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ANNUAL REPORT

AUSTRALIA 2025



Front cover: In Vanuatu, Women I Tok Tok Tugeta community mobiliser Rita cares for a chicken, as part of the Mama's Chickens women's economic empowerment project set up by ActionAid. Photo: Harriet Pratten

This page: After being forced to flee her home in Gaza due to Israeli military bombardment, Taghreed received psychosocial and financial empowerment support from ActionAid's local partner, WEFAQ. Photo: ActionAid / Wattan Media Network

First Nations commitment

ActionAid Australia acknowledges the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation upon whose land our office is based. We pay our respects to Elders past and present on all countries where we live and work, and extend our respect to First Nations people we work with. We recognise that sovereignty was never ceded.

ActionAid commits to the Uluru Statement of the Heart in full, and campaigned to support a First Nations Voice to Parliament enshrined in the Australian Constitution in 2024. While the referendum was disappointing, we will continue to stand in solidarity with First Nations communities to advance justice and self-determination.

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Sina Issac works in her resilience garden in East Efate, Vanuatu, to create an income for herself, provide food for her family, and support her community to prepare for climate disasters. Photo: Harriet Pratten

WHO WE ARE

ActionAid is a global women's rights organisation working to end poverty and injustice with partners in 75 countries around the world.

OUR VISION

ActionAid is striving to create a just, sustainable, and equitable world where all women thrive.

Our feminist, 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.

Addressing the growing impacts of climate change on gender equality is at the core of our agenda, by scaling up women-led and indigenous climate solutions, building partnerships and evidence for greater impact and campaigning for more ambitious climate action from the Australian Government and business.

OUR PRINCIPLES

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.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND BOARD CHAIR

In a world of increasing conflict and instability, ActionAid is pleased to have supported women's leadership on the frontlines of crises and conflict around the world over 2025.

From our efforts to elevate young women's climate leadership in the Pacific, to supporting women leading peace in Indonesia and Africa, and resourcing women's organisations at the forefront of the devastating humanitarian crisis in Gaza, ActionAid is investing in women's leadership to create a safer, more just and equitable world.

2025 marked a decade of investment in building a movement to advance women's rights and resilience to crises in Vanuatu.

The Women I Tok Tok Tugeta federation now reaches 10,000 women on five islands, and represents an inclusive movement with more than 1,000 women with disabilities. The impact is profound – women have been appointed to the Chief's Council, a space traditionally reserved for men, because of their leadership in disaster response;

women have brought solar energy to remote communities with clear impacts on gender equality, safety, education and economic activity; and women continue to be at the forefront of early warning efforts, reaching more than 50 per cent of the population in one of the world's most disaster-prone countries.

Shifting Australian Government and corporate policy remains central to our efforts to achieve climate justice as every degree of global warming is deepening inequality.

Over 2025 we campaigned for a fossil fuel-free feminist future, elevating the pressure on Australia's big banks to stop investing in climate destruction, we supported Pacific women's leadership in global climate policy spaces, and we mobilised supporters and activists through our annual ActionAid Feminist Forum.

Our movement also continued to stand in solidarity with the Palestinian people by demanding justice and accountability for the genocide in Gaza.

Sincere thanks to our supporters and partners in this work – these incredible achievements are possible because of you.



Michelle Higelin
Executive Director

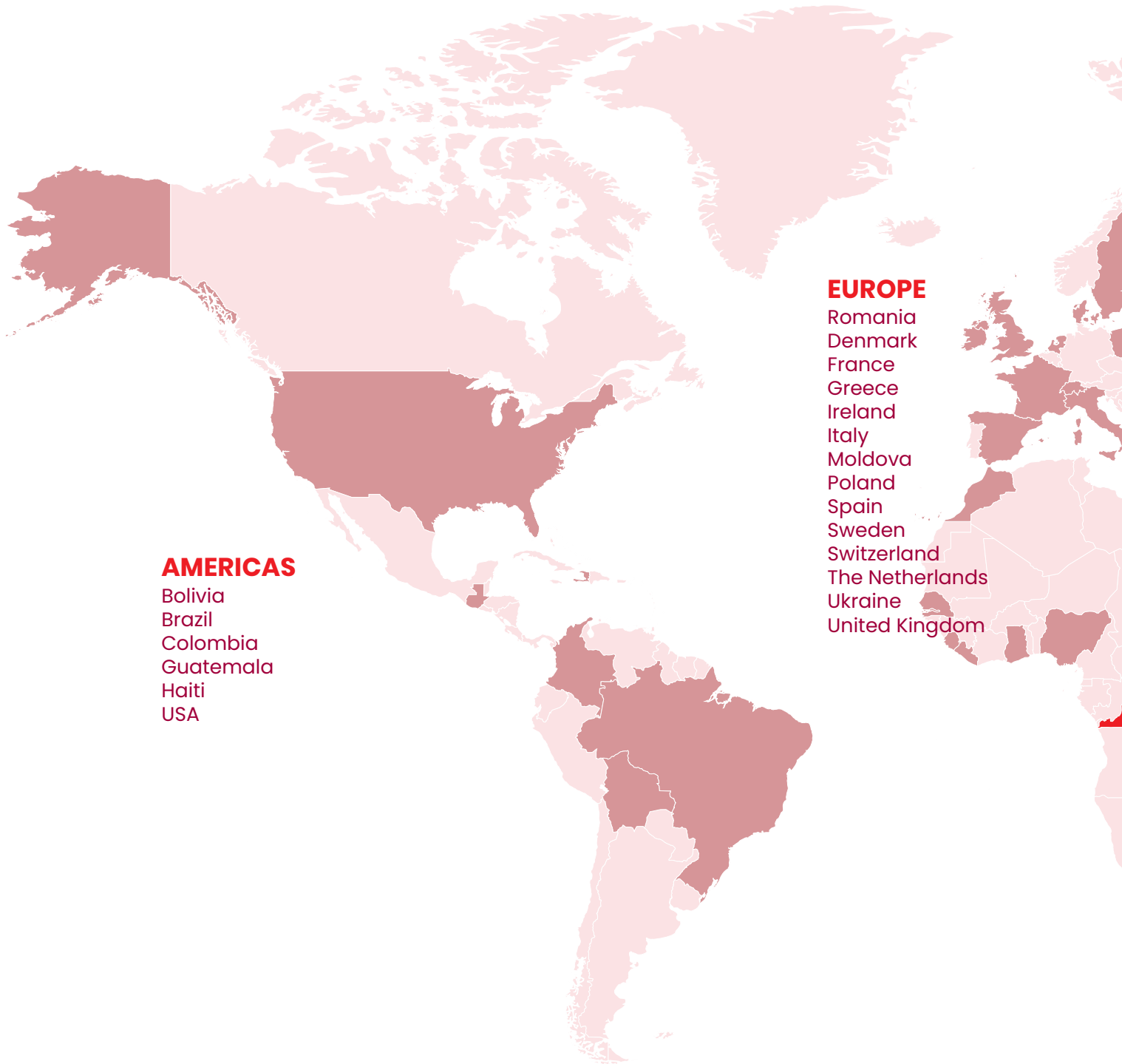


Belinda Morrissey
Board Chair



On the island of Pele in Vanuatu, rising sea levels have forced the community to move further inland and establish a new cemetery. Photo: Harriet Pratten

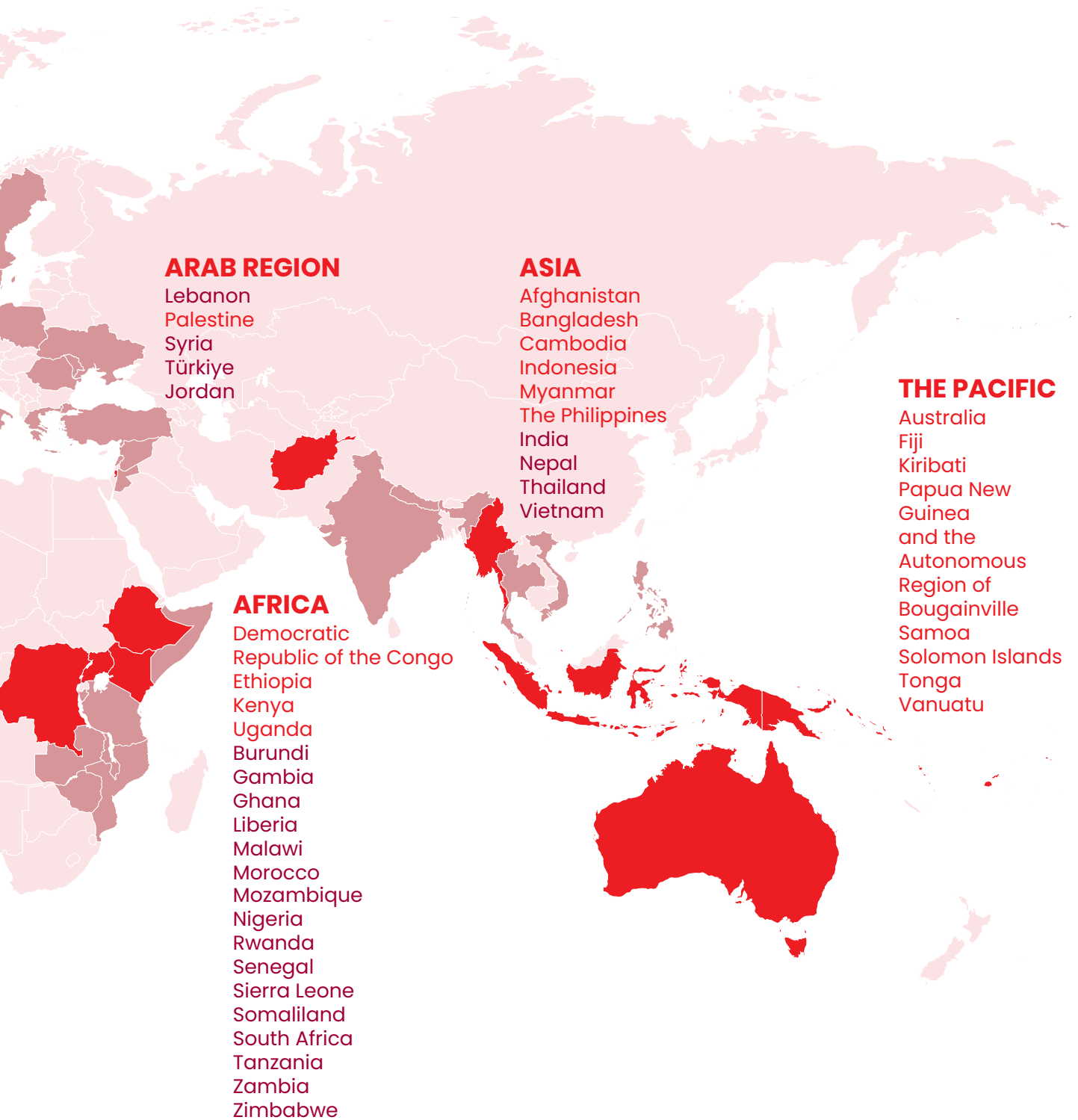
WHERE WE WORK



KEY

- ActionAid Australia supported projects
- ActionAid's global presence

ActionAid works with partners in
75 countries around the world.



**Through the direct support of Australian donors, we support
women to drive locally led action in 19 countries.**

OUR GLOBAL IMPACT IN 2025



ActionAid's partner in Gaza, Wafaq, distributes fresh food to families desperately in need, as Israel's aid blockade results in critical food shortages. Photo: ActionAid

ActionAid Australia's Impact

**28 partners in 19 countries**

supported women to build resilience to intersecting economic, climate and health crises.

**19,461 women and girls**

were reached through DFAT's Australian NGO Cooperation Program to advance their rights and resilience to climate change.

**153,560 women**

were reached through ActionAid-supported humanitarian response across the Pacific and the Philippines.

**More than 30 advocacy meetings**

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

**23,815 Australians**

took action to demand a fairer, more equitable world.

**7,000 donors**

gave \$11.78 million to empower women to change the world.

ActionAid's Global Impact

**5,230,786 people**

were provided with lifesaving assistance through ActionAid's global emergency responses.

**75 countries**

Globally, ActionAid works in 75 countries.

**1,652 women's rights and women-led organisations**

worked with ActionAid to advance women's rights around the world.

Scaling up women-led and indigenous solutions to climate change and crises

Our work ensures women are more resilient to climate change and disasters, with more women in leadership roles, and increased access to resources and technology.



Chan is a Woman Champion with ActionAid Cambodia and works with her community committee to protect what's left of their land.
Photo: ActionAid / Sophal Neak



ACTIONAID'S IMPACT THROUGH THE AUSTRALIAN NGO COOPERATION PROGRAM

Through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP), ActionAid supported women's leadership in preparing for climate change and disasters and resilience-building in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Kenya, Philippines and Vanuatu.

We also supported the economic empowerment and resilience-building of women living under occupation in Palestine.

**KEY**

- Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP)
- ActionAid's global presence

10 YEARS OF A WOMEN'S MOVEMENT IN VANUATU

In Vanuatu, women are living on the frontline of two intersecting crises.

As one of the world's most disaster-prone countries, the Pacific island nation faces regular and intensifying climate disasters.

In addition, women face deeply entrenched gender inequality in a society where traditional patriarchal norms still shape much of daily life. When disasters strike, these inequalities are intensified – limiting women's access to safety, decision-making and support for recovery.

That's why, since 2015, ActionAid has been supporting local ni-Vanuatu women to establish the Women I Tok Tok Tugeta (WITTT) network – a grassroots women's movement advancing women's rights, safety, and resilience in a country facing increasing climate and disaster impacts.

Over the past decade, WITTT has brought together diverse women from the islands of Efate, Erromango, Tanna, Malo, and Malekula to build their collective leadership, strengthen awareness of their human rights, and lead disaster preparedness and response activities – spaces from which women have traditionally been excluded.

The network now has over 10,000 members, including more than 1,000 women with disabilities who make up WITTT Sunshine, the network's disability chapter, established to address the additional discrimination faced by women with disabilities.

Through training on community-based protection, policy and advocacy, livelihood

activities, and nature-based solutions to climate change, ActionAid has equipped ni-Vanuatu women who are part of WITTT with the skills and confidence to lead their communities and build resilience to crises.

A decade of this work with WITTT has been transformative for local women and their communities.

Over the past 10 years, when disasters have struck, WITTT members have used their disaster preparedness and response training to save lives, and help their families and communities recover.

From cyclones to earthquakes, women across the network have mobilised to ensure that the most vulnerable women – including women with disabilities, single mothers and widows – receive targeted support and have a say in the response and recovery efforts.

Through WITTT's influence, women are also taking on significant leadership roles, which would previously have been unheard of. WITTT members who were previously excluded from decision-making are now advocates in local, national and global decision-making spaces.

On the island of Erromango, two women have been invited to join the Chief's Council – a role traditionally reserved for men – because the Chief saw the women's leadership during disasters, and recognised the value of their contribution to the community.

In Lawital village on the island of Tanna, women who previously had never held a screwdriver are now leading their community's energy transformation, installing solar lighting in every home



Members of the Women I Tok Tok Tugeta network march through the streets of Port Vila for World Humanitarian Day, chanting "Woman! Tok Tok Tugeta! Information! Is Power!" Photo: Harriet Pratten

"ActionAid has provided me the space to unlock my potential beyond what I thought I was capable of by training me to build my knowledge, skills and confidence."

—Janet Iatiknu, WITTT Tanna community mobiliser

in the village as well as a number of community spaces.

Women are trained to install and maintain the solar systems, and the impact has been seen in improvements to women's safety, children's education, job opportunities and quality of life.

The WITTT federation was formally launched in the capital, Port Vila, in November 2024.

This was a landmark moment marking the network's transition from a supported program into a recognised, independent national body.

Ten years on from its inception, WITTT is now working towards being a self-sufficient, self-governing federation. It is an enduring and flourishing Ni-Vanuatu women's movement that is playing a vital role in advancing women's rights and resilience to crises.

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP BREAKING BARRIERS FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

I joined the Chief's Council in my village in Erromango in 2020. I was the first-ever female leader to be a member of the village council.

They asked me to join when they saw my leadership in the WITTT network. It is a first of its kind. Now my colleague Esther has now become a Vice Chairlady for South Erromango Area Council. I have forged a pathway for other women.

I never dreamed of being part of this Council in my lifetime. Where I come from, women are not allowed to be in the same room with the male community leaders; it's taboo.

Our place is just outside the doorway, not inside the house.

Our status as a female is being seen as a carer, mother, and a cook in the kitchen. We are not valued as a contributor in our community.

But through the training that ActionAid has provided, the Chiefs and the Council have now come to respect women's leadership. They know we have the valid information and we are the first responders in our community before any external partners.

My hope for the future is to promote the women to be the leaders in the country and in my community.

– Leiwia, Community Mobiliser for the WITTT network on the island of Erromango, Vanuatu



Leiwia was the first-ever woman to join a Chief's Council in Vanuatu. Photo: ActionAid



The Shifting the Power Coalition held its Young Women's Steering Committee meeting in July, bringing together women leading climate action across the Pacific region. Image: Shifting the Power Coalition

YOUNG WOMEN LEADING THE WAY ACROSS THE PACIFIC

Across the Pacific region, climate disasters, rising sea levels and economic insecurity shape the daily lives of young women.

And although they are among the first responders during these crises, they remain excluded from formal spaces where decisions are made that impact their lives.

Shifting the Power Coalition – a network of organisations, which ActionAid is a part of – aims to fix that, by supporting Pacific women's leadership in climate and humanitarian action.

"Our women and young women stand on the front lines of this crisis," says Naomi Woyengu, from Hauskuk Initiative in Papua New Guinea. "We rebuild after every storm, we find food and water when crops fail, and we hold our families and communities together when everything else is lost."

Shifting the Power Coalition focuses on the practical realities of diverse women's lives and how local and national policies play out on the ground. Thanks to training, mentorship and advocacy, young women across the Pacific are now leading climate action, humanitarian response, and gender-based violence prevention in their communities.

After nine years, these efforts had begun to yield visible results, with young women increasingly leading community projects and being represented in regional advocacy spaces.

"We will continue to invest in our young women's network to support not just their climate leadership, but to build a vibrant intergenerational feminist movement that bridges local action with global policy,"

Carolyn Kitone, Regional Representative of the Shifting the Power Coalition

DRIVING INCLUSIVE CLIMATE ACTION AND PEACE IN INDONESIA

In Poso, Indonesia, communities face the daily challenges of an escalating climate crisis, against the backdrop of a decade of violent conflict whose impacts linger today.

From the 1990s until 2001, conflict raged between Christians and Muslims in the city, killing more than 1,000 people, and dividing a community by religion.

In order to address these dual crises, Yappika-ActionAid Indonesia has been supporting women's leadership in adapting to climate change by building resilient livelihoods and developing inclusive disaster preparedness plans.

Through these efforts, community mobilisers have brought together Christian and Muslim women, helping break down barriers and heal from the past.

They have also targeted young people through the project to ensure the next generation is both committed to peace and engaged in livelihood opportunities.

In Poso, when a crisis hits, it is often women who are most impacted, and ActionAid's work is targeted accordingly.

The project has trained paralegals who respond to cases of violence against women and children, which spike in times of crisis.

Many families are forced to borrow money from loan sharks when their crops fail due to climate-related disasters, and when they are unable to repay, their daughters are sold into early marriage as payment.

Paralegals have supported girls in this situation, who are often exposed to a life of violence, enabling them to access counselling and intervention through traditional courts.

ActionAid's work in Poso is a powerful example of the multiple dividends of investing in women's leadership – it reduces violence, builds climate resilience and contributes to lasting peace.



ActionAid's program in Poso trains paralegals to respond to cases of violence against women and children, which spike in times of crisis. Photo: ActionAid

WOMEN-LED EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Crisis in Gaza

In 2025, the humanitarian crisis in Gaza reached a new level with the first-ever confirmed famine in the Middle East due to Israel's aid blockade, which halted humanitarian operations for months.

Despite these constraints, ActionAid was able to continue our work through local partners, providing life-saving support to more than 200,000 people, despite restricted access.

Since October 2023, ActionAid's emergency response has reached more than 650,000 people in Gaza.

In 2025 alone, ActionAid and partners reached 237,784 people, including:

- **88,621** people received food relief
- **26,542** people were reached with hygiene and sanitation, including dignity kits
- **22,079** people were reached with protection services and psychosocial support
- **71,078** people received health care
- **12,177** people received shelter assistance



In November 2025, ActionAid's local partner in Gaza – Wafaq – distributed food parcels to 713 displaced families in Al Mawsi Khan Youn, to address the widespread and severe undernourishment. Photo: Wattan Media Network / ActionAid

Vanuatu Earthquake

On 17 December 2024, Vanuatu was struck by two powerful earthquakes within 24 hours, resulting in lives lost and 80,000 people impacted. ActionAid's emergency response mobilised within days of the earthquakes, building on long-term investment in community preparedness.

Women with disabilities were at the forefront of ActionAid's women-led and inclusive humanitarian response, which prioritised outreach to people with disabilities, widows and single mothers. The relief effort delivered fresh vegetables and root crops grown through women's resilience gardens, and distributed dignity kits to some of the most vulnerable people in the community.

- **4,000** people received immediate food relief
- **1,424** women from seven communities were supported through the response
- **369** women with disability received targeted support
- **500** women received dignity kits
- **28** women were trained and delivered psychosocial support to over 360 people
- **14** villages received fresh water



ActionAid and the WITTT network launched an emergency response following the Vanuatu earthquakes. Image: ActionAid

Myanmar Earthquake

A devastating 7.7 magnitude earthquake struck central Myanmar in March 2025, claiming around 4,000 lives and impacting millions, striking a country already under immense pressure from an protracted civil war. Following the earthquake, ActionAid was among the first responders, and immediately

- **13,173** people received food relief
- **10,734** people received safe water and access to sanitation facilities
- **250** pregnant and lactating mothers received cash assistance
- **830** people were supported with temporary shelter

Mobilising ambitious partnerships and evidence to catalyse system-wide impact

Through collaboration with values-aligned partners, we are accelerating change for women on the frontlines of the climate crisis.



Daw Than Than Tint stands proudly in front of her new home in Thae Taw Village, Myanmar, which was rebuilt following a devastating earthquake. Photo: ActionAid / Aung Htay Hlaing

Arise Fund: Empowering Women to Lead in Times of Crisis

With rising conflicts and political instability, to devastating aid cuts and the escalating climate crisis, the Arise Fund has never been more important in responding to the growing impact of crises on women and girls.

The Arise Fund invests in women's leadership around the world to prepare for crises before disaster strikes, because we know that when women lead crisis response, communities are better prepared for disasters, more lives are saved, and women's position in society is transformed.

It also provides rapid response funding so women and their organisations have the resources they need, when they need them most.

In 2025, ActionAid supported women to provide a crucial leadership role in emergency responses in Gaza, Vanuatu, Myanmar, and the Philippines, to ensure

humanitarian assistance reached the most vulnerable community members.

In the aftermath of the Myanmar earthquake, ActionAid Australia mobilised with other leading humanitarian agencies to launch an emergency appeal through the Emergency Action Alliance.

This raised vital resources for ActionAid's partners to support women and their communities with life-saving assistance and to recover their livelihoods.

Since 2017, the Arise Fund has raised \$16.8 million, and trained more than 49,000 women to prepare for and respond to crises, with over 4.4 million people benefiting from their leadership.

Every \$1 donated to the Arise Fund is matched with \$4 by the Australian Government through the ANCP, multiplying the impact of every contribution.



ActionAid's partner in the Philippines, WENet – the Women in Emergencies Network – conducts a training session with local women on disaster risk reduction. Photo: PKKK



Women in the Great Lakes region of Africa are now leading peacebuilding efforts in their communities, through the African Women's Voices for Peace program. Photo: ActionAid

African Women Build Peace and Lasting Change

Across Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, women have long borne the heaviest burden of conflict, but their voices have too often been excluded from peace-building efforts.

With the support of the Arise Fund, in partnership with the Judith Neilson Foundation and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, ActionAid's African Women's Voices for Peace program is putting women at the centre of that story.

This multi-year commitment has been critical – providing the stability and continuity needed to build genuine change in some of the world's most fragile contexts.

The impact of the initiative can already be seen, with women showing incredible courage and building a visible movement to drive peace and justice in their local communities.

Since the program started, 4,350 women have gained skills in advocacy, peace negotiations, trauma healing and economic resilience – which has enabled them to reach more than 25,000 people in their communities.

Women are now joining local peace committees, influencing policy and shaping peacebuilding efforts with the power of their lived experience.



Annette has been trained to install and repair solar systems in her community of Lawital on the island of Tanna in Vanuatu, a community which previously had no access to electricity. Photo: PowerWells

“ActionAid has given me a new purpose for how I can live my life. After solar power was installed in our house, everything changed.

Now I can care for my child at night, weave baskets after dark, and stay connected to family. We have families overjoyed with their children’s progress in their education.

It has helped to change how men see women. Men now join in domestic work and realise the value of women’s leadership, which is a positive change for our community.

I now visit households to install batteries and lights, collect fees, and input monthly access codes. That experience restarted my interest in education – I hope to return to school and work with wiring or become an electrician.”

– Annette, WITTT member and community technician, Lawital, Vanuatu

Women Spark Change with Off-Grid Solar in Vanuatu

Every home in Lawital village on the island of Tanna in Vanuatu is now connected to off-grid solar power, thanks to a women-led project which has improved safety, livelihoods, education and wellbeing in the community of 800 people.

The project has trained women in Lawital to install solar systems in 115 households and 10 public spaces connected to off-grid solar systems, with the support of Australian social enterprise, PowerWells.

It has also established a community fund to support ongoing maintenance and repairs, and community-led initiatives.

Napuat Kasso, a WITTT Taskforce Leader for Tanna, highlighted how transformational the

project is for the village of Lawital.

“This project [is] a great benefit in my community,” she said. “It is a first-ever project that is implemented here in north Tanna. It solves everything, it makes our lives easier, and our children will be very happy.”

The Lawital off-grid solar project is a partnership between the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific with ActionAid Australia, ActionAid Vanuatu, PowerWells and the WITTT network.

It is supported through the Pacific Climate Infrastructure Financing Partnership; a \$350 million Australian Government initiative delivered by the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific.

Women Lead Marine Recovery in Vanuatu

For the small island communities of Uri and Uripiv, off the coast of Malekula in Vanuatu, healthy marine ecosystems are not just an environmental concern – they are a lifeline.

And, thanks to the support of Groundswell Giving and the Pacific Development and Conservation Trust, women from the Women I Tok Tok Tugeta (WITTT) network are now at the forefront of their protection.

Women in the WITTT network have been trained in the protection of coral and mangrove ecosystems, sustainable fishing practices, and climate resilience.

As a result, they have updated community marine management plans, replanted coral and mangroves, and installed equipment to support sustainable fishing.

This approach weaves together traditional ecological knowledge with modern conservation methods – an approach that is both locally grounded and globally informed.

The project's impact reaches beyond the immediate benefits to the marine ecosystem.

In a landmark moment, male community leaders have formally endorsed WITTT's role through a Memorandum of Understanding with local Chiefs – a development that significantly strengthens the long-term prospects for women's role in lasting marine protection.

Women living with disabilities are among those leading this work, reflecting the program's genuine commitment to inclusion at every level.

MECCA M-POWER – A PARTNERSHIP BUILT ON TRUST

MECCA M-POWER's three-year investment in ActionAid Australia stood out from the start for one defining quality – trust.

Rather than directing how funds should be spent, MECCA M-POWER gave ActionAid the flexibility to invest where the need was greatest and where impact was possible.

The MECCA M-POWER support was directed to the Arise Fund to scale women's leadership in Vanuatu, supporting women to lead disaster response in their communities and build climate resilience.

Alongside this support, MECCA M-POWER convened the 17 leaders of their partner

organisations for a leadership program designed for the realities of now – equipping executives to navigate complexity and lead their organisations to respond to a world changing at pace.

As this three-year partnership draws to a close, its legacy lives in the women it has resourced in Vanuatu, and in the leaders strengthened across MECCA M-POWER's partner network.

ActionAid thanks MECCA M-POWER for its leadership in innovative grantmaking.

Advancing feminist systems change on women's rights and climate justice

We're growing a movement of Australians who are driving change in Australian Government policy and corporate practice to deliver global justice for women and ambitious climate action.



ActionAid Australia activist Eimear Cunningham joins the Nationwide March for Palestine. Photo: ActionAid

Campaigning to End Fossil Fuel Financing

In 2025, ActionAid continued to campaign alongside our supporters, activist network and partners, for Australian and global banks to stop funding fossil fuel projects and re-direct finance towards women-led climate solutions.

At Sydney Climate Action Week, we hosted an event with Market Forces and the Australian Conservation Foundation, calling on Australia's big four banks to stop financing fossil fuels companies.

We also strengthened our people-powered movement throughout the year by hosting campaign webinars and training sessions for our activist network.

ActionAid continued to advocate directly with banks, raising the impact of fossil fuel extraction on women's rights and the need for urgent reform of financing policies.

In December, we attended the Annual General Meeting of ANZ – Australia's biggest lender to the fossil fuel industry – to question the company on how women's rights are considered in lending decisions and the continued fossil fuel investment.



ActionAid supporters and partners gather at the ActionAid Feminist Forum to call for a fossil fuel future. Photo: ActionAid



ActionAid activists and supporters attended the Nationwide March for Palestine in Sydney in August, marching over the Sydney Harbour Bridge. Photo: ActionAid

Amplifying Palestinian Calls for Justice

As Israel's genocide in Gaza was confirmed by an independent United Nations Commission, and Israel's occupation of the West Bank intensified, ActionAid campaigned in solidarity with the Palestinian people.

Throughout the year, 19,000 supporters showed their solidarity, including by signing petitions, sharing messages of solidarity, and writing to Prime Minister Anthony Albanese to demand urgent action.

In June, ActionAid joined a 24-hour vigil at Parliament House in Canberra to honour Palestinian children killed over the 22 months of Israel's bombardment of Gaza, held in conjunction with Amnesty International Australia, Caritas Australia, ChildFund Australia, MAA International, Oxfam Australia, Plan International Australia, Save the Children and Médecins Sans Frontières.

ActionAid staff and volunteers joined with Members of Parliament, doctors, journalists, academics, actors, writers, and community members to read the names of over 17,000 Palestinian children who had been killed, and called for immediate and concrete action from the Australian Government to end the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza.

In September and October, we partnered with Muslim Aid Australia to screen the Palestinian film *No Other Land*, which documents Israel's violent forced evictions of Palestinians from their homes in Masafer Yatta in the West Bank.

Hundreds of supporters attended screenings in Melbourne and Sydney to learn more about life under Israel's occupation, and what kind of action Australians can take in solidarity with Palestine.



ActionAid staff and activists join a vigil on the lawns of Parliament House in Canberra, to commemorate the lives of the 17,000 children killed in Gaza.

Canberra Vigil for Gaza

On a freezing July day in Canberra, I joined a group of ActionAid staff and activists to stand alongside parliamentarians, advocates, and community members in a powerful 24-hour vigil on the lawns of Parliament House.

Together we endeavoured to read aloud the names of more than 17,000 Palestinian children killed after 22 months of Israeli assault on Gaza – a powerful act of mourning and solidarity. Despite reading for 24 hours without pause, we finished the vigil before finishing all the names, a harrowing representation of the overwhelming loss of young human life at the hands of Israel.

The vigil was an urgent reminder of the human cost of Israel's Genocide in Gaza – the children killed too soon, and the many thousands of Palestinian mothers, fathers, teachers, doctors, journalists, artists, and aid workers that have been killed alongside them.

We were also there to demand action, not just words, from the Australian Government, and to bring the reality of Israel's genocide and the Australian community's calls for action into the halls of Parliament.

The vigil concluded with the names of the 17,000 murdered children being handed over to Senator Fatima Payman, who tabled them in the Senate.

– Eimear Cunningham,
ActionAid Australia activist



Ritah Nanyonga from ActionAid Uganda joins the ActionAid Feminist Forum to share her work with women on peacebuilding in the Great Lakes region of Africa. Photo: ActionAid

ActionAid Feminist Forum

In August, the ActionAid community came together for the annual ActionAid Feminist Forum. ActionAid activists, donors, partners, staff and board members, along with a range of local and international speakers, joined us for a day of connection, conversation and strategising for a more just and equal world.

At a time of intersecting crises – from the genocide in Gaza, to the global climate emergency, to the alarming backlash on women's rights – the forum was an important reminder that when we take collective action, we can drive real change for communities around Australia and the world.



ActionAid staff and partners from Shifting the Power Coalition in the Pacific attend the COP30 United Nations climate change conference in Brazil. Photo: ActionAid

From the Frontlines to the World Stage: Bringing Women's Voices to COP30

In November, ActionAid Australia and Pacific partners joined with our colleagues from around the world to attend the COP30 climate change conference in Belém, Brazil.

The goal was clear – to push for gender-transformative climate action and for governments to commit to more ambitious climate finance.

Despite our advocacy, climate finance negotiations continued to stall. However, in a win for women and the climate, governments agreed to a new Gender Action Plan that will increase women's involvement in climate change decision-making and drive progress on women-led climate action that responds to women's experiences and needs.

ActionAid continued our calls for Australia to deliver its fair share of climate finance and loss and damage funding in 2025.

ActionAid Australia co-authored a report, *Financing survival: Australia's new climate finance goal and the global just transition*, with Oxfam Australia, Plan International Australia, Climate Action Network Australia and the Australian Council for International Development.

The report calls on Australia to commit \$11 billion over five years in international climate finance, to support countries on the frontlines of the climate crisis to scale up adaptation, respond to climate losses and damage, and transition away from fossil fuels.

THANK YOU!

In 2025, we raised \$11.78 million from 7,000 Australian supporters, including members of the public, business partnerships, institutions and those who wish to remain anonymous.

These contributions are empowering women around the world to lead change in their communities.



Daw Khin Htay Myint at her new home in the Tetaw Village, Myanmar, which was built following the devastating earthquake earlier in the year. Photo: Aung Htay Hlaing.

YOUR SUPPORT HAS NEVER BEEN MORE IMPACTFUL

Individuals

Anne Miller
Belinda Morrissey and Ian Parsons
Drs Alan and Hilary Wallace
Harriet Pratten
Herschell Family
Jaan Enden
J A Donald Family
Jacqui Love
Jenny Ainsworth
Kristina Stefanova and James Schultz
Mary G Bush
Nicola Blackburn
Susan Varga
Vicki Olsson

Foundations

ACME Foundation
Australian Ethical Foundation
Australian-Palestinian Partnerships in Education
and Health
Catherine Gray Trust
Community Impact Foundation
Desmond Prentice Charitable Trust
Dick and Pip Smith Foundation
Doepke Foundation
Graeme Wood Foundation
Greengib Foundation
Judith Neilson Foundation
LVP Foundation
Mulnot Foundation
Norman Family Foundation
Oranges & Sardines Foundation
Roberts Pike Foundation
S&J Cook Family Foundation
The Capital Region Community Foundation
(GreaterGood)
The Skrzynski Foundation

Organisations

ChitChat Design
Colin Biggers & Paisley
Groundswell Giving
Hall & Wilcox
MECCA M-POWER

Institutions

Australian Department of
Foreign Affairs and Trade
Foreign, Commonwealth and
Development Office
Embassy of the Federal Republic
of Germany in Canberra
Global Fund for Women
Home Planet Fund
SPC Pacific Women Lead
UN Women
WWF

Ambassadors

Claire Hooper
Tracey Spicer AM
Natasha Stott-Despoja AO

Arise Leadership Circle

Kristina Stefanova (Chair)
Angela Priestley, Women's Agenda
Anna Demant
Arielle Gamble, Groundswell
Asha Kayla
Emily Albert, Alberts
Farren Williams, Koda Capital
Janette O'Neill
Jo Norman, Norman Family Foundation
Lauren Hicks, QBE Foundation
Nicola Blackburn, Philanthropy Advisor
Sarah Morton-Ramwell, Ashurst

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.

OUR GOVERNANCE

OUR BOARD

Belinda Morrissey

Board Chair

Nicole D'Souza

Vice Chair

Frank Burke

Board Director & Treasurer

Georgina King

Board Director

Jan Cossar

Board Director

Jananie Janarthana

Board Director*

Kristina Stefanova

Board Director

Scot Ennis

Board Director*

Trent Wallace

First Nations Advisor

Abdi Suyaningati

International Board
Representative

**resigned in 2025 – 2026*

OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Michelle Higelin

Executive Director

Kat Tu

Head of Policy & Campaigns

Sophie Ford

Head of Programs

Bharti Desai

Chief Operating Officer

Maeva Freeman

Head of Partnerships
& Impact

Vikram Chowdhary

Head of Fundraising



ActionAid’s delegation joined the Global Day of Action for Climate Justice at the COP30 climate change conference in Belém, Brazil. Photo: ActionAid

OUR FINANCES

OUR FINANCES

During 2025, ActionAid Australia's operating revenue increased to \$12 million — a 42 per cent increase, attributed to an increase in institutional funding and gift-in-will income.

Public funds raised totalled \$2.6 million and comprised 24 per cent of operating revenue for the year, lower than 2024 (34 per cent). Public funds include donations and gifts received from the Australian public as well as non-monetary income such as volunteer and pro-bono services. In 2025 ActionAid Australia received \$1.17 million from donors who left gifts in their wills, which allowed us to scale our impact.

Grant income from DFAT and other donors contributed to 64 per cent of operating revenue at \$7.75 million. Investment and interest income received was \$221,000 with other income of \$67,000.

ActionAid Australia's total expenditure for 2025 increased by 34 per cent from 2024, of which 49 per cent went towards supporting our international programs. International program expenditure comprised 82 per cent of our total expenditure. Of this expenditure, \$7.9 million directly funded international programs and their support. An additional \$1.8 million funded campaigning work in Australia, raising awareness of global issues with the Australian Government and public.

Fundraising accounted for 11 per cent of the total expenditure. ActionAid Australia continues to invest in fundraising activities that will lead to income growth in future years.

With public fundraising, we are connecting with our donors to the impact they are having overseas with their donations. Accountability and administration costs represented five per cent of total expenditure.

The full financial report for the year ended 31 December 2025 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.

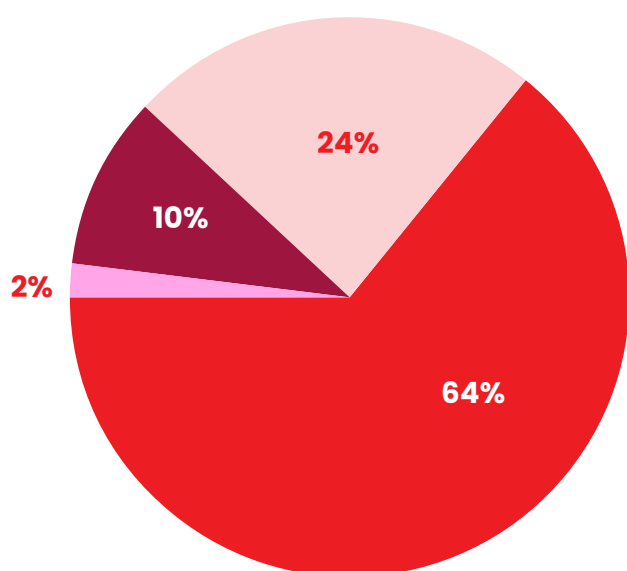
In order to lodge a complaint against ActionAid Australia please email complaints.au@actionaid.org.

Where a breach of the ACFID Code of Conduct is considered to have occurred please see the ACFID website www.acfid.asn.au/code-of-conduct/complaints for contact details.



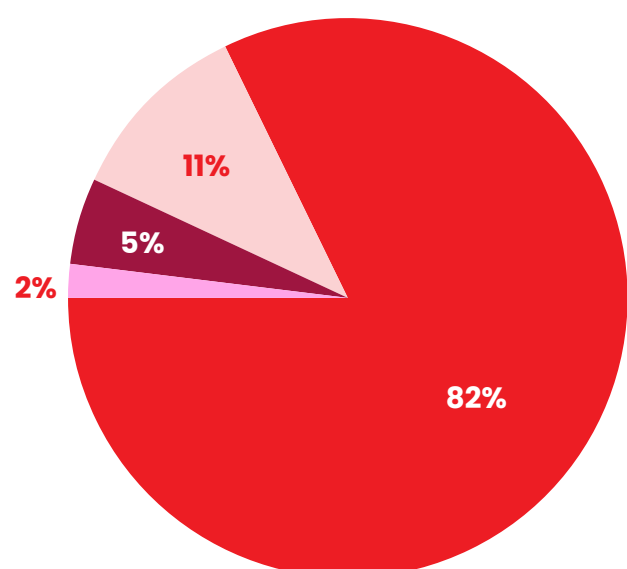
ACFID
MEMBER

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE



Income

- DFAT and other grants 64%
- Donations and gifts 24%
- Bequests and legacies 10%
- Investment and other income 2%



Expenditure

- Program expenditure 82%
- Fundraising costs 11%
- Accountability and administration 5%
- Non-monetary expenditure 2%

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Year ended 31 December 2025	Year ended 31 December 2024
REVENUE	Total	Total
Operating Revenue		
Donations and gifts		
• Monetary	\$2,595,274	\$2,466,919
• Non-monetary	\$264,160	\$308,485
Bequests and legacies	\$1,170,869	\$80,379
Grants		
• DFAT and other	\$7,750,536	\$5,189,075
Investment income	\$220,839	\$269,632
Other income	\$67,117	\$52,600
Total Revenue	\$12,068,795	\$8,367,090
EXPENDITURE		
International programs:		
• Funds to programmes	\$6,887,277	\$4,637,557
• Program support costs	\$1,026,223	\$972,373
Community education	\$1,834,816	\$600,583
Fundraising costs:		
• Public	\$1,261,366	\$1,841,271
Accountability and administration	\$615,157	\$530,296
Non-monetary expenditure	\$264,160	\$308,485
Total Expenditure	\$11,888,999	\$8,890,565
• Operating excess/(shortfall) over expenditure	\$(523,475)	\$(523,475)
Total Excess/(Shortfall) of Revenue Over Expenditure	\$179,796	\$(523,475)
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income/(Loss)	\$179,796	\$(523,475)

During the year ended 31 December 2025, 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 2025

2024	Retained earnings	Restricted funds reserves	Unrestricted funds reserves	Total undistributed funds
Opening balance at 1 January 2024	\$1,189,041	\$1,270,474	\$50,000	\$2,509,515
Deficit for the year	\$(523,475)	-	-	\$(523,475)
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income/(loss)	\$(523,475)	-	-	\$(523,475)
Transfers to/(from) reserves:	\$314,816	\$(314,816)	-	-
Total Closing Balance at 31 December 2024	\$980,382	\$955,658	\$50,000	\$1,986,040

2025	Retained earnings	Restricted funds reserves	Unrestricted funds reserves	Total undistributed funds
Opening balance at 1 January 2025	\$980,382	\$955,658	\$50,000	\$1,986,040
Deficit for the year	-	-	-	-
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	\$179,796	-	-	\$179,796
Total comprehensive income/(loss)	\$179,796	-	-	\$179,796
Transfers to/(from) reserves:	\$(142,717)	\$142,717	-	-
Total Closing Balance at 31 December 2025	\$1,017,461	\$1,098,375	\$50,000	\$2,165,836

During the year ended 31 December 2025, 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.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

for the year ended 31 December 2025

	31 December 2025	31 December 2024
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$2,961,094	\$6,697,355
Investment	\$1,262,361	-
Trade and other assets	\$838,249	\$547,588
Total current assets	\$5,061,704	\$7,244,943
Non-current assets		
Right-of-use assets	\$101,149	\$211,494
Property, plant and equipment	-	\$516
Total non-current assets	\$101,149	\$212,010
Total assets	\$5,162,853	\$7,456,953
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	\$670,243	\$705,380
Lease Liability	\$113,853	\$111,054
Provisions - employee benefits	\$328,487	\$377,889
Deferred revenue	\$1,832,201	\$4,126,966
Total current liabilities	\$2,944,784	\$5,321,289
Non-current liabilities		
Lease Liability	-	\$113,853
Provisions - employee benefits	\$52,233	\$35,771
Non-current liabilities	\$52,233	\$149,624
Total liabilities	\$2,997,017	\$5,470,913
Net assets	\$2,165,836	\$1,986,040
EQUITY		
Restricted funds reserve	\$1,098,375	\$955,657
Unrestricted funds reserves	\$50,000	\$50,000
Retained earnings	\$1,017,461	\$980,383
Total equity	\$2,165,836	\$1,986,040

At 31 December 2025 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.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the year ended 31 December 2025

	31 December 2025	31 December 2024
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash receipts from appeals, donations and fundraising activities	\$3,766,143	\$2,547,298
Cash receipts from DFAT and other grants	\$5,726,554	\$6,106,457
Proceeds from other activities and government subsidies	\$67,117	\$52,600
Interest received	\$160,480	\$269,632
Interest paid	\$(13,835)	\$(22,066)
Cash payments to suppliers and employees	\$(2,381,349)	\$(2,928,579)
Cash payments for project expenditure	\$(9,748,316)	\$(6,210,512)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	\$(2,362,847)	\$(185,170)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Acquisition of investments	\$(2,764,302)	-
Payments for property, plant and equipment	\$1,501,941	
Net cash (used in) investing activities	\$(1,262,361)	-
Cash flows from financing activities		
Repayment of lease liabilities	\$(111,053)	\$(98,308)
Net cash (used in) / financing activities	\$(111,053)	\$(98,308)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	\$(3,736,261)	\$(283,478)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	\$6,697,355	\$6,980,833
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$2,961,094	\$6,697,355

AUDITOR'S REPORT



Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Ltd

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QVB NSW 1230

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Report of the Independent Auditor on the Summary Financial Statements to the Members of ActionAid Australia

Opinion

The summary financial statements, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2025, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of cash flows and the statement of changes in equity for the year then ended, are derived from the audited financial report of ActionAid Australia (the company) for the year ended 31 December 2025.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report, in accordance with the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Code of Conduct.

Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report and the auditor's report thereon.

The Audited Financial Report and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial report in our report dated 20 June 2026.

Directors' Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

The Directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the Summary Financial Statements in accordance with the ACFID Code of Conduct.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810 *Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements*.

Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Ltd

Vishal Modi

Director

ASIC Registered Company Auditor no.: 486119

Dated at Sydney, this 20th day of June 2026

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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ActionAid Australia

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ABN: 87 001 251 930



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www.actionaid.org.au