.

Our strategy

Our human rights based approach supports the self determination of women to drive change in their lives and communities.

ActionAid also campaigns for a fairer world by galvanising the public to challenge the national and global policies and practices that keep women trapped in poverty and injustice. This includes holding decision makers to account and demanding more just government policy and corporate practice.

By mobilising the power of people and amplifying the voices and priorities of women on the frontlines of injustice, we are tackling the structural causes of gender inequality and poverty.

A MESSAGE

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND BOARD CHAIR

Crisis continues to define our world
and 2021 was no exception.

From catastrophic outbreaks of COVID-19 in India and Papua New Guinea (PNG) to devastating cyclones in Asia and the Pacific, we continued to see a deepening of gender inequality, poverty and injustice worldwide. The Taliban's rapid return to power in Afghanistan last year also served as a reminder of the fragility of women's rights.

Supporting the self determination of women and girls globally has never been more important and is at the heart of ActionAid's agenda, alongside challenging unjust policies and practices in our own backyard that continue to undermine the rights of women and girls.

Thanks to your unwavering support, we had some incredible wins over the past year. Our innovative programs increased women's access to resources and technology, reaching over 1.2 million people in PNG and half the population in Vanuatu with lifesaving COVID prevention and response messages. The impact evaluation of the broader Shifting the Power Coalition in the Pacific highlighted

its contribution to increasing women's leadership in humanitarian decision making.

Closer to home, we worked with partners to secure tangible changes in government policy, including increased climate finance and support for vaccine equity. Our collective campaigning efforts also exposed the plight of women garment workers in Bangladesh and Cambodia and held Australian and global companies to account for workers in their supply chains.

These achievements are a testament to the creativity and determination of our staff, board, volunteers and partners as well as the incredible generosity of our supporters. We also recognise Jeremy Hobbs, who stepped down as Board Chair in early 2021 and has made a powerful contribution to shaping the organisation we are today.

With a growing movement of over 70,000 Australians, we are unstoppable. Through collective action, we can empower women and change the world.



Michelle Higelin
Executive Director



Nicci Dent
Board Chair



ActionAid Covid-19
response in India.

WHERE WE WORK

AMERICAS

Brazil
Guatemala
Haiti
USA

EUROPE

Denmark
France
Greece
Ireland
Italy
Netherlands
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
United Kingdom

ARAB REGION

Lebanon
Jordan
Palestine

AFRICA

Burundi
DRC
Ethiopia
Gambia
Ghana
Kenya
Liberia
Malawi
Mozambique
Nigeria
Rwanda
Senegal
Sierra Leone
Somaliland
South Africa
Tanzania
Uganda
Zambia
Zimbabwe

ASIA

Afghanistan
Bangladesh
Cambodia
India
Indonesia
Myanmar
Nepal
Thailand
Vietnam
The Philippines

THE PACIFIC

Australia
Fiji
PNG & Bougainville
Samoa
Solomon Islands
Tonga
Vanuatu

KEY

- ActionAid Australia and ActionAid International work
- ActionAid Australia directly funds
- ActionAid International work



Fulera Issaku &
Ayishetu Bujri,
Northern Ghana.

AMIDST ADVERSITY THERE IS HOPE

In the past 12 months we've seen the devastating consequences of the climate crisis, conflict and severe food insecurity in many of the countries where we work. In addition, the impact of the pandemic could reverse years of development progress in fragile settings globally.

There's little doubt that women are among those most affected by these intersecting crises due to their widespread exclusion from decision making and resources. But amidst adversity, there is hope. In this increasingly insecure and unpredictable world, women are mobilising – driving locally-led solutions to climate change, disasters and COVID-19.

ActionAid is investing in women's leadership. This requires listening to diverse women's voices and creating safe, intergenerational spaces in which to learn and develop together. ActionAid helps women with the resources they need – including the time and space to meet and the funding to drive their own priorities and deliver what works best for them and their local communities.

**Together we can transform
the world for good.**

WOMEN ARE STRATEGISING

As women in Asia and the Pacific, Africa and the Middle East continue to face concurrent crises, ActionAid is collaborating with women-led regional alliances to help shape policies and humanitarian responses at the local, national, and regional levels.



SHIFTING THE POWER

Since 2016, Shifting the Power Coalition (StPC) has been strengthening women's leadership, including that of young women and women with disabilities, to drive locally led responses to the multiple crises facing the Pacific.

ActionAid is a co-founder of the Shifting the Power Coalition – a regional alliance of 13 women-led organisations and the Pacific Disability Forum in seven Pacific Island Forum countries, with a combined reach of 100,000 women.

Drawing on ActionAid's feminist humanitarian approach, Coalition members from Bougainville, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu are using advocacy, training and evidence-based research to lead their communities in crisis management.

“We are creating new spaces, making histories and breaking the chains and barriers to women's inclusion in those spaces. It's critical for us as partners to work together to move mountains. We all bring different expertise and insight into those spaces.”

– StPC Member, Vanuatu

Significantly, StPC's work does not simply operate at a regional level: **it systematically takes regional learning and best practice down to the ground.** This means women translating their knowledge into information that is accessible and understandable to decision-makers and community members alike and using it to transform disaster preparedness, response, and humanitarian action.

StPC has established a regional hub in Fiji to cement the leadership of Pacific women, ensure closer coordination among coalition partners, and increase the ability to engage with regional partners based in the country. In addition two gender and disability focal points have been established in Fiji and Vanuatu.

What we've achieved:*



189 women including 110 young women, in six countries have participated in disaster response training.



11 rapid emergency response grants totaling AUD \$180,000 have been provided to StPC Partners to support women's leadership in disaster response and address urgent humanitarian needs in their communities, from tropical cyclones to measles outbreaks and COVID-19.

*reported from 2021 impact assessment



Women I Tok Tok Tugeta (WITT).



Maria Elena Rosario
from Jamorawan
Women's Association,
the Philippines.

WOMEN IN EMERGENCY NETWORK

In the Philippines, women's organisations are working together to promote women's leadership during extreme weather events.

The Philippines has seen an increasing number of natural disasters in recent years. Fortunately, a group of women are trained and ready to take charge of the emergency response. The 30 women's organisations belonging to the Women in Emergency Network (WENet) undertake training in women's rights and protection, and build their knowledge of preparedness plans and disaster risk reduction strategies. They're also supported to hold national policy dialogues about prioritising and financing women's rights and resilience in emergencies.

When the country was hit by several overlapping disasters (Taal Volcano unrest, Typhoon Jolina, and Super Typhoon Odette, Typhoon Rai) in 2021, women put their training into practice. Groups around the country immediately mobilised teams of volunteers and led consultations with women leaders to identify their communities' most urgent needs. In doing so, women's protection was at the heart of the response.

While COVID-19 complicated recovery efforts, ActionAid with the assistance of DFAT, provided women with hygiene kits, including face masks and face shields, to protect them while they were delivering urgent relief.

What we've achieved:



2,383 women
in 15 provinces received Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) and hygiene kits.



1,945 women
across 10 provinces received food packs.



500 households
in typhoon affected Luzon received solar lamps/flashlights after experiencing power outages.



19 rural women leaders
were trained on the impacts of multiple emergencies (COVID-19 and typhoon) alongside training on mental health and self-care.



Forums
A number of online forums were organised by WENet which provided space for women leaders to raise concerns on issues of representation, participation, and decision making in humanitarian work.

WOMEN ARE MOBILISING

Women's innovation and use of appropriate and accessible information and communication technology is not only increasing the resilience of communities, but it's connecting women and building strength in numbers.



Palestinian women
protesting in Hebron.

LEIWIA TALKS WEATHER AND WOMEN STAY SAFE

Climate change is already causing more frequent and severe disasters around the world and women like Leiwia Poki in Vanuatu – one of the most disaster-prone nations on earth – are on the frontlines of these crises.



After her community was hit by Cyclone Pam in 2015, Leiwia Yavions joined the Women I Tok Tok Tugeta (WITTT) forum in Vanuatu. The locally-led and driven women's forum brings together over 5000 women from three islands, who meet regularly through women's collectives to respond to climate change and disasters.

"We meet together as women and we talk about our issues. How we plant our gardens and they cannot grow... and how a lot of disasters are coming as the climate changes," says Leiwia.

Leiwia, now President of the growing Women I Tok Tok Tugeta forum in Erromango, has led her community through floods, cyclones, volcanic ashfall and COVID-19. And along the way, she's building a powerful movement for change, challenging gender norms by showing what women are capable of.

In 2021, the Women I Tok Tok Tugeta continued to expand their work and reach:



WITTT forums

were scaled up to 5 islands, including two new locations (Malo and Malekula).



Ten WITTT Economic Hubs were established

These hubs involve 2000 women across the 5 Islands and are supporting women with livelihood training, skills and resources for: collective horticulture farming; poultry and livestock farming, and production of masks and basketry. The hubs have also established two main supermarkets in two of the islands.



WITTT Sunshine

a platform for women with disabilities – supported 348 women across 5 islands, creating a safe space for women to organise, mobilise and build collective leadership on humanitarian action and climate change.

"I show women how to organise themselves in their areas representing south, north, east, and west. And how they can stand in public and voice their concerns and issues on how they live," she says.

PACIFIC WOMEN ARE DISASTER READY

When natural disasters strike, women are the first responders for their families and communities.

In Vanuatu, Women's Wetem Weta (Women's Weather Watch (WWW)) is giving women in remote areas access to timely information, and building their capacity and confidence to translate complex climate information from the Meteorological Department into simple warnings to prepare their communities for cyclones, floods and volcanic eruptions.



WITTT community mobilisers, Esther Rueben from Tanna, Leiwia Yavions from Erromango and Janet Iatinku from Tanna.

In 2021:



WWW network

scaled up from 12 to 41 trained women coordinators, with 5 of the new members from WITTT Sunshine.



130,000 people

a quarter of the country's population, were sent an SMS in local language on COVID-19 prevention by the WWW network. From February 2021, WWW's partnership with Digicel, enabled the team to send 2 to 3 bulk SMS texts every month reaching an average constituency of 130,000 people (over 42% of the entire population).



Phone tree network

All WWW leaders have been provided a handset as part of the phone tree network that now comprises 3,500 people.



Vital messages

WWW sent vital messages on food logistics in response to the Mount Yasur eruption and food stress caused by COVID-19.

WHEN WOMEN HAVE INFORMATION, WOMEN HAVE POWER

Women in Papua New Guinea and Bougainville are using the power of technology to fight the spread of dangerous misinformation about COVID-19.

While the impact of the pandemic is slowing down in Australia, COVID-19 continues to threaten the lives of women living in Papua New Guinea (PNG) and Bougainville. With only 500 doctors and 5000 hospital beds for the country's nine million people and high levels of community transmission, the virus has had a devastating impact.

Now a group of women – including young women, women with disabilities and rural community members – are using their local knowledge and expertise to craft lifesaving health messages to improve COVID-19 awareness and prevention and address vaccine hesitancy.

The 'Meri Gat Pawa, Meri Gat Infomesen' (MGI) project is a joint initiative of ActionAid Australia and members of the Shifting the Power Coalition (StPC). It came out of consultations held with 250 diverse local women, to identify priority issues for communities and determine the messaging that is sent out through the network.

Messaging has focused on dispelling COVID-19 misinformation, while also

"We believe that women can lead, women can be part of the solution. When women are involved, we know for certain that many more people will get that information."

Agnes Titus, Advocacy Coordinator at the Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation in Bougainville, is a driving force behind MGI.

addressing issues felt on the ground by local women, such as gender-based violence and social inequality that have been exacerbated by the pandemic.

MGI distributes messages in English and Tok Pisin via SMS through Digicel's mobile phone network – a model that builds on ActionAid and STPC's work in Vanuatu and Fiji using mobile technology to lead on early disaster warning. All messages are pre-approved by the Ministry of Health.

To capture a wider audience, particularly those without mobile phones, the initiative also ran a 5-month program sharing information via electronic billboards in Port Moresby, a national radio campaign targeting young women, women with disabilities and women community leaders, as well as advertisements on the sides of buses.

In 2021:



More than 5.5 million SMS on COVID-19 prevention and human rights have reached more than 1.2 million Digicel subscribers in PNG's National Capital District and Bougainville, as well as nine other provinces.



Agnes Titus,
Bougainville.

WOMEN ARE INFLUENCING

At ActionAid, we organise and consult deeply with groups of diverse women. Our programs take an intersectional feminist approach that aims to address gender inequality and intersecting forms of discrimination.



Young women at ActionAid training workshop, Uganda.

INTERSECTIONALITY IN ACTION

In Vanuatu, more women with disabilities now have the skills and the confidence to advocate for themselves after joining the WITTT Sunshine network, part of Women I Tok Tok Tugeta (WITTT).

We talk to Flora Vano from ActionAid in Vanuatu about the power of taking an intersectional approach.

How did WITTT Sunshine come about?

Flora: WITTT Sunshine came about in 2018 when we had our women-led community based protection training in the villages outside of Port Vila. We could see there's a big gap of inclusion in our work. But we've known since Tropical Cyclone Pam in 2015, that our sisters living with disabilities are being left out of the humanitarian response. We'd have community meetings, and it was like they don't even exist. Their voices are not in the decision-making place, not even alongside the women's voices. They were like ghosts, they're not there.

What kind of support do you offer the women who are part of WITTT Sunshine?

Flora: We've brought the Sunshine sisters into a safe space to learn about their own policy the CRPD – Convention for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. So when bad things are happening to them – they know it's an abuse that they have to report. We have taken them through the leadership training. We have taken them through the model of

a women-led community based protection framework where they can identify the issues that are important to them, and then know who the community leaders are that they can advocate to. And what are the key messages that they want to share?

How does this help women with disabilities in an emergency situation?

Flora: Now when there's a disaster, we don't need to go and create that space for them. They've created it themselves, they talk, and if the government came and was talking, they will raise their hand and confidently speak. This is the transformation that we have wanted to see – women from the poorest of the poor communities who have been marginalised for years – are now being included in village committees, in disaster preparedness and response.

Can you share a highlight from 2021?

Flora: Since being part of WITTT Sunshine network women are now being recognised because of their influencing – they even have a seat at the table in the recent review of our national gender policy. Thanks to WITTT Sunshine the inclusion agenda is embedded inside this gender policy and made clear.



Winnie Tovo and Ellen Tamata from WITTT Sunshine, with a carer, Vanuatu.



Molly Angwech
in her garden in
Uganda.

WHEN LAND IS LIFE WORKING FOR WIDOW'S LAND RIGHTS IN UGANDA

When Molly Angwech, a widow and mother of two, returned to her home in the Acholi region after many years of being displaced by war, she discovered a family member had taken over her land.

My first thought was that Acaba [Molly's late husband's nephew] had occupied it because I was not around in order to prevent encroachers on the land. Little did I know he was there to take control and ownership of it.

When I approached him to inform him that I wanted to re-settle on my land and that he should leave, he said to my face that women do not own land in Acholi and that I was not officially married yet my husband

"...As a woman and a widow, I also have the right to own, and control land."

– Molly Angwech

had traditionally married me before his death. He also said my late husband had no surviving son and hence being his nephew, he had all the right to inherit his uncle's land. Every time I tried accessing the land to farm, he would stop me and my daughters.

In over 90% of the Acholi region, land is owned communally by clans and protection of widows and orphans is decreed orally in Acholi tradition. The system is known as customary land tenure and is recognised legally in Uganda's constitution.

The tension dragged on with threats on my life even after I engaged the clan leaders several times. I know Acaba was giving them money to emerge victorious over me since I had nothing to offer. I even struggle to feed myself and my children. I sought redress from the courts of law however there was no progress.

A court clerk introduced Molly to ActionAid in Uganda, who offered her the support of a counsellor, and a legal team to organise mediation in the presence of clan leaders, family members, the buyer, and local leaders.

After several meetings, the land that belonged to my husband was returned to my and my daughters' custody in June 2021. We now grow our food on it without disturbance. The whole process of mediation empowered me and made me learn that as a woman and a widow, I also have the right to own, and control land through all the legal means. The leaders themselves were challenged by the way the case was managed. ActionAid gave me back my life because land is life here in Acholi. I will forever be grateful.

To support women to secure full ownership of their land as well as greater protection from policy and law, we partnered with ActionAid Uganda to support women increase awareness and understanding of their rights. Women's access to justice has been strengthened through engagement with local paralegals and legal aid clinics.

What we've achieved:



Peace building

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms have greatly contributed to peace building within communities, and given women a voice in mediation. There were 273 cases of women land rights disputes and gender-based violence registered and supported:

- 168 cases were resolved through ADR
- 12 cases resolved at the Magistrate courts.



An increase in women registering land

There's been an increase in land registration. In March 2021 alone, there were a total of 1700 land applications for registration in Amuru region as opposed to 200-400 files in the previous years. About 15% of the total land applications for registration are for women.



80 paralegals and 450 Reflect Action Group members

were trained in following up issues of women's land rights within their own communities.



30 women peace ambassadors

were trained on land governance and gender-responsive public-service delivery with a focus on land justice.

RAPID RESPONSE

Our approach in an emergency is to empower local women to lead the response. Local women know best what their communities need, and are able to get life-saving supplies quickly and fairly to those who need it most.

EMPOWERING WOMEN IN A CRISIS

In Afghanistan, the resilience of women is being stretched to the limit. Women are fighting for basic rights and freedoms – but also for the means to survive.

Women in Afghanistan have suffered more than 40 years of conflict, natural disasters, chronic poverty, food insecurity and most recently the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021 violence in Afghanistan worsened in intensity and spread in reach – causing even more human suffering and displacement.

ActionAid has worked in Afghanistan since 2002 to address poverty and inequality of vulnerable communities. We work with female-headed households to develop their resilience to shocks and seasonal fluctuations in food and livelihood security. This involves training in livestock and agriculture, nutrition and business development.

Despite challenging circumstances, in 2021 we continued this important work in 7 provinces, while also delivering an emergency response covering the following areas:



Hygiene kits

Water, sanitation, and hygiene support for 4,519 families, including hygiene kits to meet the sanitary needs of women and girls.



COVID-19 safety kits

for volunteers and health support staff which contained gloves, gowns, shoe covers, head covers, masks, respirators, eye protection, face shields, and goggles.



Food relief and firewood

for one month, for families with an average of 7 people per family.



Identification and referral

of gender-based violence cases to counselling centres.



Cash support

to help families purchase food, kitchen utensils and non-food items such as blankets and clothes.



Psychosocial support

for displaced people, to help address stress and anxiety.



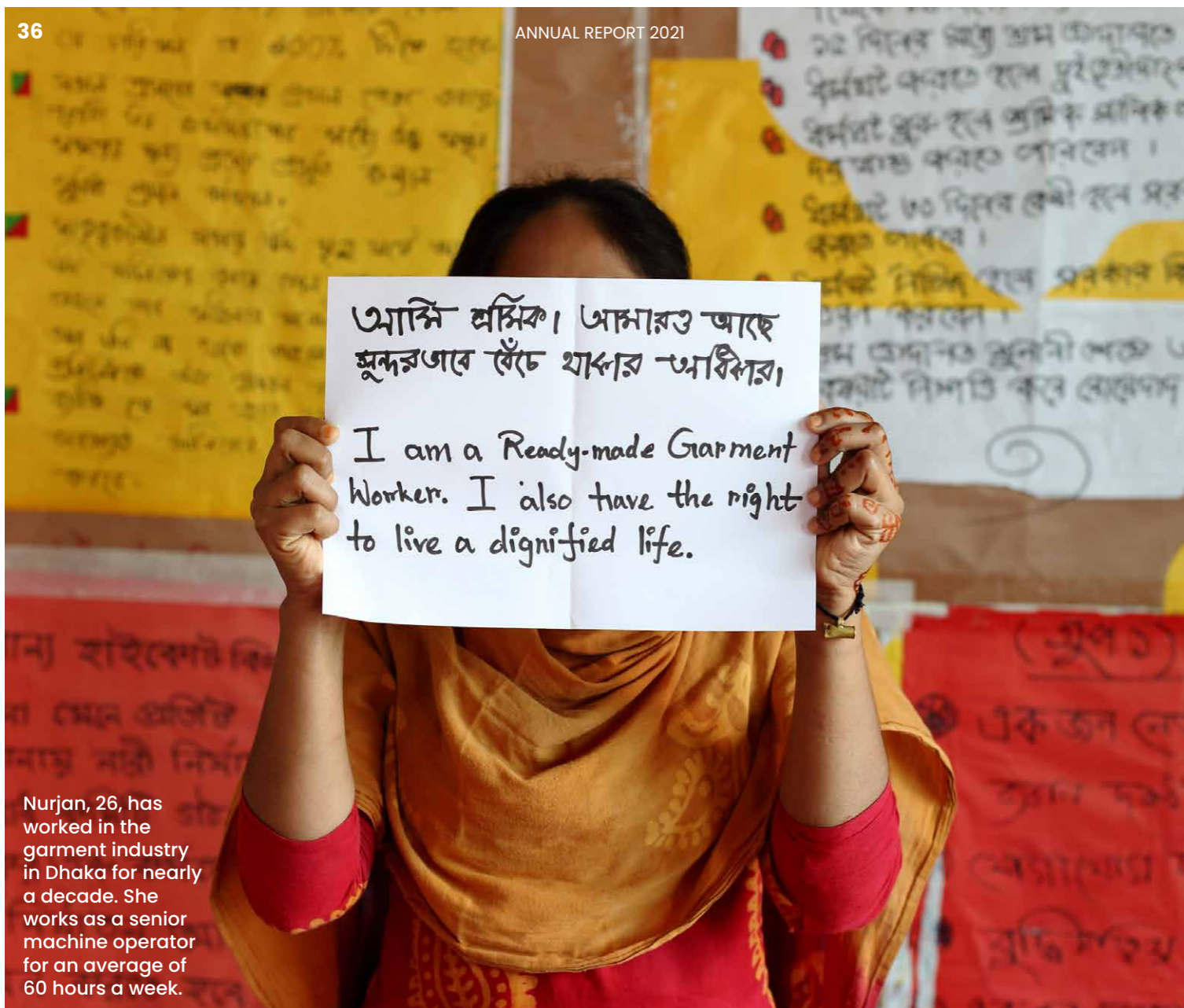
ActionAid staff make their way through deep snow to carry out needs assessments in Ghor.



Stephenie Yip from the Sydney Activist Network, at an action outside the Nike store, Sydney.

BUILDING PEOPLE POWER

Our vibrant, diverse community continued to grow in strength, as we came together to campaign for garment workers rights and climate justice.



Nurjan, 26, has worked in the garment industry in Dhaka for nearly a decade. She works as a senior machine operator for an average of 60 hours a week.

SHE WEARS THE COST

The fashion industry has provided new employment opportunities for women in low-income countries. However, it's also plagued by exploitation, with poverty wages and poor working conditions entrenched across the industry.

ActionAid Australia is standing in solidarity with women garment workers, demanding that global fashion brands step up and uphold the rights of women workers who make their clothes.

2021

APRIL

Working in close collaboration with ActionAid in Bangladesh and Cambodia, which run programs and engage in advocacy to support women garment workers, we launched our prominent **She Wears the Cost** campaign on the anniversary of the Rana Plaza disaster on April 24.

MAY–SEPTEMBER

We targeted Nike, demanding it pay 1,200 women garment workers, who lost their jobs when the Violet Apparel factory closed down in Phnom Penh, Cambodia during the early days of the global pandemic. The women, who were making clothes for Nike, are owed over US\$1.3m in unpaid wages and benefits, and damages. Already earning well below the living wage before the pandemic hit, the unpaid wages have very real consequences for the women's capacity to feed their families and make ends meet, let alone build a better future.

DECEMBER

Casualties of Fashion, developed in partnership with ActionAid Bangladesh and ActionAid Cambodia, was published in December – our first report documenting the long-term impacts of COVID-19 on women garment workers. The report garnered media attention from ABC Radio National, among other media outlets.

“I want to tell [people] that the dress you are wearing to look beautiful is made of our sweat and tears.”

– Salma, a woman garment worker in Bangladesh.

Here's how you got involved:

- Over 9,000 supporters raised their voices with fashion brands like Nike, Just Jeans, Jay Jays, and Dotti, signing petitions and contacting them via their social media.
- Activists held eight actions and events across Australia to promote the campaign, which included community stalls, flyering, and a film screening.
- Hosted five activist training workshops to empower people in Australia to speak out against the global brands.
- Met with two brands to discuss improving policies to support the rights of women garment workers.
- We held a special online event with the leader of the Cambodian union in the Nike case, our international partners, and Julian Hill MP – amplifying the voices of the women garment workers.



Nike protest, Sydney



Women I Tok Tok
Tugeta (WITTT)

CLIMATE FINANCE

In partnership with organisations in the Climate Action Network Australia, ActionAid is demanding the Australian Government urgently ramp up climate finance so that low-income countries can expand responses to a rapidly worsening climate crisis.

At a special virtual event in the lead up to the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, we launched our latest climate justice report, Fairer Futures: Financing Global Climate Solutions – a collaboration with Oxfam Australia, Climate Council, The Australia Institute, Edmund Rice Centre and Greenpeace.

The report recommends that the Australian government:

- Immediately commit to doubling its climate finance commitment to \$3 billion over the next five years.
- By 2023, shape regional and global climate responses by committing an additional \$700 – \$920 million to the Green Climate Fund.
- By 2030, scale up Australia's climate finance to \$12 billion annually, which will meet its fair share.
- Prioritise locally led, gender-responsive climate finance projects.

On the back of the report we mobilised hundreds of people to write to Foreign Minister Marise Payne and held five advocacy meetings with MPs and government representatives.

“We need to shift the power... we need those who have caused the climate crisis to pay their fair share of climate finance. Young women need to be acknowledged as powerful climate leaders. We need to be at the main events and recognised as local experts.”

– Carolyn Kitone, Regional Young Women and Climate Change Focal Point, Shifting the Power Coalition.

STEPHENIE IS STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD

ActionAid's Activist Network is driven by a dedicated group of volunteers like Stephenie, who organise events and campaign actions, bring new people into the movement, and build their leadership skills along the way.



“ActionAid is a very different world to my day job in dental health, and as a yoga instructor. Volunteering with ActionAid I am surrounded by people with similar values – people who share my passion for women's rights.

I chose ActionAid because it's not just an international aid organisation, we use our voice here in Australia to make people understand and care about the injustice that women are facing in places like Cambodia and Bangladesh.

Even though we spent many months in lockdown in 2021, our activist group did a few online events – like a social media blitz of the Just Group, which owns Just Jeans, Dotti, and Jay Jays, which we were calling on to step up and support the women who make their clothes.

We also had a film screening of Made in Bangladesh – that was a collaboration with the University of Sydney Fashion Revolution Society. It was an incredible feeling coming together to advocate with women garment workers. After the screening, a couple of people asked where they could watch the film again and share it with friends. Seeing them being inspired and wanting to talk about it with their network was amazing. That's exactly what we want to do – spread awareness.”

“I believe in ActionAid's vision of bringing change into the world. We all have the power to do more.”

– Stephenie

BIG WIN FOR VACCINE EQUITY!

After months of community campaigning by ActionAid supporters like you, in September the Australian Government came out in support of the TRIPS waiver. This would be a temporary waiver on current trade rules that give big pharmaceutical companies 20-year monopolies on COVID-19 vaccines, tests and treatments. If the waiver comes into effect, it will enable rapid and affordable vaccine production, expanding access to billions of people living in low-income countries.

This is a huge win for people power and ending global inequality – made possible by every ActionAid supporter who took action on the campaign. It shows that we can really make a difference when we act together. Thank you.



Vaccine distribution
in Afghanistan.



Razia Yazid, 25,
Uganda

THANK YOU!

Together, we are a movement of people speaking out for women's rights. Whether you give donations, sign petitions, come to events, take part in actions or the Strong Women Challenge, we thank you for being part of the vibrant ActionAid community. You are the driving force behind our work.

Pledge For Her Rights

In May, a collective of passionate donors came together for our Pledge for Women's Rights event. Powered by The Funding Network, and hosted by Jacinta Parsons from the ABC, the virtual event featured three inspiring women from Vanuatu, Bangladesh and the Philippines, sharing their personal stories of leading change in their communities. Thank you to everyone who helped us raise a mighty \$100,000 on the night.

"I am proud to be associated with an organisation such as ActionAid that puts the rights of women and girls central to its work."

- Natasha Stott Despoja AO



Strong Women Challenge

In November, our community stepped up in solidarity with strong women around the world to help end gender-based violence. Thank you to everyone who raised funds to support protection shelters in countries like Uganda and Bangladesh, where violence against women has increased since the outbreak of COVID-19.



941

challengers



137

step-ups



\$85,663

raised



18

countries



30,416

women trained



\$4.8m

raised



Frocking Hilarious

There's nothing like a good laugh to inspire solidarity. The 8th Frocking Hilarious at the Sydney Comedy Festival brought together over a thousand guests, celebrating the brave and resilient women we work with. The annual all-women comedy night, hosted by Claire Hooper, raised \$15,000 for ActionAid.

Arise Leadership Circle

Established in 2017, the Arise Fund is scaling up efforts to support women around the world to prepare for and respond to emergencies. The fund also strengthens women-led efforts to ensure rights are protected in a crisis, and expands the opportunities for women's leadership in disasters and conflict prevention from immediate response to long-term recovery.

ActionAid is extremely fortunate to have the support of incredible partners who help ensure that women are empowered to lead on the frontline of crises. A special thank you to the members of our Leadership Circle for ensuring women around the world were able to turn crisis into opportunity.



Archie Rose x ActionAid

Archie Rose Distilling Co generously partnered with ActionAid to create our beautiful Arise For Humanity Tailored Gin label. 10% of proceeds from the sale of the gin were donated directly to ActionAid's Arise Fund.

YOUR SUPPORT HAS NEVER BEEN MORE POWERFUL

ActionAid Australia is powered by a wonderful and dynamic community. We would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to the many supporters and friends who make our work possible.

Individuals

Anne Miller
Belinda Morrissey
& Ian Parsons
Claire Van Heyningen
Greg Shalit & Miriam Faine
Hilary Wallace
Jaanette Dorothy Enden
Jacquie Love & Colin Fabig
James A. Darling
James Goth
Jane Mary Frolich
Jenny Donald
Julie McDonald
Karin Hefftner
Katrina Barter
Kristen Lark
Lindley Edwards
Manish & Hema Patel
Mary G Bush
Mitty Williams
Nan Brown
Rosemary Rajola
Susan Varga
Vicki Olsson

Ambassadors

Claire Hooper
Judith Lucy
Tracey Spicer

Foundations

Catherine Gray Trust
Dick and Pip Smith Foundation
Doepke Foundation
Doris Janet Frith Charitable Trust
English Family Foundation
JLDJS Foundation
Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation
Macquarie Group Foundation
Madden Sainsbury Foundation
Mulnot Foundation
Norman Family
Palm Avenue Foundation
Roberts Pike Foundation
S&J Cook Family Foundation
The Douglas & Phillip Young Charitable Trust
The Fischer Darlington Trust
The Sky Foundation
Vasudhara Foundation

Organisations

Ethical Jobs
GreenCollar
Intrepid Travel
Liverpool Partners
Archie Rose Distilling Co.
New South Wales Nurses and Midwives' Association Council

Institutions

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Department of Premier and Cabinet State of Tasmania
Global Fund for Women
The Asia Foundation
The European Commission

Arise Leadership Circle

Angela Priestley
Carole Brownlee
Evie Bruce
Janette O'Neill
Jo Norman
Kristina Stefanova (Chair)
Natasha Stott Despoja AO
Robyn Nixon
Sally Garis
Sarah Morton-Ramwell
Shivani Gopal
Tiffany Leece Lodge

Gifts in Wills

We are grateful to the supporters who have left a Gift in their Will to ActionAid. We are committed to bringing your legacy to life and feel deep privilege that you chose ActionAid. Thank you.



Female garment workers, who attend the ActionAid supported Rights Cafe in Bangladesh.

OUR BOARD

Executive Director
Michelle Higelin

Board Chair
Nicci Dent

Board Vice-Chair
Belinda Morrissey

Board Treasurer
Carole Brownlee

Board Director
Manzoor Hasan

Board Director
Claire van Heyningen

Board Director
Jananie Janarthana

Board Director
Nicole D'Souza

Board Director
Jan Cossar

Board Director
Kristina Stefanova

First Nations Adviser
Trent Wallace

OUR FINANCES

OUR FINANCES

During 2021, ActionAid Australia’s operating revenue increased by 16.9% to \$7.8 million.

The increase was largely due to higher government grants and bequest income received in 2021 compared to 2020 offset against moderately lower fundraising income compared with the previous year. In addition, ActionAid Australia received \$0.170 million in Job Saver payments as a job preservation incentive from government subsidies.

Public funds raised totalled \$3.2 million and comprised 41% of operating revenue for the year, compared to 39% in the previous year. Public funds included donations and gifts received from the Australian public as well as non-monetary income such as volunteer and pro bono services. In 2021 ActionAid Australia received funds from donors who left gifts in their wills, totalling \$371,043, an increase of 117% compared to 2020.

Grant income from DFAT contributed to 56% of operating revenue at \$4.3 million. Interest income received was \$10,462 and other income was \$182,639, which includes \$169,830 of government subsidies.

ActionAid Australia’s total expenditure for 2021 remained steady at \$6.97 million compared to \$6.9 million in 2020. Our total program expenditure was 73% of the total expenditure. Of this, program expenditure was \$5.0m and campaigning in Australia was \$0.24m.

Fundraising accounted for 17% of the total expenditure. ActionAid Australia continues to invest in fundraising activities that will lead to income growth in future years. Accountability and administration costs represented 9% of total expenditure.

The full financial report for the year ended 31 December 2021 is available on request via the ActionAid Australia website at www.actionaid.org.au.

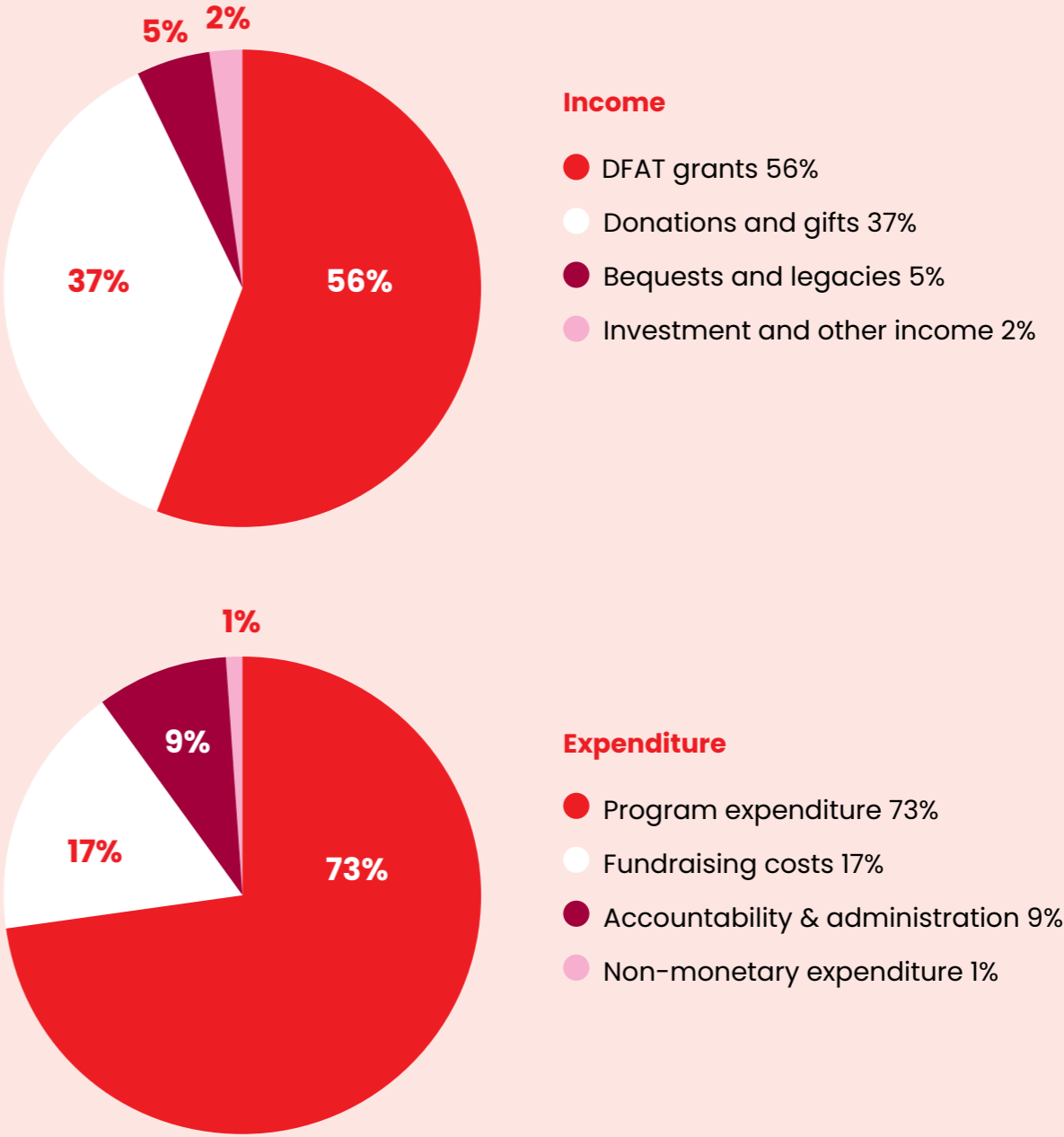
The Summary Financial Report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Code of Conduct. ActionAid Australia is committed to full adherence to this Code.

For further information on the Code please refer to the ACFID Code of Conduct Guidance Document available at www.acfid.asn.au.

In order to lodge a complaint against ActionAid Australia please email complaints.au@actionaid.org. Where a breach of the ACFID Code of Conduct is considered to have occurred please see the ACFID website <http://www.acfid.asn.au/code-of-conduct/complaints> for contact details.



INCOME AND EXPENDITURE



STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the year ended 31 December 2021

REVENUE	Note	Year ended 31 December 2021			Year ended 31 Dec 2020
		Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
Operating Revenue					
Donations and gifts					
• Monetary		\$870,647	\$1,974,447	\$2,845,094	\$2,346,463
• Non-monetary	4	-	\$71,612	\$71,612	\$103,370
Bequests and legacies		-	\$371,043	\$371,043	\$171,361
Grants					
• DFAT	5	\$4,353,958	-	\$4,353,958	\$3,284,092
Investment income	6	-	\$10,462	\$10,462	\$45,060
Other income	7	-	\$182,639	\$182,639	\$750,842
Total Revenue		\$5,224,605	\$2,610,203	\$7,834,808	\$6,701,188
EXPENDITURE					
International programs:					
• Funds to programmes	8	\$4,037,530	\$37,836	\$4,075,366	\$3,232,900
• Program support costs	8	\$771,957	-	\$771,957	\$769,246
Community education	8	-	\$241,647	\$241,647	\$738,211
Fundraising costs:					
• Public		\$194,464	\$985,941	\$1,180,405	\$1,323,096
Accountability and administration	9	-	\$625,555	\$625,555	\$757,944
Non-monetary expenditure	4	-	\$71,612	\$71,612	\$103,370
Total Expenditure		\$5,003,951	\$1,962,591	\$6,966,542	\$6,924,767
• Operating excess/(shortfall) over expenditure		\$220,654	\$647,612	\$868,266	\$(223,579)
Total Excess/(shortfall) of revenue over expenditure		\$220,654	\$647,612	\$868,266	\$(223,579)
Total Comprehensive Income/(loss)		\$220,654	\$647,612	\$868,266	\$(223,579)

The Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements set out on pages 12-28.

During the year ended 31 December 2021, ActionAid Australia had no transactions in the following categories specified in the ACFID Code of Conduct: International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs Revenue or Expenditure.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

for the year ended 31 December 2021

2020	Note	Retained earnings	Restricted funds reserves	Unrestricted funds reserves	Total undistributed funds
Opening balance at 1 January 2020		\$791,883	\$2,699,470	\$50,000	\$3,541,353
Deficit for the year		\$(223,579)	-	-	\$(223,579)
Total comprehensive income		\$(223,579)	-	-	\$(223,579)
Transfers to/(from) reserves:	12	\$243,031	\$(243,031)	-	-
Total Closing Balance at 31 December 2020		\$811,335	\$2,456,439	\$50,000	\$3,317,774

2021	Note	Retained earnings	Restricted funds reserves	Unrestricted funds reserves	Total undistributed funds
Opening balance at 1 January 2021		\$811,335	\$2,456,439	\$50,000	\$3,317,774
Surplus for the year		\$868,266	-	-	\$868,266
Total comprehensive income		\$868,266	-	-	\$868,266
Transfers to/(from) reserves:	12	\$(220,654)	\$220,654	-	-
Total Closing Balance at 31 December 2021		\$1,458,947	\$2,677,093	\$50,000	\$4,186,040

Restricted funds reserve comprised of:

- Capital Reserve \$1,860,394
- Other Restricted Reserves \$816,699

The Statement of Changes in Equity is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements set out on pages 12-28.

During the year ended 31 December 2021, ActionAid Australia had no transactions in the following categories specified in the ACFID Code of Conduct: adjustments or changes in equity due to adoptions of new accounting standards, items of other comprehensive income.

For the year ended 31 December 2021 ActionAid Australia's retained earnings increased by \$0.868m, its restricted funds reserve increased by \$0.22m over the year, leading to a total increase in reserve of \$4.186m. ActionAid Australia does not utilise all funds immediately so that it can ensure that the funds are best used for long-term, sustainable outcomes.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	31 December 2021	31 December 2020
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	13	\$6,523,540	\$6,889,584
Trade and other assets	14	\$565,240	\$128,600
Total current assets		\$7,088,780	\$7,018,184
Non-current assets			
Right-of-use assets	15	\$162,969	\$251,861
Property, plant and equipment	16	\$1,021	\$4,368
Total non-current assets		\$163,990	\$256,229
Total assets		\$7,252,770	\$7,274,413
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	17	\$1,035,952	\$1,152,715
Lease Liability	18	\$105,784	\$61,355
Provisions - employee benefits	19	\$229,828	\$190,745
Other - deferred revenue	20	\$1,555,042	\$2,288,342
Total current liabilities		\$2,926,606	\$3,693,157
Non-current liabilities			
Lease Liability	18	\$91,719	\$197,502
Provisions - employee benefits	19	\$48,404	\$65,980
Non-current liabilities		\$ 140,123	\$263,482
Total liabilities		\$3,066,730	\$3,956,639
Net assets		\$4,186,040	\$3,317,774
EQUITY			
Restricted funds capital reserve		\$1,860,394	\$2,054,858
Restricted funds other reserves		\$816,699	\$401,581
Unrestricted funds reserves		\$50,000	\$50,000
Retained earnings		\$1,458,947	\$811,335
Total equity		\$4,186,040	\$3,317,774

The Statement of Financial Position is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements set out on pages 12-28.

At 31 December 2021, ActionAid Australia had no balances in the following categories specified in the ACFID Code of Conduct: inventories, assets held for sale, other financial assets, non-current trade and other receivables, investment property, intangibles, other non-current asset, current tax liabilities, other financial liabilities, borrowings or other non-current liabilities.

As at 31 December 2021 of ActionAid Australia's total assets of \$7.1m, \$6.5m was held as cash, with around 32% of this amount being held in short-term term deposits at banks. The organisation's largest liability, at \$1.56m, is deferred revenue. Deferred revenue is grant funds received in advance that are yet to be used for overseas projects and the management support costs of those projects.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	Year ended 31 December 2021	Year ended 31 December 2020
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash receipts from appeals, donations & fundraising activities		\$3,216,138	\$2,517,823
Cash receipts from DFAT grants		\$3,532,961	\$4,019,275
Proceeds from other activities and government subsidies		\$182,639	\$869,329
Interest received		\$10,462	\$45,060
Interest paid		\$(5,877)	\$(1,099)
Cash payments to suppliers and employees		\$(2,152,042)	\$(2,339,184)
Cash payments for project expenditure		\$(5,088,971)	\$(4,740,356)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	21	\$(304,690)	\$370,848
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		-	-
Net cash (used in) / provided by investing activities		-	-
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of lease liabilities		\$(61,354)	\$(7,819)
Net cash (used in) / provided by financing activities		\$(61,354)	\$(7,819)
Net (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		\$(366,044)	\$363,029
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		\$6,889,584	\$6,526,555
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	13	\$6,523,540	\$6,889,584

The Statement of Cash Flows is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements set out on pages 12-28.

The cash position of ActionAid Australia during 2021 decreased by \$0.36 million; this was mainly due to payments for project and supplier expenditure. The increased cash receipts from appeals, donations and fundraising was offset by decreased cash receipts from Government Grants.

AUDITOR’S REPORT



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e info@nexiasydney.com.au
w nexia.com.au

AUDITOR’S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION TO THE DIRECTORS OF ACTIONAID AUSTRALIA

In accordance with the requirements of section 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, as lead audit director for the audit of the financial statements of ActionAid Australia for the financial year ended 31 December 2021, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Ltd

Vishal Modi
Director
ASIC Registered Company Auditor no.: 486119

Dated at Sydney, this 18th day of June 2022

Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Ltd (ABN 77 606 785 399) is a firm of Chartered Accountants. It is affiliated with, but independent from Nexia Australia Pty Ltd. Nexia Australia Pty Ltd is a member of Nexia International, a leading, global network of independent accounting and consulting firms. For more information please see www.nexia.com.au/legal. Neither Nexia International nor Nexia Australia Pty Ltd provide services to clients.

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Beth, 16, is a refugee from South Sudan living in Kiryandongo refugee settlement in Uganda.



Mary, Kenya

act:onaaid

ActionAid Australia

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Email: info.au@actionaid.org

ABN: 87 001 251 930

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