



act:onaid

ANNUAL REPORT

AUSTRALIA 2022

WELCOME

Our 2022 Annual Report celebrates the women, supporters and partners who through collective action are challenging gender inequality and building a world where all women thrive.

Thank you for being part of the movement for women’s rights.

Front cover: Cicih, a community leader in Indonesia

This page: Amina Jama Ismail (right) and Amina Yusuf (left), Somaliland

CONTENTS

Who we are	05
Our vision	06
A message from our Executive Director and Board Chair	09
Where we work	10
Our global impact in 2022	12
Women are shifting the power	14
Women are building resilience	24
Women are mobilising a movement	34
Learning from our programs	41
Ambassador spotlight	42
Thank you!	44
Our governance	48
Our finances	51



WHO WE ARE

ActionAid is a global women's rights organisation working in over 45 countries to expand the resources and opportunities for women to lead and drive change in their communities.

Why Do We Exist?

Every day, women and girls around the world are confronting oppressive systems upheld by deeply rooted discrimination and inequality.



Gender-based violence affects 1 in 3 women and girls around the world¹



It will take us 300 years to achieve global gender equality²



Women and their children are 14 times more likely than men to die in a crisis³

The world is built on patriarchy; it is systemic, and it must change.

Our Purpose

ActionAid is striving to create a just, sustainable, and equitable world where all women thrive. Our human rights-based approach empowers women on the frontlines of injustice to drive change in their communities, while campaigning to address the structural causes of poverty and injustice. From resourcing women to campaign for safer working conditions in garment factories and strengthening their capacity to respond to climate disasters, to holding governments and corporates to account for rights violations, our work supports women living in poverty and exclusion, and their communities, to transform the world for good.

¹ World Bank, Violence Against Women Prevalence Estimates. March 2021. Available at: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240022256>; ² UN Women, Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: The Gender Snapshot 2022. September 2022. Available at: <https://data.unwomen.org/publications/progress-sustainable-development-goals-gender-snapshot-2022>; ³ WomenKind, Women and girls: bearing the brunt of humanitarian disasters. June 2016.

OUR VISION

ActionAid's theory of change is underpinned by the principles of self-determination and systems change.

Self-determination

We support women on the frontlines of injustice to claim their rights, shape their own agendas, and mobilise around the issues that matter to them and their communities.

Systems Change

By campaigning in solidarity with women from marginalised communities, we work to transform unjust systems at the local, regional and global level.

Together, we create lasting change by:



Shifting the Power

We shift the power to women on the frontlines of injustice by working with partners to foster women's leadership, shift resources into the hands of women, and amplify their voices in times of crisis and beyond.



Building Women's Resilience

We work alongside women in the most marginalised communities to strengthen their resilience to intersecting economic, climate and health crises, by providing the resources and technology needed to address the challenges facing their communities.



Mobilising a Global Movement for Women's Rights

We lead ambitious campaigns that re-imagine and transform the social and economic systems that are holding women back and amplify the voices and priorities of the women we work with.



Cheptei Kambi tending to her vegetables in her kitchen garden, Kenya



Halwo Ibrahim
Mohamed, a farmer
from Somaliland

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND BOARD CHAIR

Gender inequality, injustice and poverty
have deepened around the world.

Humanitarian crises, such as the invasion of Ukraine and the devastating climate-induced drought in the Horn of Africa, have highlighted the threats women, girls and other marginalised groups face to their safety, dignity and rights. Despite the hardships, the resilience and self-determination of women has never been more powerful.

Thanks to your support, we have empowered women and girls in over 45 countries around the world to lead their communities. Through our programs, ActionAid Australia has supported almost 300,000 women in 16 countries to claim their rights and stand up against injustice. In Kenya, Indonesia, and Vanuatu, we established women-led economic groups that support women to build their resilience to intersecting crises, by providing them with the resources they need to set up their own businesses. In Ukraine, we have worked with women- and youth-led organisations to ensure the needs of women and girls are addressed and their rights upheld in times of crisis.

This has also been a year of incredible campaigning wins. After years of

campaigning, ActionAid, alongside women leaders from the communities we work with, secured the establishment of a Loss and Damage Fund at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27).

In Australia, we secured tangible change for the rights of garment workers in Bangladesh by campaigning for Australian fashion brands to sign the International Accord for Health and Safety in the Textile and Garment Industry. It is thanks to the tireless advocacy of ActionAid staff and supporters that we were successful in convincing Mosaic Brands – owners of Rivers, Katies and Millers – to put workers' safety first and sign the Accord.

While 2022 has been a year filled with challenges for women's rights, our successes would not have been possible without the dedicated commitment of ActionAid staff, Board members, partners, and activists, alongside the incredible generosity of our supporters. Special thanks to Nicci Dent who stepped down as Board Chair this year, after nine years on the ActionAid Board.

**Thank you for being part of the movement
for women's rights globally.**



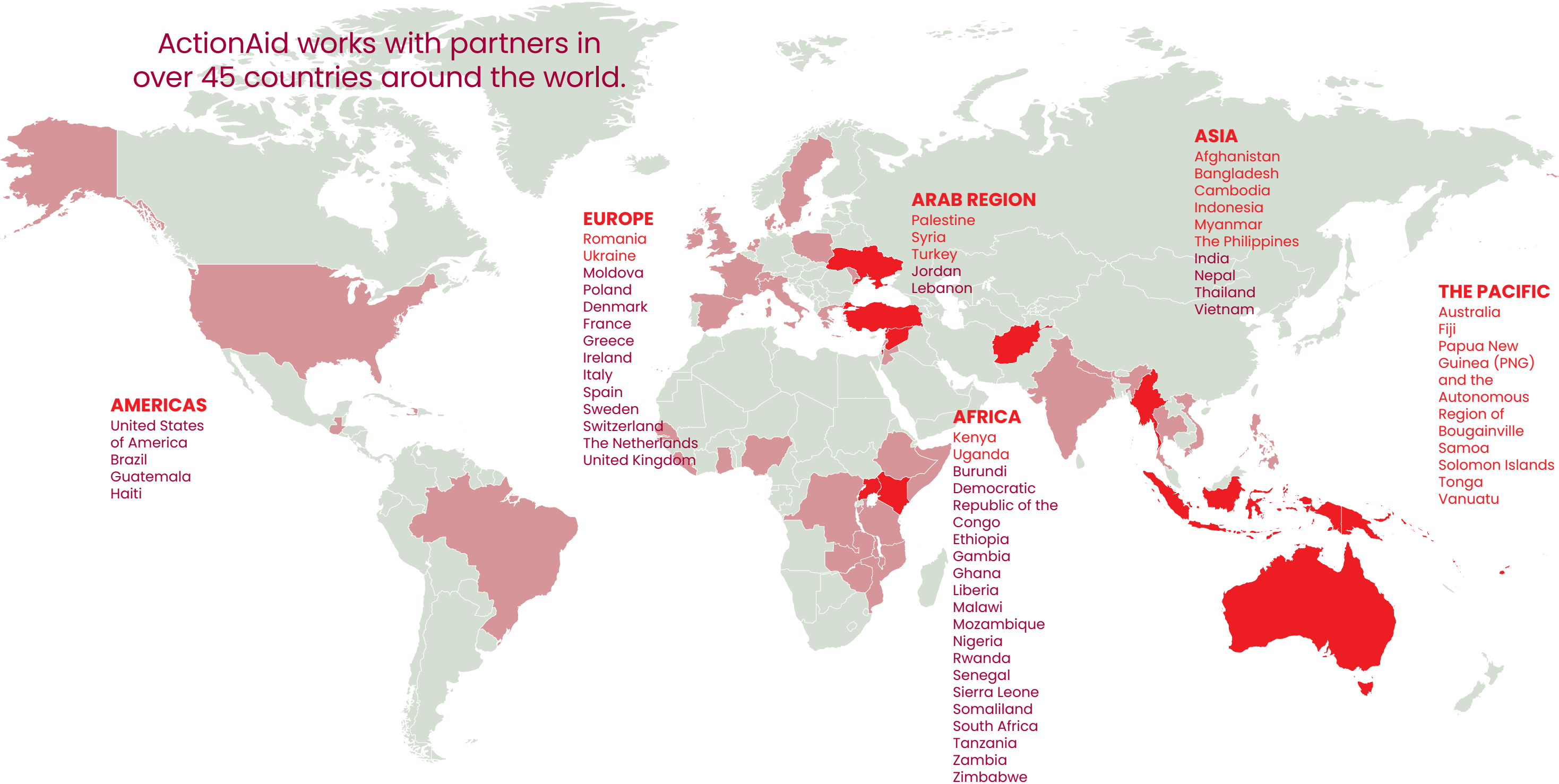
Michelle Higelin
Executive Director



Belinda Morrissey
Board Chair
(from August 2022)

WHERE WE WORK

ActionAid works with partners in over 45 countries around the world.



KEY
● ActionAid Australia funded projects
● ActionAid's global presence

Through the direct support of Australian donors, we support projects in 18 countries.

OUR GLOBAL IMPACT IN 2022

Together we achieved extraordinary change.



Mimin, Indonesia

ActionAid Australia's Impact



299,644 women and girls were directly supported by ActionAid Australia's community of supporters.



6003 people donated \$2.36 million to empower women to change the world.



26,927 women and girls were reached through DFAT's Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).



62 women's economic groups were formed in Kenya, Indonesia, and Vanuatu.



24 partners in 16 countries were supported to build the resilience of women to intersecting economic, climate and health crises.



14 advocacy meetings with MPs were held to influence decision-making on climate finance, gender equality and Australia's development policy.



140,387 people were reached with humanitarian emergency preparedness messages in Vanuatu via the Women Wetem Weta Network.



4000 Australians took action to demand a fairer, more equitable world, because nothing ever changes without action.

ActionAid's Global Impact

ActionAid Australia is a proud member of the ActionAid federation, which operates in over 45 countries to create a world free from poverty and exclusion.



2,620,210 people were reached through ActionAid's emergency responses globally.



45 countries Globally, ActionAid works in over 45 countries.



767 women-led organisations worked with ActionAid to advance women's rights around the world.



2749 partners were supported to deliver innovative programs addressing the challenges facing women and their communities.

WOMEN ARE SHIFTING THE POWER

Women are the first responders in their communities, often putting their lives on the line to protect others. We are shifting the power to women on the frontlines of injustice by working with partners to foster women's leadership and ensure women's organisations are resourced when they need it most.

Sharmin Akter,
a supervisor
at ActionAid's
Women's Cafes
in Bangladesh





Lala, a volunteer with ActionAid partner Polish Humanitarian Action (PAH), supporting Ukraine refugees at the Hebrenne border crossing in Poland.

UKRAINE EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has displaced over 13 million people.

Women and children make up approximately 90 percent of people fleeing the crisis and face unique threats to their safety and rights.

ActionAid is working with 40 partners in Romania, Moldova, Poland and Ukraine to ensure the needs of women, girls, and other marginalised communities are addressed and their rights upheld.

"The fact that most asylum seekers are women and children means a high risk of sexual exploitation and abuse. Survivors need all kinds of support, starting with community-based psychosocial support, legal aid, health services, shelter and cash transfers or livelihood opportunities," explained Atria Mier, ActionAid senior emergency manager and specialist on women's rights, who is involved in our humanitarian response in Moldova, Romania and Ukraine.

ActionAid partner, eLiberare – a women-led organisation based in Romania – ensured safe passage to neighbouring countries for women and children forced to flee. eLiberare implemented a protection model to reduce the risk of human trafficking among Ukrainian refugees and assisted 569 families by designing individualised safety plans, raising awareness about the warning signs of trafficking, and distributing dignity kits.

Our impact in 2022



40 partners

We shifted power to women- and youth-led organisations across Poland, Romania, Moldova and Ukraine.



1.1 million people

Received humanitarian relief, including essential supplies like food assistance, hygiene and dignity kits, and medicines.



552,000 people

Reached with vital information on preventing human trafficking and services for survivors of gender-based violence, including hotlines, medical support and legal counselling.



78,121 women refugees

Supported to access protection and gender-based violence services, including individualised safety plans for women forced to flee.

VERONIKA'S STORY

Since fleeing Kharkiv, Veronika has become a volunteer with one of ActionAid's partners in Ukraine, Insight.

Before the invasion of Ukraine, Veronika was working in her dream job as a teacher at a special education school. When the invasion started, Veronika says her first thoughts were not of her own safety, but the safety of the children at her school.

"When I woke up on 24 February, the first question was not about my safety, but of the children at the school. The city was under constant shelling. The planes were flying all the time. You just see everything in the smoke, in the black smoke, because there will be constant bombing there."

In the months that followed, Veronika and her family were forced to give up their lives, jobs, and the home they had built for themselves in Kharkiv and flee to Lviv.



Veronika preparing humanitarian relief packages

In Lviv, Veronika was introduced to Insight, where she found a safe space and a sense of purpose and empowerment. She began working as volunteer at Insight, where she prepares humanitarian relief packages and supports other women who have been displaced.

"I am here, and I am helping. It inspires me every day. I know that we are something more. Not just a woman who has to raise a child and cook at home for my husband's meals. I am a woman who can help, who wants to help, who wants to be involved."

"I tell everyone: Girls, we are so strong... We can do anything now."

Women are the frontliners in humanitarian emergencies. They mobilise to support the most vulnerable and put the needs of their families and communities first. Thanks to the support of women volunteers like Veronika, Insight has provided over 14,000 displaced families with essential humanitarian relief packages, including food, water, clothing, and hygiene kits.



"Every day I communicate with women, I talk with them, I listen to them, and I understand how difficult it is for them."

Veronika, a volunteer with ActionAid's partner, Insight in Ukraine



Vika Savieti, Shifting the Power Coalition Young Woman Focal Point for Tonga

PACIFIC YOUNG WOMEN ARE LEADING

Pacific young women are collectively mobilising to lead their communities through more frequent disasters and an escalating climate crisis.

Traditional gender norms and patriarchal systems prevent diverse Pacific young women from having their voices heard in decision-making spaces on climate change and related disasters.

Diverse Pacific young women are stepping up and challenging their exclusion from these decision-making spaces. With support from the Shifting the Power Coalition, a network of 13 women-led organisations including ActionAid, young women are equipping themselves with the knowledge and resources to prepare for, and respond to, disasters and climate change.

Through the Pacific Young Women Responding to Climate Change Project, which is supported by DFAT's Australian Pacific Climate Partnership, the Shifting the Power Coalition has trained young women and strengthened their knowledge on climate change and humanitarian emergencies. As a result of training, Pacific young women have been advocating for more inclusive and effective national disaster management systems that are responsive to the needs of diverse young people.

The project has given young women a safe space to share their experiences as frontline responders, learn from each other, and develop the skills needed to lead when a disaster strikes their community.

On 15 January 2022, the Hungo Tonga Hunga Ha'apai volcano erupted off the coast of Tonga, causing a devastating tsunami and heavy ashfall, which destroyed homes and infrastructure around the country. The Talitha Project, a member of the Shifting the Power Coalition, was ready to respond. Young women who had been trained in disaster responses mobilised to support their communities in the aftermath of the disaster. They distributed food, water and clothing and organised psychosocial support for children.

By bringing young women to the forefront of climate change advocacy and disaster management, the Shifting the Power Coalition are challenging patriarchal systems and empowering young women to become the frontline responders to the climate crisis and related emergencies.

WOMEN LEADERS TAKE CENTRE STAGE

A delegation of over 25 women, including ActionAid staff and partners, attended the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction.

Community resilience to disasters improves when women participate and lead on disaster risk reduction initiatives. Yet too often, women's voices and diverse experiences are not adequately represented in local, traditional, national, and international governance spaces.

The Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR), held in Brisbane, Australia in September 2022, gave ActionAid and partners the opportunity to reframe the agenda on disaster risk reduction (DRR) at the regional level.

Women leaders from nine countries across the Asia-Pacific region came together to collectively promote the rights and leadership of diverse women in DRR – including young women, women with disability, rural women, indigenous women and members of the LGBTIQ+ community.



Carolyn Kitone (right),
Learning Coordinator at
the Shifting the Power
Coalition at APMCDRR

ActionAid and partners held eight conference events showcasing the successes of women-led responses to disasters in reducing climate risk in the Pacific region.

At one of the events, Ellen Tamata, a community mobiliser with Women I Tok Tok Tugeta Sunshine, a network of over 500 women with disability supported by ActionAid, brought attention to how women with disability are mobilising to drive inclusive responses to humanitarian emergencies. Ellen had one message for government officials: "There is a need to listen to us and our priorities. Nothing about us, without us."

Flora Vano, Country Manager at ActionAid Vanuatu, during her talk at the Ignite stage spoke to the importance of investing in women-led initiatives.

"Women know how to be resilient and are leading their communities after disasters. They are creating their own spaces and ensuring their voices are heard. Local women's organisations must be given resources directly."



Women leaders
from the Asia-
Pacific region at
the APMCDRR



Marilou, a woman
leader in the
Philippines

WOMEN ARE BUILDING RESILIENCE

Widespread exclusion from decision-making and restricted access to resources make women among the most affected by intersecting climate, COVID-19 and economic crises. ActionAid is providing women leaders with the skills, training, and technology to build their resilience to intersecting crises.



Cheman at a
community
waterpoint
in Kenya



Women at a community waterpoint in Tangelbei, Baringo County

WOMEN LEADING THEIR COMMUNITIES THROUGH THE CLIMATE CRISIS

A sustainable future where all women thrive is only possible when women have the resources to effectively respond to the climate crisis.

Operating across Cambodia, Kenya, and Vanuatu, the Gender-Responsive Alternatives to Climate Change (GRACC) Project responds to the gendered impacts of climate change by strengthening women's participation in climate change decision-making, resourcing women's networks, and supporting women to build climate-resilient livelihoods.

KENYA

Fuelled by climate change, the worst drought in 40 years is devastating communities.

The drought has sparked violent clashes over land and resources, threatening the safety and livelihoods of women in arid and semi-arid regions.

"All these clashes are as a result of extreme weather changes," explains Jane Cheruto Kolel, a woman with disability living in Baringo County. "As a woman with disability, I face more challenges, especially in adverse weather conditions. My biggest challenge came during the clashes when my family abandoned me... due to my inability to run."

Before joining an ActionAid training on climate-resilient farming and women's rights, Jane never thought it was possible that she could start a thriving farming business.

"ActionAid has given me a chance to be independent. We had a great chance to travel for a learning visit and learn about food forests and favourable farming methods for semi-arid areas."

After attending the learning visit, Jane felt inspired to start a kitchen garden, where she now produces vegetables to sell at the market.

ActionAid's train-the-trainer model ensures women feel empowered to share what they learn with other women in their community. Since attending ActionAid workshops, Jane has trained 15 women, including five women with disability, on climate-resilient farming – empowering them to start their own kitchen gardens.

Jane also joined the Village Saving and Loan Association (VSLA) – a women-led savings group that enables women to control their own finances. Group members accumulate savings that can be loaned to women who need help to start their own climate-resilient businesses.

"I learnt about women's leadership. I learnt to ask for accountability [from elected leaders] without fear. I gained skills on how women can unite" explains Jane.

The GRACC project, funded by the ANCP has strengthened rural women's resilience to climate change. A 2022 evaluation found the project's gender-transformative approach, alongside the co-creation of climate interventions with women at the village level, was effective in enabling women to claim space, take on leadership positions, and influence policy on climate change.

In 2022, we supported women to:



Build Economic Independence

Established 40 VSLAs comprising 1000 members.



Become Climate-resilient

Trained 1500 women in climate-resilient farming methods.



Claim their Rights

Empowered 300 women in Baringo County to hold their local leaders accountable for providing humanitarian relief to drought-affected communities.

CAMBODIA

Varou, a mother of three children and kindergarten teacher, became a Women Champion on climate change in 2014.

Varou was driven to step up because she could see her community was suffering from increasingly frequent and powerful storms and floods but lacked the capacity to effectively respond to these worsening climate-related disasters.

"In the past, I did not know about the disaster. I did not know about the early warning signs of a disaster, and what should we do to live with drought or what to prepare when we have floods," says Varou.

After attending ActionAid trainings in leadership and disaster preparedness and response, Varou has worked with the local council to raise awareness on climate change adaptation and disaster preparedness.

"We reach the community to share about early warning systems. Moreover, we also urge people to follow weather forecasts because we know the disaster [becomes] fierce. We cannot prevent it, but we can reduce the serious harm," she says.

In 2022, in recognition of her work as a Women Champion, Varou became a finalist for the UN Women WIN Disaster Risk Reduction Award – a global competition celebrating the achievements of women who are leading their communities through disasters.

The final evaluation of the GRACC project found it contributed to the advancement of women's leadership and participation in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation initiatives. The Women Champions Network had become well-recognised within the community, enabling women to access, and exercise greater influence in, decision-making spaces at local and provincial levels.

"For women, they are braver than before; they dare to express and raise their concerns," explains Varou.

"With my Women Champions work, I can support my community, share my knowledge with other women and share awareness on what we should do and how to adapt to disasters," says Varou.

Varou Mat, Women Champion, Cambodia

What we've achieved in 2022:



Expanded the Women Champion Network

Trained 46 new Women Champions on climate change adaptation in Kampot and Pursat provinces.



Secured Women's Financial Futures

Supported the Women Champions to establish a savings scheme in Pursat province and a rice bank in Kampot province.



Empowered Women to Lead

Ran 22 workshops on leadership, negotiation skills and livelihood training for members of the Women Champions Network.

NI VANUATU WOMEN ARE BREAKING NEW GROUND

Ongoing lockdowns and border closures because of the COVID-19 pandemic had a catastrophic impact on the lives and livelihoods of women in Vanuatu.

Tourism was halted and markets were closed because of COVID-19, leaving women farmers, craftswomen, and shopkeepers without a source of stable income, which impacted their financial security.

“The pandemic affected all the women. Most of us depend on the market; we plant and we sell crops at the market. But when they stop everything, women had to stay at home.”

– Esther Ruben, Women I Tok Tok Tugeta network Community Mobiliser on the island of Tanna.

The WITTT network, in collaboration with ActionAid Vanuatu, has established 10 women-led Economic Hubs across five islands. The hubs provide a safe space for women to create their own source of income, establish a stable livelihood, and quickly rebuild after a disaster. At the hubs, WITTT members attend trainings on horticulture farming, poultry and livestock farming, and the production of masks and baskets.

“The Economic Hubs help [women] create their own source of income and establish a stable livelihood. During, and after any disaster, women will have greater resilience because of the Economic Hubs,” Esther says.

In 2022, the Women I Tok Tok Tugeta network continued to grow and empower women to lead:



WITTT Sunshine

100 members of the disability chapter of Women I Tok Tok Tugeta in Efate, Tanna and Malo were supported with small grants to start livelihood activities including selling clothing and planting vegetable gardens.



Established the WITTT Sunshine Economic Hub in Port Vila.



10 Economic Hubs Opened

Mama's Poultry Farm was opened in East Efate. Housing 514 chickens, the Economic Hub has become the cornerstone of women's financial empowerment.



The Women's Resilience Market was also opened in Efate to sell surplus vegetables in the community and ensure food security during times of crisis.



Women-led businesses

77 women-led small businesses were supported with livelihood grants.



WITTT Sunshine members attending a mask making workshop at their Economic Hub



Rita, WITTT taskforce leader at Mama's Poultry Farm



WITTT Sunshine members stitching masks to sell in their communities



WITTT Network members celebrating the opening of Mama's Poultry Farm

“In the past, violence against women and children was commonplace in the village. Now there are clear procedures to protect the survivors and take action against the perpetrators.”



Mimin, a women leader in her rural community in Indonesia

MIMIN IS RAISING HER VOICE AGAINST INJUSTICE

Mimin has become a women's rights champion and a fearless advocate for women affected by domestic violence in her rural community in Indonesia.

With the support of DFAT's ANCP, YAPPIKA-ActionAid is working alongside women's rights organisations, PPSW Pasondan and Pattiro Banten, to empower rural women to lead community-based protection initiatives.

The project trains women like Mimin on how to identify and respond to protection risks, including by building women's economic independence.

“In the past, women's voices were not considered at all; women had no right to express their ideas...When husbands are emotional, they beat their wives easily...No one knew how to deal with the survivors and the perpetrators,” explains Mimin.

In Mimin's village, neighbours were hesitant to help survivors of domestic violence, as this issue has long been considered a deeply private matter and they did not want to be seen as interfering in the household affairs of others.

“For me it is not a question of interfering in other people's household affairs, it is a matter of humanity,” says Mimin.

In 2022, 40 women community focal points in Banten and Central Sulawesi provinces strengthened their understanding on domestic violence case referral and women's

rights. Since then, women focal points have assisted on 13 cases of domestic and sexual violence and four cases of online gender-based violence against young women. This has led to a change in community perceptions of domestic violence, with greater support now being provided to survivors.

“Since there has been education on how to help survivors of violence against women, cases are decreasing.”

Mimin also runs a women's economic group called the 'Social Active Mums Group' (Ibu-Ibu Gaul). The group's first business included selling melinjo crisps – a traditional Indonesian snack made from frying the seeds of the slightly sour melinjo fruit. The group has given the women greater control over their finances enabling them to support their families.

What we've achieved in 2022:



600 women

Trained to assist survivors of gender-based violence in accessing services, legal support and economic independence.



12 women-led economic groups

Established to support rural women build sustainable businesses and become financially independent.

WOMEN ARE MOBILISING A MOVEMENT

With our support, women around the world are coming together to build a people-powered movement that challenges injustice and transforms the systems of oppression that hold them back.



ActionAid staff and activists campaigning at COP27 for a Loss and Damage Funding Facility

A DECADES-LONG FIGHT FOR A LOSS AND DAMAGE FUND

ActionAid staff and partners converged on COP27 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt with a clear demand for world leaders: create a Loss and Damage Finance Facility.

We joined protests. We spoke on panels. We petitioned governments. We amplified the voices of women leaders from Kenya and Vanuatu, who called on world leaders to invest in women-led solutions to the climate crisis.

“A woman, a mother, a daughter. We are great agents of change. We are the frontliners in our own home, in our community, in our island in times of climate crisis...Women in my community need to be in spaces like COP27 where they can have their voices heard as they are the best people to provide solutions.”

– Flora Vano, a Ni Vanuatu woman, feminist, and Country Manager at ActionAid Vanuatu.

Jeniffer Kibon, a Pokot woman from Tangelbei, Kenya, came to COP27 to represent the demands of rural women in her community.

Speaking in her native tongue, Kiswahili, at an ActionAid-organised event, Jennifer shared how she lost her only source of income because of the ongoing climate-induced drought in Kenya, and asked countries most responsible for the climate crisis to work with those most affected to find solutions.

“COP27 provided me with an equal chance to interact and connect with ministers and presidents despite having not gone to school, to speak and be listened to. I am humbled that the world leaders heard my voice, and the constituencies to set up the loss and damage facility. I am looking forward to an inclusive loss and damage fund that recognises the voices of the communities on the frontline.”

And after decades of campaigning by ActionAid, alongside grassroots activists, developing nations, civil society, and environmental advocates, we finally won! World leaders agreed to set up a Loss and Damage Financing Facility. This ground-breaking fund will be instrumental in compensating women and their communities for the devastating impacts of the climate crisis.



Susan Otieno, Executive Director at ActionAid Kenya (left) and Jeniffer Kibon (right) at COP27

Climate Finance

ActionAid also campaigned for climate justice closer to home. In collaboration with partners, we urged the Australian Government to pay its fair share of international climate finance.

In September 2022, ActionAid released its second joint report with Oxfam Australia, *Falling Short: Australia's role in funding fairer climate action in a warming world*, on the quality and quantity of Australia's climate finance and loss and damaging financing.

The report was launched at a Parliamentary Forum attended by members of parliament, government and civil society. Guest speakers included: Farah Kabir, Country Director of ActionAid Bangladesh, His Excellency Anote Tong, the Former President of Kiribati, and

George Koran, Coordinator of the Vanuatu Climate Action Network.

“Loss and damage must be funded. This finance should not come from your development budgets. It needs to be a separate budget. We can find the money post-climate disasters; we now need to find the money to prepare and respond to the impacts we are experiencing now.”
– Farah Kabir at the Parliamentary Forum.

Off the back of the report, we scored airtime on six national radio shows and two national TV shows with 4.7 million Australians tuning in to listen and support our demands for Australia to pay its fair share of international climate finance.



"I can now speak up if I think something is unfair or unjust. I believe that other women like me should also join such spaces to be able to become aware of their rights and to be able to learn to voice their opinion, or protest against any injustice or unfairness in the workplace," explains Anjana.

Anjana, a garment worker, at an ActionAid-run Women's Cafe

SHE WEARS THE COST

This year, ActionAid campaigners stood in solidarity with women garment workers through She Wears the Cost.

You've joined us in campaigning for brands like THE ICONIC, Mosaic Brands – owners of Rivers, Millers and Katies – and Best&Less to sign the acclaimed global safety agreement: the International Accord for Health and Safety in the Textile and Garment Industry.

Thanks to support from people around the country, we succeeded in pushing Mosaic Brands to sign the International Accord and put the safety of the women who make our clothes first.

Here's how we mobilised in 2022:

- 4000 Australians raised their voices against fashion brands like Nike, THE ICONIC and Best&Less, by signing petitions and taking action on social media.
- Activist held six events around Australia to promote the She Wears The Cost campaign, including film screenings, panel discussions, clothes swaps and street actions targeting Nike stores in Sydney and Melbourne.

Everyone should be Safe at Work

We empower women garment workers in Bangladesh to demand better working conditions by providing them with training, resources, and support to stand up to violence and exploitation in their factories.

In collaboration with ActionAid Bangladesh and Karmojini Nuri and with funding from ANCP, we established Women's Cafes for garment workers in the main factory areas in Bangladesh. The cafes are safe spaces for women garment workers to come together to mobilise, learn about their rights at work, and access advice and training to stand up against injustice.

After joining the Women's Cafes and learning about her rights at work, Anjana, a garment worker from Dhaka, felt

more confident to speak out against exploitation in her workplace and support other women to raise their voices.

What we've achieved together:



Three Women's Cafes

Set up in Bangladesh's main factory areas.



3000 people

Reached with awareness-raising materials on the decent work agenda and elimination of violence at work.



93 training workshops

Held on labour rights and workers' legal entitlements, reaching 1941 garment workers.

LEARNING FROM OUR PROGRAMS

To understand how we can most effectively empower women to claim their rights and drive change in their communities, we conduct regular consultations with partners and the women we work with.

The Philippines

Over 2016–2022, the Promoting Women's Rights and Resilience in Emergencies in the Philippines project supported women to lead disaster preparedness and response in their communities. The project's final evaluation noted ActionAid and our partner, the National Rural Women Coalition (PKKK), had directly supported 10,552 women leaders in 29 provinces to build their communities' resilience to disasters.

The evaluation recommended future efforts focus on expanding the Women Emergency Network, established under the project, and setting up more peer-to-peer learning opportunities on women's leadership and economic empowerment.



Natividad Rosales,
women leader in
the Philippines



Members of the
Fisherfolk and farmers
of Barangay San Roque
Women's Association

Papua New Guinea and Bougainville

Since 2021, the Meri Gat Pawa, Meri Got Infomesen (MGI) project has been driving a localised, inclusive, and women-led response to the COVID-19 pandemic in Papua New Guinea and Bougainville. In partnership with Digicel, a telecommunications provider, women leaders issued lifesaving COVID-19 prevention, response, and vaccine messages via SMS to nine million people. However, limited or no network coverage in some rural areas impacted our ability to target some communities.

In a recent evaluation, women leaders noted that the bulk SMS technology was an effective tool for distributing information to a broad audience. One woman leader involved in the project said after receiving the SMS from the MGI Hub, she "went from house to house" to share COVID-19 prevention messages with her community.



Agnus Titus
distributing
COVID-19 supplies
in Bougainville



Agnus Titus,
Bougainville

AMBASSADOR SPOTLIGHT

Claire Hooper meets the women of the Women I Tok Tok Tugeta Network in Vanuatu.

In August 2022, comedian Claire Hooper visited Vanuatu with the ActionAid Australia team to learn more about the work of the Women I Tok Tok Tugeta Network and ActionAid Vanuatu. Claire reflects on her experience and the inspiring women she met.

"I was nervous ahead of the trip to Vanuatu. I felt like an imposter and planned to just keep out of the way and quietly observe.

Until now I'd just supported ActionAid in 'easy' ways. I'd host a comedy fundraiser here, drop into an online event there. I've even boldly claimed the title of Ambassador. But any deeper contribution has just seemed too hard, given I'm juggling a fulltime job and a young family.

From the minute I met the women of the Women I Tok Tok Tugeta network it was clear there would be no 'quietly observing'. Every gathering began with dancing and singing and participation was pretty much compulsory. I don't even dance at weddings, but there I was, clapping along.

I met delegates from many of the islands and heard how much they'd achieved in just seven years. The network reaches over 5000 women across five islands supporting women-led responses to disasters and COVID-19.

I wish I had room here for all the stories I heard. Sad and funny, enraging, and inspiring. But here are some names. Flora, Helen, Rosalie and Lizzie. Janet and Esther. Mowkra. Dora. And so many more. And many of them also juggling a fulltime job and a young family. Just like me! Except they didn't let that stop them from adding a little more to their plate – just a spot of fighting for gender equality and economic justice if you don't mind.

After a decade of donating to ActionAid and helping with fundraising events, I couldn't have felt prouder to see how much that money achieves in the right hands."



ActionAid Ambassador
Claire Hooper with the
women of Women I Tok
Tok Tugeta Network



Saynab, chairperson
for women's group
in Somaliland

THANK YOU!

Together, we've achieved incredible things in 2022. Whether you donated, signed petitions, or attended an ActionAid event, you are a part of a movement of people fighting for women's rights. Thank you for being a powerful force in the ActionAid community.

Emergency Action Alliance

ActionAid Australia is a proud member of the Emergency Action Alliance (EAA) – a coalition of 15 Australian-based member charities. When a disaster strikes, the EAA brings together 15 of Australia's leading humanitarian agencies to launch a unified humanitarian emergency appeal, to make it easier for Australians to give in times of crisis. In 2022, the EAA launched two emergency appeals, in partnership with DFAT and the ABC, to support collective responses to crises in Ukraine and the Horn of Africa.

Women Driving Change

ActionAid established the Arise Fund to scale up efforts to drive women led responses to emergencies. Thanks to the efforts of the Arise Leadership Circle and our supporters, we raised over \$450,000 to ensure women's rights are protected in a crisis and to build women's leadership in disasters.



\$6.99m
raised
since 2017



32,169
women
trained



20
countries
supported

Working Together

ActionAid Australia and partners are empowering women around the world to challenge injustice and create tangible change in their communities, but we cannot do it alone. Our partnerships with likeminded businesses like MECCA M-Power support us to work towards building a world where all women thrive.

“ActionAid’s model supports women to be leaders in their communities, especially in times of crisis. ActionAid’s highly sensitive and nuanced approach recognises that each woman, and each community is different. ActionAid is about global impact, achieved locally.”

– Lisa Keenan, Executive Director of MECCA M-Power and member of ActionAid’s Arise Leadership Circle.



Martha James at
her homestead in
Kaa orion Village

Audience
member at
Frocking Hilarious
Sydney 2022

Frocking Hilarious

After a COVID hiatus, Frocking Hilarious made its return to both Sydney Comedy Festival and Brisbane Comedy Festival, and debuted on the West coast at Perth Comedy Festival. Frocking Hilarious was a night filled with laughter in support of women's rights. Bringing together a fierce all-women line up of Australia's best comedians, the annual comedy gala raised over \$38,000 for ActionAid.



3
shows



23
comedians



\$38,056
raised

Pledge for Women's Rights

In November, ActionAid held a live crowdfunding event to raise much needed funds to support women in preparing for disasters in the Philippines, Vanuatu and Kenya. Powered by The Funding Network, the event featured three inspiring women leaders: Lei Escobar, from the Philippines, Flora Vano, from Vanuatu, and Susan Otieno, from Kenya. The three speakers shared how women are leading change, strengthening their resilience to climate change, and claiming their rights in their respective communities. Thank you to our generous donors and our matched funders – Green Collar, English Family Foundation, Sky Foundation, and Corporate Match 2.0 – who helped us raise \$49,815 for the Arise Fund on the night.

YOUR SUPPORT IS CHANGING WOMEN'S LIVES

Individuals

Anne Miller
Belinda Morrissey
& Ian Parsons
Debby Badger
Evie Bruce
Greg Shalit & Miriam Faine
Hilary Wallace
Jaanette Dorothy Enden
James A Darling
James Goth
Jenny Donald
Karin Hefftner
Kristina Stefanova
& James Schultz
Mary G Bush
Nan Brown
Paul W Bartlett
Susan Maple-Brown
Susan Varga
Vicki Olsson

Ambassadors

Claire Hooper
Judith Lucy
Tracey Spicer
Natasha Stott-Despoja AO

Arise Leadership Circle

Kristina Stefanova (Chair)
Angela Priestley,
Women's Agenda
Evie Bruce,
Macquarie Group
Janette O'Neill,
PWC
Jo Norman,
Norman Family Foundation
Lauren Hicks,
QBE Foundation
Lisa Keenan,
MECCA M-Power Foundation
Robyn Nixon,
Intrepid Foundation
Sarah Morton-Ramwell,
Ashurst

Companies

Ashurst
Corporate Match 2.0
GreenCollar
MECCA
NSW Nurses and Midwives'
Association Council
VivCourt

Foundations

Catherine Gray Trust
Doepke Foundation
Dorothy Mary Steer Trust as
managed by Equity Trustees
English Family Foundation
JLDJS Foundation
Macquarie Group
Foundation
Madden Sainsbury
Foundation
Mulnot Foundation
Norman Family Foundation
QBE Foundation
Roberts Pike Foundation
S&J Cook Family Foundation
The Capital Region
Community Foundation
(GreaterGood)
The Douglas & Phillip Young
Charitable Trust
The Fischer Darlington Trust
The Generations Foundation
The Sky Foundation

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 deeply privileged that you have chosen ActionAid. Thank you.



Chepkales Kamboi,
Kenya

OUR GOVERNANCE

OUR BOARD

Nicci Dent
Board Chair
(to August 2022)

Belinda Morrissey
Board Chair
(from August 2022)

Carole Brownlee
Board Treasurer

Jan Cossar
Board Director

Manzoor Hasan
Board Director

Jananie Janarthana
Board Director

Georgina King
Board Director
(from June 2022)

Nicole D'Souza
Vice Chair

Kristina Stefanova
Board Director

Claire Van Heyningen
(to November 2022)

Trent Wallace
First Nations Advisor

OUR SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Michelle Higelin
Executive Director

Bharti Desai
Chief Operating Officer

Sally Henderson
Head of Programs

Maeva Freeman
Head of Fundraising
and Innovation

Kat Tu
Head of Policy
and Campaigns



Heng Chantha,
Cambodia

OUR FINANCES

OUR FINANCES

During 2022, 75% of our total expenditure supported programming overseas and campaigning in Australia.

Over the year ActionAid Australia’s operating revenue decreased by 10% to \$7.07 million.

The decrease in revenue was largely contributed by lower fundraising income, lower bequest revenue and slightly lower Institutional Grant. In addition, ActionAid Australia received \$0.170 million in Job Saver payments in 2021; nil in 2022.

Public funds raised totalled \$2.7 million and comprised 38% of operating revenue for the year, compared to 41% 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 2022 ActionAid Australia received funds from donors who left gifts in their wills, totalling \$102,407 – a decrease of 72% compared to 2021.

Grant income from DFAT contributed to 59% of operating revenue at \$4.2 million. Interest income received was \$61,000 and other income was \$27,000.

ActionAid Australia’s total expenditure for 2022 increased to \$8.3 million compared to \$6.9 million in 2021. Our total program expenditure was 75% of the total expenditure. Of this, program expenditure was \$5.6 million and campaigning in Australia was \$500,000.

Fundraising accounted for 19% 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 6% of total expenditure.

The full financial report for the year ended 31 December 2022 is available on request via the ActionAid Australia website at www.actionaid.org.au.

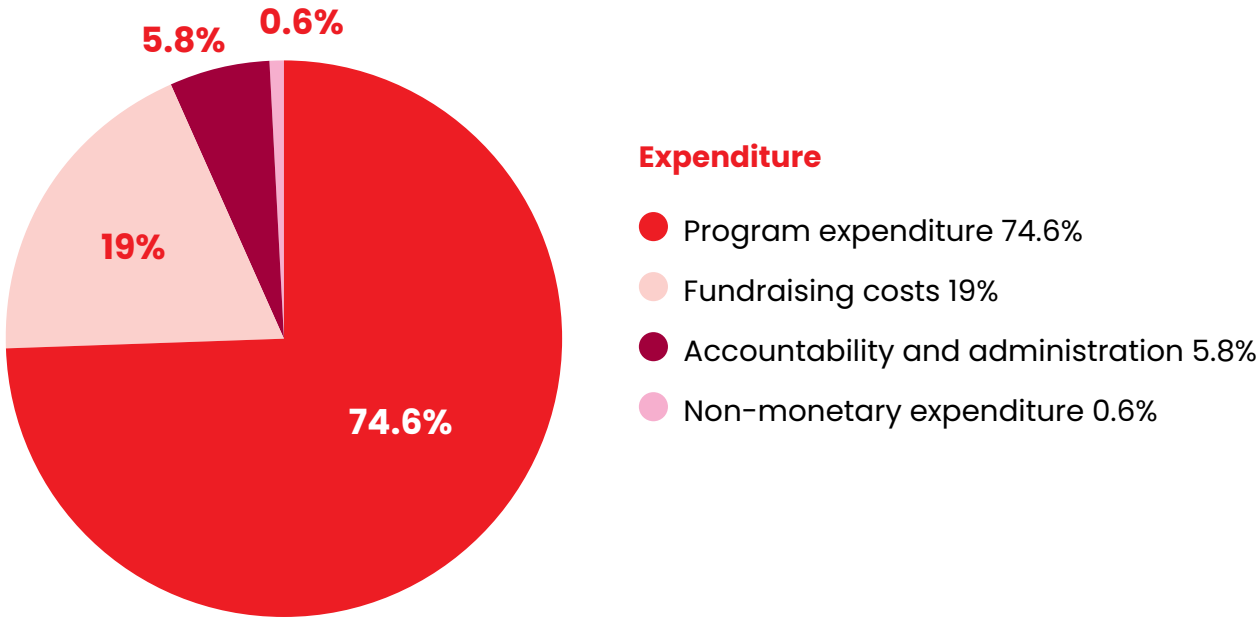
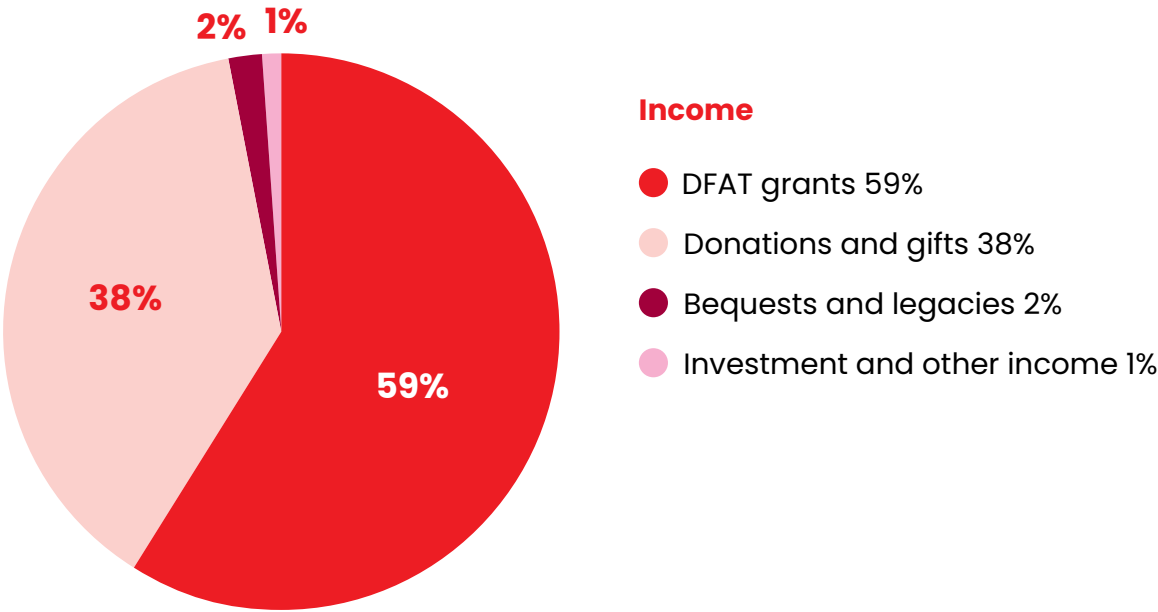
The Summary Financial Report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Code of Conduct. ActionAid Australia is committed to full adherence to this Code.

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 2022

REVENUE	Note	Year ended 31 December 2022			Year ended 31 December 2021
		Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
Operating Revenue					
Donations and gifts					
• Monetary		\$564,382	\$2,066,810	\$2,631,192	\$2,845,094
• Non-monetary	4	-	\$48,275	\$48,275	\$71,612
Bequests and legacies		-	\$102,407	\$102,407	\$371,043
Grants					
• DFAT	5	\$4,200,020	-	\$4,200,020	\$4,353,958
Investment income	6	-	\$61,103	\$61,103	\$10,462
Other income	7	-	\$27,102	\$27,102	\$182,639
Total Revenue		\$4,764,402	\$2,305,697	\$7,070,099	\$7,834,808
EXPENDITURE					
International programs:					
• Funds to programs	8	\$4,370,302	\$18,980	\$4,389,282	\$4,075,366
• Program support costs	8	\$1,213,973	45,707	\$1,259,680	\$771,957
Community education	8	\$93,580	\$438,832	\$532,412	\$241,647
Fundraising costs:					
• Public		\$251,719	\$1,321,529	\$1,573,248	\$1,180,405
Accountability and administration	9	-	\$481,324	\$481,324	\$625,555
Non-monetary expenditure	4	-	\$48,275	\$48,275	\$71,612
Total Expenditure		\$5,929,574	\$2,354,647	\$8,284,221	\$6,966,542
• Operating excess/(shortfall) over expenditure		\$(1,165,172)	\$(48,950)	\$(1,214,122)	\$868,266
Total Excess/(shortfall) of revenue over expenditure		\$(1,165,172)	\$(48,950)	\$(1,214,122)	\$868,266
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax		-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income/(loss)		\$(1,165,172)	\$(48,950)	\$(1,214,122)	\$868,266

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 2022, 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 2022

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
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax		-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income/(loss)		\$868,266	-	-	\$868,266
Transfers to/(from) reserves:		\$(220,654)	\$220,654	-	-
Total Closing Balance at 31 December 2021		\$1,458,947	\$2,677,093	\$50,000	\$4,186,040

2022	Note	Retained earnings	Restricted funds reserves	Unrestricted funds reserves	Total undistributed funds
Opening balance at 1 January 2022		\$1,458,947	\$2,677,093	\$50,000	\$4,186,040
Deficit for the year		\$(1,214,122)	-	-	\$(1,214,122)
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax		-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income/(loss)		\$(1,214,122)	-	-	\$(1,214,122)
Transfers to/(from) reserves:		\$1,165,172	\$(1,165,172)	-	-
Total Closing Balance at 31 December 2022		\$1,409,997	\$1,511,921	\$50,000	\$2,971,918

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 2022, 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 2022 ActionAid Australia's retained earnings decreased by \$1.2m, its restricted funds reserve decreased by \$1.17m over the year, leading to a total decline in reserve of \$2.97m. 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 2022

	Note	31 December 2022	31 December 2021
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	12	\$7,507,594	\$6,523,540
Trade and other assets	13	\$409,443	\$565,240
Total current assets		\$7,917,037	\$7,088,780
Non-current assets			
Right-of-use assets	14	\$74,077	\$162,969
Property, plant and equipment	15	\$2,366	\$1,021
Total non-current assets		\$76,443	\$163,990
Total assets		\$7,993,480	\$7,252,770
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	16	\$1,072,344	\$1,035,952
Lease liability	17	\$91,719	\$105,784
Provisions – employee benefits	18	\$230,219	\$229,828
Other – deferred revenue	19	\$3,584,130	\$1,555,042
Total current liabilities		\$4,978,412	\$2,926,606
Non-current liabilities			
Lease liability	17	–	\$91,719
Provisions – employee benefits	18	\$43,150	\$48,405
Non-current liabilities		\$43,150	\$140,124
Total liabilities		\$5,021,562	\$3,066,730
Net assets		\$2,971,918	\$4,186,040
EQUITY			
Restricted funds reserve		\$1,511,921	\$2,677,093
Unrestricted funds reserves		\$50,000	\$50,000
Retained earnings		\$1,409,997	\$1,458,947
Total equity		\$2,971,918	\$4,186,040

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 2022 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 2022 of ActionAid Australia’s total assets of \$8m, \$7.5m was held as cash, with around 85% of this amount being held in short-term term deposits at banks. The organisation’s largest liability, at \$3.6m, 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 2022

	Note	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash receipts from appeals, donations and fundraising activities		\$2,733,600	\$3,216,138
Cash receipts from DFAT grants		\$7,007,955	\$3,532,961
Proceeds from other activities and government subsidies		\$27,102	\$182,639
Interest received		\$61,103	\$10,462
Interest paid		\$(3,720)	\$(5,877)
Cash payments to suppliers and employees		\$(3,084,460)	\$(2,152,042)
Cash payments for project expenditure		\$(5,648,964)	\$(5,088,971)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	20	\$1,092,616	\$(304,690)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		\$(2,778)	–
Net cash (used in) / provided by investing activities		–	–
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of lease liabilities		\$(105,784)	\$(61,354)
Net cash (used in) / provided by financing activities		\$(105,784)	\$(61,354)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		\$984,054	\$(366,044)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		\$6,523,540	\$6,889,584
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	12	\$7,507,594	\$6,523,540

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 2022 increased by \$1 million; this was mainly due to receipt of institutional funding for projects. The decreased cash receipts from appeals, donations and fundraising was offset by increased cash receipts from government grants.

AUDITOR'S REPORT



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Australia Square NSW 1215
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f +61 2 9251 7138
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 2022, 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 9th day of June 2023

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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Women garment workers walking to a ActionAid-run Women's Cafe in Bangladesh



Cheptei Kambi, Kenya

act:ionaid

ActionAid Australia

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Email: info.au@actionaid.org

ABN: 87 001 251 930

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