

**act:onaid**

© Irene Kibaruta/ActionAid

# Annual Report 2022

## Contents

3	Message from the Country Director
4	Countries where we constantly work
5	Our work at a glance
6	25 years of action in Greece
8	Greece: Income increase
9	Greece: Educational programmes
11	Greece: Support towards women
13	Greece: Youth mobilisation & volunteering
15	World: Income increase
17	World: Protection of women & girls
19	World: Education of children & mobilisation of youth
21	World: Emergency response
24	With the power of solidarity
26	Presence in the Media & Social Media
28	Funding
30	Income & Expenditure 2022
32	Chartered Accountants' Letter
35	Governance & Our people

**Message from  
the Country Director**



Dear friends,

This year, 2023, ActionAid celebrates 25 years of presence in Greece. Looking back, I see how much we have achieved together! We started with ActionAid's Child Sponsorship Programme in 1998 and today we are an organisation that not only supports communities around the world and exerts institutional pressure for a fairer world, but also implements programmes in Greece, with Centres in Athens, Thessaloniki and Evia and educational programmes for schools all over the country.

Over the years, more than 120,000 people from Greece and Cyprus have shown their solidarity through financial contributions, either regularly or through one-off donations. From 1998 to date, thanks to the Child Sponsorship Programme, together we have supported 89 communities in 21 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America and have empowered millions of people to take their lives in their own hands, to claim their basic rights and to change policies and practices at local, national and international level, in order to fight the root causes of poverty.

2022 was yet another year of crises on the international level, too, and we had to intervene in crises and natural disasters, providing emergency aid to 11 million people around the world. At the same time, around 3 million children participated in our activities through campaigns, trainings and empowerment programmes.

With our development programmes we focused on boosting the income of people living in communities faced with the effects of climate crisis and extreme poverty. We supported the rights of women and girls, so that they can live with more equality and less injustice due to their gender. Finally, we have invested in the education of children and in the support of young people, whose voices are not heard and whose needs are not met.

Similarly, in Greece in 2022, we supported 3,720 people in Athens, Thessaloniki and Evia by providing programmes that focused on income increase through job counselling, access to benefits, and education and training. In addition, we had 7,814 participants in our educational programmes held at our Centres in Athens and Evia or in school classrooms of our country, which were attended by children and teachers.

This message has a special meaning to me, as it is the last one I share with you as Country Director. After 16 years of service, the time has come for me to hand over my role as Country Director, keeping from this point onwards the status of a supporter of the organisation's, which I have always considered of the utmost importance. I would like to close with a huge thank you to all of you who have shared and will continue to share this journey towards a fairer world, guided by solidarity, mutual respect and our faith in the individual and collective power of people to make the world a better place.

With kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Gerasimos Kouvaras'.

Gerasimos Kouvaras  
Country Director, ActionAid Hellas

**Countries where  
we constantly work**



**Countries where  
we work**

Afghanistan \*  
Australia  
Bangladesh \*  
Brazil \*  
Britain  
Burundi  
Cambodia \*  
Denmark  
DR Congo

Ethiopia \*  
France  
Gambia, The  
Ghana \*  
Greece  
Guatemala \*  
Haiti  
India \*  
Indonesia  
Ireland  
Italy  
Jordan

Kenya \*  
Lebanon  
Liberia  
Malawi  
Mozambique  
Myanmar  
Nepal \*  
Netherlands, The  
Nigeria  
Palestine \*  
Rwanda \*  
Senegal \*

Sierra Leone \*  
Somaliland  
South Africa  
Spain  
Sweden  
Thailand  
Tanzania \*  
Uganda  
USA  
Vietnam \*  
Zambia \*  
Zimbabwe \*

The asterisk indicates the countries supported by the Child Sponsorship Programme of ActionAid Hellas.

Figures reflecting our work  
in Greece in 2022:



**25,229**

children participated  
in the Child  
Sponsorship  
Programme



**22,587**

financial  
supporters



**15,668**

signatures  
for our climate  
crisis campaign



**7,814**

participations in  
our educational  
programmes in Greek  
schools



**3,720**

people  
we supported in  
Greece



**97**

volunteers



**3**

surveys

ActionAid's work around  
the world in 2022



**11 million**

people received  
emergency support



**3 million**

children participated in  
our actions, worldwide

25 years of action

in Greece



At least  
**130,000**  
children have participated  
in the Child Sponsorship  
Programme in 89 communities  
in 21 countries.

#### 1998

In 1998, on the initiative of Alexandra Mitsotakis, we started our journey in Greece with ActionAid's Child Sponsorship Programme. Since then, **more than 120,000 people from Greece and Cyprus have supported our actions financially**, either through ActionAid's Child Sponsorship Programme and other regular giving programmes or through one-off donations for emergencies.

#### 2000

In 2000, our educational programme was launched in Greece, which evolved into one of our most groundbreaking activities. Since then, **an average of 25,000 students of all grades and their teachers participate in our programmes every year**. In 2017 we were honoured with the European Innovation Award for this effort.

#### 2008

On the occasion of 10 years of ActionAid Hellas, in 2008 we were awarded by the President of the Hellenic Republic, Karolos Papoulias, for our contribution to the defense of human rights. The award was received by a Kenyan teacher named Tobias Nyabola, who took initiatives to improve life in his community.

#### 2010

We participated in the global campaign IGOAL, gathering **88,000 signatures from Greece and Cyprus to defend children's right to free and non-discriminatory access to education**. In 2010 we also organised the first solidarity trip to Kenya. Since then, we have organised 22 more trips to communities supported by ActionAid, giving our Sponsors the opportunity to see our work with their own eyes.

#### 2012

In 2012 we phased out from the first community supported by Greek and Cypriot Child Sponsors in Ethiopia. Since **1998 we have supported 89 communities in 21 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America**.

#### 2013

In 2013, "Immersion", a documentary film by Antonis Kanakis was screened with great success. The documentary was filmed in Sierra Leone and was watched by millions of TV viewers, many of whom were mobilised and supported ActionAid's Child Sponsorship Programme.

#### 2014

In collaboration with the French organisation ADIE, in 2014 we founded the Action Finance Initiative (AFI), which provides financial support to micro-enterprises in Greece.

## 2015

From 2015 to 2018 we supported refugees on the island of Lesbos and in Attica. Moreover, in 2015, **our anti-racist social experiment went viral, exceeding 2 million views**. Since then, we have been working for the smooth integration of refugee and migrant populations into our society and for changing racism-related mindsets in Greece.

## 2016

In 2016 we were certified as a volunteer deployment organisation under the EU Aid Volunteers programme, enabling volunteers from all over Europe to support vulnerable communities in the developing world.

## 2017

2017 we established ActionAid's Community Centre in Athens to offer free services and programmes to our fellow human beings with low income. **Since then, more than 5,900 people have used our services and participated in our programmes, finding support and solutions**. For our work at our Kolonos Centre, in 2020 we received an award as NGO of the Year at the Hellenic Responsible Business Awards.

## 2019

In 2019, we launched our campaign on harassment at the world of work, with the aim of mobilising the Greek government to commit itself ahead of the 108th Session of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) concerning the elimination of gender-based violence and harassment at the world of work. The Greek government finally ratified the relevant Convention No. 190 in 2021.

## 2020

Despite the pandemic, in 2020 we started our action in Thessaloniki, strengthening entrepreneurship among young people and mobilising them through art and volunteering. Since then, 1,077 young people have participated in our actions and programmes.

## 2022

In 2022 we established the Community Centre of Northern Evia to improve the daily lives of people affected by the devastating wildfires of 2021, to boost their income and to offer educational programmes. **The Centre is funded by an exclusive donation from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) and already 5,650 people have participated in at least one of our activities.**



© ActionAid



© ActionAid

## Providing support for development and getting a job

With the aim of empowering vulnerable communities in Greece, in 2022 we implemented programmes and services to support and boost the income of the economically excluded.

Thus, in our Community Centre in Athens, **a total of 1,652 people were supported through our services**. In specific, 742 people attended Financial Counselling sessions, 356 received Employment Counselling, and 781 were assisted by the Social Service.

Similarly, in our Centre in Thessaloniki, **554 people in total benefited from programmes and services**; of those, 158 people participated in the Job Readiness schemes, in order to acquire knowledge and skills that will help them find a job.

In 2022 we started our action in Evia, in the context of supporting vulnerable populations after the devastating fires of the summer of 2021, at the **Community Centre of Northern Evia**, in cooperation with the ARGO Federation of Psychosocial Rehabilitation & Mental Health Organisations, New Agriculture New Generation and Science Communication (SciCo), thanks to a full grant from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) in the framework of its Fire Relief Initiative for Northern Evia. This year, **789 people participated in the Centre's programmes**, gaining knowledge and skills to restart their lives. Among them, 103 people participated in workshops for the development of professional skills on agri-food matters and 310 attended psychosocial support sessions.



© Kosmas Panagiotidis/ActionAid



Thanks to the successful completion of the Job Readiness scheme, after a while I went through some job interviews, one of which led to my current job. The scheme has certainly helped a great deal, both in terms of preparing me on a theoretical level for the best possible performance in an interview, and in practice, by arranging interviews for real jobs with employers who were in the process of recruiting staff.

**John, 27, participant in programmes of ActionAid's Youth Centre in Thessaloniki**



© ActionAid



I was sent to ActionAid's Community Centre by a woman from the Municipality. I came here to take Greek language lessons, but they said 'you speak well and you can work if you want'. So, I had a meeting with Mrs. Konstantina at the social service and I was sent to work under a scheme they had with a supermarket chain. Initially it was online work for 3 months and now I work there full time. The programme has helped me a lot. I also took computer lessons and I would like to learn more.

**Karima, participant in our programmes at ActionAid's Community Centre in Athens**

## Knowledge as a springboard for change



Educational activity at a school in Evia

Education is a key tool for achieving long-term change in society, developing skills, providing knowledge and promoting values that shape active citizens who claim a better world for all.

Thus, through the actions of our Global Citizenship Education Department, **more than 320 teachers were trained during the year, while almost 500 teachers were supported with educational material.**

At our Community Centre in Athens 495 people, adults and minors, participated in our educational programmes. Indicatively, 120 children attended the non-formal education programmes involving football, arts, theatre and the summer camp, while 107 children joined the formal education programmes, such as remedial teaching, English and computer classes.

At the **Community Centre of Northern Evia, 395 children participated in our educational activities**, either at their schools or through our educational programmes, such as creative study, the Mobile Forest School or the summer camp.

For the 18th year we coordinated the **Student Action Week, which focused on food waste and its impact on the environment and climate.** The action was joined by 61 schools, kindergartens and primary schools from all over Greece, and 1,551 students.

The **Financial Literacy Programme** in schools of Greece, aimed at shaping active citizens who will be able to make informed and correct economic decisions, was joined by **305 teachers in 13 training courses and 2,503 children.**

In 2022 we completed and presented the results of two surveys on education. The [survey on inequalities in education during the pandemic in Greece](#), with 103 teachers participating, came to explore whether the educational community was ready for tele-education. The second [survey](#) concerned the **identification of needs related to educational innovation and development of digital skills in the COVID-19 and post-COVID-19 era.**

As part of the programme against school violence, **47 children and 9 teachers from Greece, Italy, Romania and Belgium** attended the summer camp in Sofiko, Corinthia, from July 2nd to July 7th, to discuss violence in the school environment, stereotypes, the importance of limits, and to lay the foundations for becoming agents for a violence-free school.



according to  
**46.1%**  
of teachers who  
took part in the survey,  
only half the children in  
their class had access to  
distance learning.



An artist wants to feel the materials they are using, they want to feel their work, be the work, know what to do, become one with the materials!

**Nicholas, from the 1st Elementary School of Nea Ionia, speaking about the Student Action Week**



It's awesome playing together girls and boys. Before joining the team in the Academy, I was embarrassed to play with the boys at school!

**S., 15, participant in the football team at the Community Centre in Athens**



Under the motto "the power in your plate", students from 60 schools across the country created artworks with materials considered leftovers, and discussed the effects of food waste.

## Promoting equality and the elimination of gender violence

Eradicating violence against women and supporting them to be independent and able to claim their rights has been the focus of our action in the past year as well. Thus, we implemented educational programmes addressed to women, together with labour market integration programmes, information on rights, skills acquisition activities, public awareness events.

Specifically, in our Community Centre in Athens we implemented various educational programmes and actions targeting women. The two-month **programme for the integration of women in the labour market, in cooperation with AB Vassilopoulos, through internships in AB Vassilopoulos stores and warehouses**, aimed at removing some of the most common barriers (ethnic, religious, age, family, social) that women encounter in the labour market. Most of the women who joined the programme continued to work after completing it. In addition, through a series of activities and programmes, **we promoted the employability of women in various sectors**, such as tourism, finance, agri-food and textiles, by developing a network that connects and meets their staffing needs, and by implementing various training courses addressed both to female jobseekers and employers. In 2022 **we held 7 seminars and day-events on skills acquisition, employment-related information and rights awareness, both online and in person, which were attended by a total of 78 participants**, women jobseekers and representatives of businesses.

On the occasion of the International Women's Day, in March we held a **photography exhibition at the Athens Conservatory in collaboration with the photographer Kosmas Koumianos**. Entitled "Koitate me, akouse me" (i.e. «Look at me, hear me out»), the exhibition invited the public to see the protagonists and fighters of our action, as captured by the lens of Kosmas Koumianos, and to listen to their stories, learning about our work on women's empowerment in Greece and around the world.

In October, as part of the programme on gender budgeting and on the adoption of related policies at local and national level, we held **two-day events at the Library of the Parliament on the visibility of women** in the city, with keynote speaker Caroline Criado-Perez, award-winning author of the book titled "Invisible Women".

In the context of our action to combat violence against women, we participated as an organisation in the **round table discussion** between Greece and the Netherlands held at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Centre with the participation of the President of the Hellenic Republic, Katerina Sakellariopoulou. As an organisation, we were represented by the president, Elias Galinos, who spoke about the contribution of civil society organisations in fighting domestic violence against women.



It is very important that you are here to hear what had happened to me. All these years I hadn't told anyone.

Woman who contacted the Speak Out legal service

Concerning sexual harassment at the workplace, we implemented a series of actions related to the education of the business community, creation of materials and tools, information and awareness-raising of employees. Thus, **177 people attended trainings for HR executives on sexual harassment at work**, while we also held **meetings with 12 trade unions to inform and raise awareness** on the topic furthermore, we developed 2 guides and 2 practical tools for employees and employers to prevent and address the problem. In the same context, in November 2022 we presented the results of our **[nationwide survey on men's views and attitudes towards sexual harassment at work](#)**, which came to fill a knowledge gap about men's behaviour and mindset, while outlining the role that businesses are called upon to play in addressing sexual harassment at work. Finally, through our legal counselling service called Speak Out, **23 women received legal support for incidents of sexual harassment they had suffered in the workplace.**



In the context of the event organised on occasion of the International Women's Day, well-known Greek women shared their own story of strength. In the snapshot from left to right: the Chairman of ActionAid Hellas Elias Galinos, Ioanna Triantafyllidou, Eliana Chrysikopoulou, Kosmas Koumianos, Pimi Fassoula, Lila Kountourioti and Christina Kontova.

## Building a society of solidarity

A very important part of our action around the world and in Greece is the mobilisation of citizens, especially young people, with the aim of creating a society of greater solidarity, changing legislation to protect the rights of all of us and laying the foundations for a sustainable and fairer future.



Working with organisations in 13 European countries, in 2022 we completed the #ClimateOfChange campaign for climate justice. **We collected 105,113 signatures across Europe and 15,668 in Greece**, which we delivered in November at the UN Climate Conference in Egypt. A large part of the signatures in Greece were collected in collaboration with The Body Shop.

To raise awareness among young people, we created a virtual reality (VR) video filmed in Senegal, where we gave the chance to people living in coastal areas to talk about the effects of the climate crisis. The video was watched with VR headsets by more than 1,000 people, and had more than 170,000 views as a 360 video on YouTube. **In addition, we conducted a social experiment in Athens on the climate crisis, with the respective [video](#) getting more than 500,000 views.**

In Thessaloniki, the Centre is now a Youth Hub, providing numerous opportunities for training and action. Thus, among other things, we offered training courses to 40 people, focusing on the development of leadership skills and on the implementation of initiatives against the climate crisis. At the same time, young people were trained to develop initiatives for public space interventions using art as a vehicle. In addition, we supported their interventions by creating Mural Art in Thessaloniki and with the aim of empowering their voice, we offered courses on radio production and podcasting. Finally, we conducted trainings on decision-making at local level and advocacy methods in Thessaloniki, Larissa, Kavala and Athens.

In the context of youth mobilisation, we signed a memorandum of cooperation with the Hellenic Agency for Local Development and Local Government, focusing on active participation in the Municipal Youth Councils.

## Volunteering



As every year, our volunteers offered their time, knowledge and skills to support our activities in Greece. In particular, **97 volunteers helped** us to showcase our work at music festivals and cultural events, made presentations in schools and assisted us with administrative tasks such as correspondence and bulk mail, translations, transcriptions etc. They also supported our work in our Centres in Athens and Thessaloniki by participating in our activities. **Their help is valuable to us, but also to the Greek society, as they show in practice how solidarity can make the world a fairer place.**



Volunteering through ActionAid has allowed me to feel that I am offering something to the wider community. I feel that I am an active member of society and that I make a contribution that suits me in the best possible way.

**Christina M.**



© Jean de la Croix Havugamimana/ActionAid

## Resilient communities and people who stand firmly on their feet

Our main priority, as always, is to support people who live in an area, offering them the necessary tools to boost their income and thus improve their lives. In this context, taking into account the specific characteristics of each community and the needs that arise, we discuss with local people, so that together we can find solutions that suit them, and then we help them implement them.

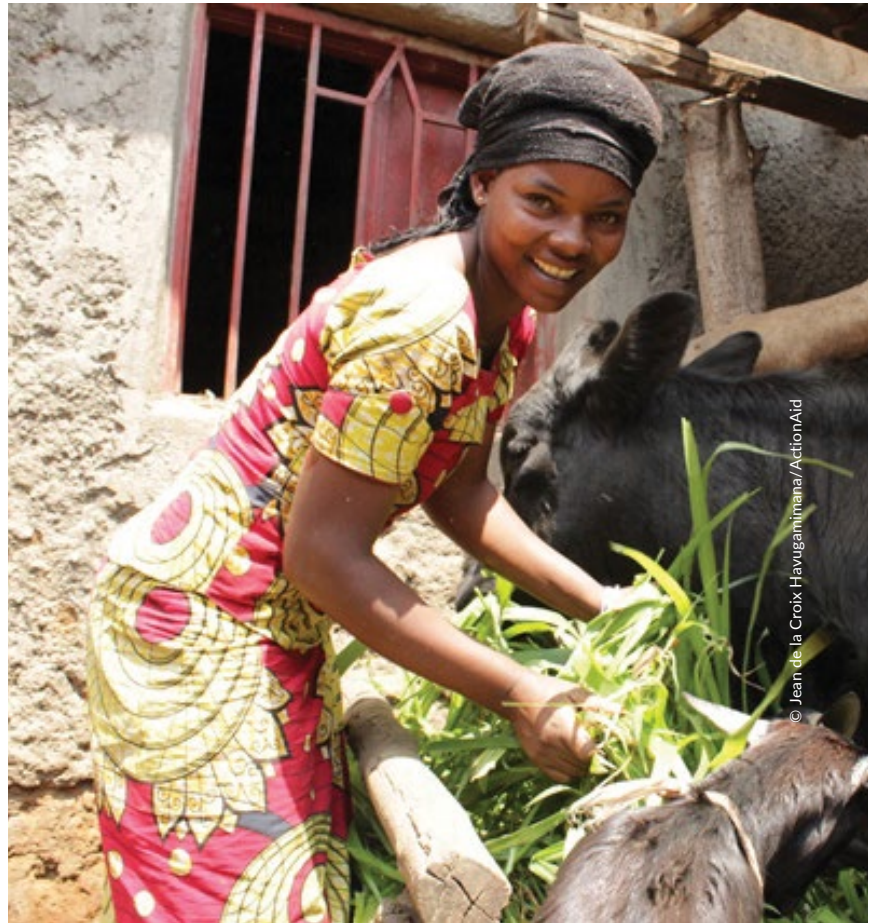
So, in 2022, too, **we proposed alternative sources of income and provided people with relevant training, we trained farmers in more efficient and environmentally friendly agricultural practices through climate-resilient crops**, urged them to form cooperatives and supported them with assets and infrastructure to increase their production. **We also helped families to receive benefits they were entitled to and we established savings and credit cooperatives** through which members were able to secure loans to start their own small businesses.

For example, people in the Sre Ambel community in Cambodia, whose main occupation used to be fishing, were trained in agricultural activities and 141 of them are now considered model farmers and have assumed the task of training the others. In Biswabarpur, Bangladesh, 32 families have improved their lives since women enhanced their knowledge in various subjects and started working for pay, thus contributing to the family income. In addition, 540 people from the Nkayi and Nyanga communities in Zimbabwe were trained in sustainable farming and learned how to make compost and collect water, thereby significantly increasing their production and income. Similarly, **1,850 women from Semen Bench in Ethiopia participated in savings and credit cooperatives and 950 of them now have their own businesses and their own income**, while 1,200 girls in Kenya who had dropped out of school due to pregnancy were given new opportunities and, with ActionAid's help, started studies at training centres, thus acquiring the qualifications needed to earn their own income.

“

I divorced my husband in 2015 and live with my two daughters. I have struggled very hard to educate them, it hasn't been easy, but I am so happy seeing them grow up. I am now a strong woman, I have electricity in my house, I have water and, besides working in the cooperative garden, I also grow vegetables in my garden and have an income from my produce. I have achieved all this by participating in various activities and receiving support from ActionAid. When you are at home alone, you don't learn anything that will help you develop. That's what ActionAid did for us: it moved us out of isolation.

**Aliane, 33, Rwanda**



© Jean de la Croix Havugamimana/ActionAid



“

In 2016 my wife attended trainings [on farming]. It was the first time we were growing vegetables. We started making money from selling our produce. I gradually paid off my bank loan, repaired my boat, bought better fishing equipment, and two old motorbikes so that we could sell vegetable and fish in the city.

**Chuong, 56, Cambodia**

© Pichit Chot & Vibol Prok/ActionAid



## Women and girls have an ally on their side

At ActionAid we support the most vulnerable and marginalised people and try to address the root causes of injustice and inequalities stemming from the unequal and unfair distribution of power and authority at every level. This is one of the main reasons why **women and girls are at the core of our actions and programmes, as they are daily experiencing injustice and discrimination in their family, education, work, participation in public life.**

So, in 2022, through our programmes in Africa, Asia and Latin America, **we informed women and girls about their rights, tried to stop gender-based violence, by putting an end to child marriages and helping women escape abusive marriages; we also provided psychosocial support and legal assistance, and established safe houses.** In parallel, we empowered women to have the confidence to speak out and express themselves in public, getting more involved in public life and claiming leadership positions, whereby they can promote matters affecting them.

One typical example is the community of Lalmonirhat in Bangladesh, where **700 children, together with their families, attended our meetings, focused against child marriages and child labour,** and were informed about their rights. Furthermore, 300 women and 40 men from Ga, Ghana, were made aware of the unequal distribution of unpaid work, such as housework and caring for children and the elderly; now, as a result, men also take an active part in unpaid work, giving women the opportunity to work for pay. In terms of women's participation in leadership positions, in Chamwino of Tanzania for example, women have been empowered and are now actively involved in the political life of their community, holding 35% of the seats in the various decision-making bodies.

## Happy Home

This past year we supported Happy Home, a shelter for girls in the area of Mohammadpur in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Happy Home provides shelter and education to girls who were living in the streets and whose lives were marked by sexual abuse, child marriage, destitution and fear. In 2022, it **hosted 59 girls, offering them warmth and safety**, as well as the skills they need to be able to reintegrate into the community in the future.



Thanks to ActionAid's trainings, women are empowered to actively participate in village assemblies. Very recently, women also started having a role in the town council. One woman became a member two years ago, and now I am a member myself. Our participation is very important, because sometimes women have no idea what is going on in the administration of our community.

**Juana, 42, Guatemala**



I grew up learning that we women must work in the field, take care of the house and the children, cook, clean and not talk. Once I joined ActionAid's women's group, my worldview changed. Our group plays a crucial role, and everyone recognises our importance, so they ask for our opinion. Recently, for example, they wanted to build a new elementary school and some people objected because they had political interests. We were invited to look into the matter and, because the community trusts us and we were in favour of the construction, the construction of the school is now going ahead as planned.

**Mariam, 37, Tanzania**



© Mr. Pichet CHOT/ActionAid

## Equal opportunities for learning and action

At ActionAid we invest in education and lifelong learning, as we believe that only through knowledge and systematic effort can our world become a fairer place for all. So, in all countries where we work, we are close to students and teachers, listening carefully to their needs and supporting them in the educational process.

Our goal is to ensure that all children, boys and girls, go to school and have access to high-quality, free basic education. In this context, we campaign for the right of all children to education, while at the same time we upgrade school facilities and improve infrastructure. We also put pressure on public authorities to assume their responsibilities in relation to education by appointing teachers and ensuring the smooth and orderly functioning of schools. Finally,

we mobilise young people to take an active role as citizens and provide them with the necessary skills so they can claim the life they deserve and a better life for their community.

To cite but a few of the things we achieved, 50 primary and 10 secondary schools in the Kambia community of Sierra Leone have set up girls' groups that advocate for equal opportunities to education and support the reintegration of girls who have dropped out of school. Similarly, 589 students from schools in Ninh Binh, Vietnam are already participating in entertaining extracurricular activities that we organise and 9,136 students in the Old City of Hebron have benefited from equipment and infrastructure that we provided to their schools despite the extremely difficult conditions due to the Israeli occupation.

“

Namaste! I am Parveena and I have two brothers and one sister. I belong to the Gujjar tribe (a nomadic tribe) and I am in the first grade of elementary school. Because I belong to the Gujjar tribe which is considered one of the lowest among the Muslim tribes, I was not treated the same as all other children in school, I suffered discrimination and bad comments. Many times I was forbidden to use the school facilities and I was made to sit at the back of the classroom. All this made me feel uncomfortable and I often thought about dropping out of school.

One day members from ActionAid visited our school and informed us about various laws that prohibit discrimination based on caste and even told us that those who make such discrimination can be imprisoned. After that, all my classmates and teachers realised how serious caste discrimination is.

I am very happy that after this awareness programme all the other children started to treat me fairly.

**Parveena, 8, India**



© ActionAid

© ActionAid

“

Thanks to ActionAid, I now see life differently. I learned that I can pursue my dreams. I went to university and I am studying to become a social worker, because I want to make a contribution to my community. I want to be an example for people who are losing hope. I want to continue my studies and be the first one in my village with a PhD. I know I can do it!

**Yazeed, 19, visually impaired,  
Occupied Palestinian Territory**

“

ActionAid built us a library for reading and toilets for girls.

**Fenet, 18, Ethiopia**



© Alemnesh Tadesse/ActionAid

## The emergency response of 2022 that saved lives



ActionAid Indonesia and local partner PPSW are preparing diaper kits after the Cianjur earthquake.

© Felix Jody/ActionAid

As we do every year, we responded to a number of crises, providing immediate relief, but also staying in the devastated areas for as long as necessary to help people get back on their feet. **So, with the assistance of our supporters, in 2022 we stood by the side of more than 11 million people.** The purpose of our interventions and actions is to provide effective assistance to people in crises. We work with local partners, i.e. organisations that are already in the area and, at the same time, we

coordinate with other organisations that respond, so that there are no overlaps and gaps in the assistance provided. **Our aim is to offer support to the most vulnerable, the people who need it the most.** Thus, as it is women who suffer multiple discrimination and are most at risk of incidents of violence, particularly in times of crisis, their needs are our first priority. In addition, in order to reduce inequalities, when crises occur we give women leading roles in identifying needs and distributing assistance.

## Multiple crises in Afghanistan



ActionAid staff walking in the snow to reach blocked villages in Ghor province and take stock of the residents' needs.

© ActionAid

The political situation in Afghanistan, together with the violations of human rights, a ruined economy, chronic drought, a harsh winter and the 6.1 magnitude earthquake in June 2022 are all aspects of a multidimensional crisis that has put 90% of the population at risk of starvation. Despite the constraints and difficulties, we were able **to support more than 4,425,000 people in 15 provinces** with food, money, clothing, blankets and stove fuel, personal hygiene items to women and seeds and fodder to farmers and livestock farmers.

## War in Ukraine



At first it was very difficult. Women volunteers here make our lives easier. They offered us things that we need. They always ask us what we want. No one else asks.



Sissy Gkourmelou/ActionAid

Olena from Odessa arrived in Moldova with 11 other people. Because they are Roma they suffer discrimination and do not receive the same support as other refugees from Ukraine.

Thanks to the invaluable assistance of our supporters around the world, after the Russian attack, we provided food, water, warm clothing, shelter, money, useful information and psychosocial support mainly to female refugees from Ukraine who fled to Poland, Romania and Moldova, but also to those who fled war zones and found refuge within Ukraine. We focused particularly on the safety of women, protecting them from violence, while also focusing on groups that suffer additional discrimination such as Roma and LGBTQI people. **In total we supported more than 1.5 million people.**

## Food crisis in East Africa



Primary school children in Kenya have a hot meal every day thanks to ActionAid's school feeding programme.

© Mr. Pichet CHOT/ActionAid

Because of the climate crisis, yet again in 2022, 36.5 million people in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia experienced food insecurity and had difficulty accessing drinking water. **In Somaliland, more than 185,000 people received support**, mainly through cash assistance or the provision of basic necessities. We also created 24 safe spaces for women and offered protection services to women who had suffered violence. In Kenya, **we focused particularly on clean water by providing water tanks and opening wells and boreholes, which are used by 12,000 households.** In Ethiopia, **we provided humanitarian assistance to 800,000 people** and supported 10 centres for internally displaced persons with drinking water. Finally, 2,000 women who suffered gender-based violence received psychosocial support.

## Other emergencies

Finally, we helped the people of Tonga after the volcanic eruption, by providing water, soap, personal hygiene items and psychosocial support. Similarly in Indonesia, we started supporting people in Cianjur after the earthquake that hit the area in November. We also continue supporting refugees from Myanmar who have fled to Bangladesh with programmes to boost their income and protect the rights of women and girls. Similarly, we supported communities affected by conflicts in Ethiopia and DR Congo. Finally, **we informed around 900,000 people in Malawi about the ways in which cholera is transmitted**, as an epidemic broke out after the tropical storm Ana, and supported clinics with medicines and medical supplies.


## Extreme weather events

Climate crisis is also causing extreme weather events in the rest of the world. Prolonged droughts and severe storms are rather common. **With the help of our supporters, we work systematically to support communities and ensure that the people living there are prepared, hence reducing the effects of the weather events.**

At the same time, we respond by providing emergency assistance when needed. As an indication, in 2022 we provided emergency response as a result of the floods in Bangladesh, Brazil and Nigeria and the tropical storm Ana that hit Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. More specifically, we supported thousands of people with food, clean water, money, personal hygiene items and then with programmes to repair the damage and provide income support to the affected families.

---

**Everything we accomplished in 2022 by providing immediate support in emergencies was thanks to the work of our volunteers and staff, and the contribution of our supporters. Thanks to each and every one of you, we make the world a fairer place. Thank you!**



With the power  
of solidarity

In  
**2022**  
through the  
Child Sponsorship  
Programme we supported  
42 communities in 18  
countries in Asia, the  
Middle East, Africa and  
Latin America

## Few of the many things we achieved together in the past year

After 11 years of action, we completed our work in Mossoro, Brazil, and we phased out from the community, leaving the people empowered to manage their own future and development. As an example, during our presence there, we created women's cooperatives and provided technical training in agriculture and animal husbandry, we carried out projects to secure water in the semi-arid areas of the community, we supported farmers and facilitated the access of women farmers to markets, held seminars on the status of women and ran the 'Safe Cities' campaign, which initiated actions for the protection of women and their safe living conditions.

Besides programme work abroad, we continued our work in Greece, through our Centres in Athens, Thessaloniki and Evia, supporting people of all ages to find solutions to their problems.

None of the above would have been achieved without the significant contribution of 22,587 supporters of ours who, through the Child Sponsorship Programme, the Friend of ActionAid Programme and the Country Supporter Programme, supported us regularly, as well as through the 1,894 one-off donations we received from our supporters for emergency appeals, in lieu of gifts, etc.

## Solidarity Trip

In the past year, after a 2-year pause, we organised a new solidarity trip. **Our destination this time was Senegal, where 46 Child Sponsors and staff of ActionAid visited the community of Djilor and surrounding areas and helped build a resource centre.** This centre is used by children and adults for additional learning opportunities, hosts community meetings, includes a lending library for all ages and is used for various other children's activities. At the same time, our Child Sponsors had the opportunity to see our work in the field, and 17 of them met the children they support through the Child Sponsorship Programme. It was a very emotional experience for all!

**All the changes we see in the world are made possible with the help of all our supporters: Child Sponsors, volunteers and donors, either individually or through companies, foundations and bodies, have once again stood with us in our action for a fairer world. We thank you all!**



During the solidarity trip to Senegal, 17 Child Sponsors had the opportunity to meet their sponsored children.

## Presence in the Media and Social Media

In 2022 our presence in the Media and Social Media was strong and multifaceted. To be more specific, we sent 25 Press Releases, we gave 52 TV and radio interviews, while 106 primary texts of ours were published in various media **thus, we had a total of 2,038 mentions in the Press in Greece and Cyprus**. We also produced a documentary with Alpha Cyprus.

Similarly, **in the social media, we managed to reach 3,563,460 users on Facebook and Instagram with the publication of primary content**, which involved a total of 1,923 posts on all ActionAid Hellas channels (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube), while our follower base reached 294,213 followers.

In line with the most relevant topics on social media in 2022, the posts that had the greatest interaction with the public were related to women's rights. On YouTube, the #ClimateOfChange campaign and the social experiment ["Homeless due to climate change"](#) stood out with more than 500,000 views.



Yiannis Sarakatsanis created a video about climate justice on his YouTube channel.

We thank cordially Fani Halkia, Natalia Germanou, Christina Bomba, Ioanna Triantafyllidou, Christina Kontova and Kosmas Koumianos for their support in our campaigns for the promotion of ActionAid's Child Sponsorship Programme.

The photo exhibition that we co-organised with the photographer Kosmas Koumianos at the Athens Conservatory on the occasion of the International Women's Day attracted the interest of dozens of media that covered the event. We would like to express our warm thanks to the photographer and to Christina Kontova, Lila Kountourioti, Ioanna Triantafyllidou, Pimi Fasoula and Eliana Chrysikopoulou for their participation in the discussion panel on women's rights, held at the venue of the exhibition.

The start of the war in Ukraine and our response for people fleeing the country to find a safe refuge was covered by several media. We wholeheartedly thank Christina Bomba for the crowdfunding she carried out on her social networks in support of our emergency appeal.

Media attention was also attracted by our action to mobilise young people for climate justice and the delivery of the #ClimateOfChange campaign signatures at COP27 in Egypt. We wholeheartedly thank Thomai Vardali, Nefeli Meg, Danai Nielsen, Thodoris Papakostas (archeostoryteller) and Yiannis Sarakatsanis for promoting our relevant messages throughout the year.

To close, we would like to thank for yet another more year news247.gr, newsbeast.gr, huffingtonpost.gr, marieclaire.gr and alphanews.live, for consistently promoting our actions.

## Our presence in the Media:



**106**

primary texts



**2,038**

mentions in the Press



**25**

Press Releases



**52**

interviews

**In 2022 we had once again by our side Public Benefit Foundations operating in Greece and abroad, as well as companies and private individuals who supported our actions in Greece.**

In specific, in ActionAid's Community Centre in Athens we had by our side the John S. Latsis Public Benefit Foundation, the UEFA Foundation for Children, the A.G. Leventis Foundation, AB Vassilopoulos and Mr. Dimitris Gertsos. Thanks to their contribution, we implemented the educational programmes and services for children, women and men who visited our Centre in Athens.

In parallel, the actions of our Youth Centre in Thessaloniki were continued in 2022, addressed to the city's youth, with job readiness, leadership and volunteering programmes. Amongst others, we had the support of The Helidoni Foundation and The Body Shop.

In 2022, the Community Centre of Northern Evia started operating, which has been established and operates by ActionAid, supported in full by a grant from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF), as part of its Fire Relief Initiative for North Evia. Its programmes are implemented in collaboration with the ARGO Federation of Psychosocial Rehabilitation & Mental Health Organisations, New Agriculture New Generation and Science Communication (SciCo).

The projects "Gender Responsive, Accountable and Transparent (GREAT) Budgeting" (169,080.19€ for 26 months) and "Safe at Work" (247,023.23€ for 24 months) were implemented under the Active citizens fund in Greece by ActionAid and its partners the Women's Centre of Karditsa and the Municipalities of Athens and Karditsa for the first, and Women on Top, the Research Committee of Panteion University, the Greek People Management Association and DataWo for the second. The Active citizens fund is supported through a €15 m grant from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway as part of the EEA Grants 2014 - 2021. The Fund Operator for the Active citizens fund in Greece is Bodossaki Foundation in consortium with SolidarityNow.

In the field of education, Alpha Bank has incorporated the Alphabet of Economics, ActionAid's financial literacy programme, into the more general umbrella of actions entitled IQonomy.

Furthermore, in the past year we supported climate actions with the collaboration of Bic Foundation-Bic Violex and The Body Shop.

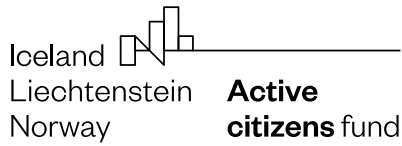
Through the corporate Child Sponsorships, as well as the Child Sponsorships of major individual donors, we succeeded in supporting communities all over the world. We wholeheartedly thank Technomar, Agile Actors, Eurotel Hospitality, Interamerican, VLP, HM, Thrace Plastics for being steadily by our side.

Last but not least, a big thank you goes to Ariadne Vitastalis, Antonis Schwarz, Dr. Kurt Schwarz and Chiona Xanthopoulou - Schwarz for continuously supporting our work.

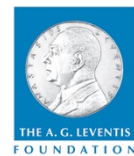


ΙΔΡΥΜΑ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΣ ΝΙΑΡΧΟΣ  
STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION

Fund operated by:



Supporters



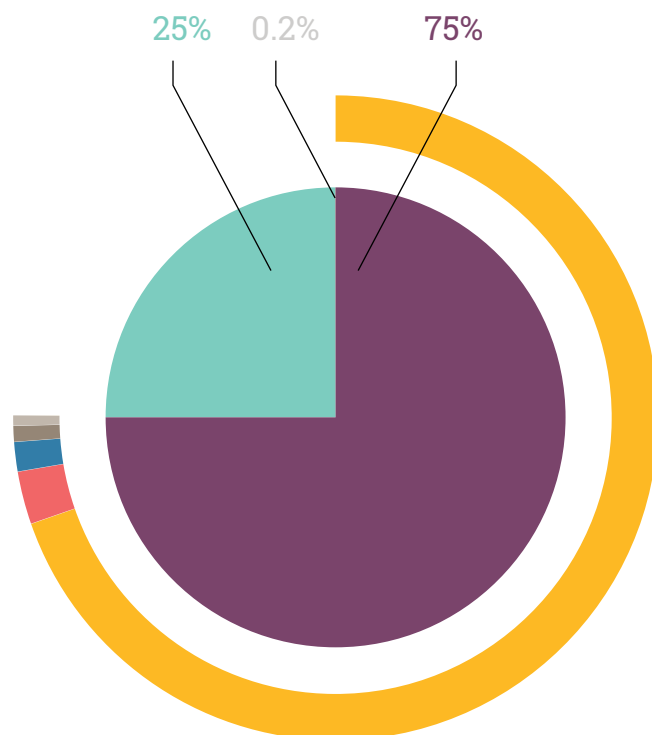
## Income 2022

In 2022, thanks to the valuable support of people like you, companies and institutions, we collected 7,912,738 euro. We thank you all warmly, in whatever way you have supported us, because you help us make our vision for a fairer world for all come true.

The main source of our income for last year, too, was the donations through ActionAid's Child Sponsorship Programme, amounting to 5,606,207 euro and accounting for 71% of our income. Child Sponsorship, Friend of ActionAid and Country Supporter are our regular giving programmes, which are supported by private individuals in Greece and Cyprus and by companies expressing their corporate social responsibility.

Apart from our regular giving programmes, we had income from the donations of people who chose to support us in their social events, such as weddings, christenings, birthdays, memorial services or crowdfunding, as well as from the action entitled "The power is in your hand", from which we managed to collect income of 161,275 euro in 2022. Moreover, many people and companies responded to our appeals related to the war in Ukraine, the food crisis in East Africa, the crisis in Afghanistan and the floods in Bangladesh and thus we raised 88,040 euro.

In addition, the support that we receive from bodies such as companies, Public Benefit Foundations and European Programmes is very important. So, in 2022 we received 1,959,155 euro, accounting for 25% of our income.



70.1% 2% 1.1% 0.6% 0.1%

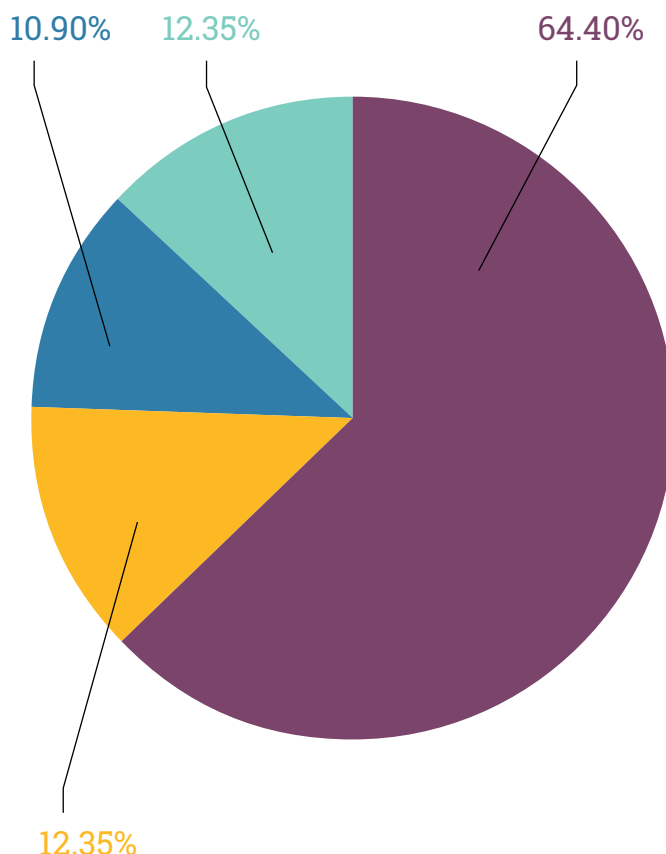
### INCOME BREAKDOWN

Income from private individuals	5,934,552€	75%
Income from various bodies	1,959,155€	25%
Other income	19,031€	0.2%
<b>Total income</b>	<b>7,912,738€</b>	

### INCOME BREAKDOWN: PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS

Income from ActionAid's Child Sponsorship Programme	5,606,207€	70.9%
Income from the Friend of ActionAid Programme	34,964€	0.4%
Income from the Country Supporter Programme	44,066€	0.6%
Income from emergency appeals	88,040€	1.1%
Income from donations for other programmes	161,275€	2%
<b>Total income</b>	<b>5,934,552€</b>	

## Expenditure 2022



Same as every year, in 2022, too, we invested most of our resources in actions and programmes that improve people's lives and defend their human rights. In specific, 64% of our total expenditure was invested in developmental programmes aimed at improving people's lives and in dealing with emergencies in the countries where we work, as well as in our programmes in Greece, at ActionAid's Community Centre in Athens, our Youth Centre in Thessaloniki and the Community Centre of Northern Evia, as well as in our educational programmes.

Further, 12% of our expenditure was spent on public outreach and raising awareness on matters concerning our action, such as the climate crisis and women's rights, as well as our action and our work in general, while 11% was used in fundraising actions and supporter recruitment actions, enabling us to maintain our programmes and multiply our supporters and finally, 12% was spent on operating expenses.

### EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

<span style="color: purple;">■</span>	Programmes in Greece and in countries supported by ActionAid	5,325,222€	64.40%
<span style="color: teal;">■</span>	Public outreach and awareness	1,021,545€	12.35%
<span style="color: blue;">■</span>	Fundraising actions	901,123€	10.90%
<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	Office Operating and other administrative expenses	1,021,309€	12.35%
	<b>Expenditure total</b>	<b>8,269,199€</b>	

**Chartered**

**Accountants' Letter**



Baker Tilly Certified Auditors  
Accountants S.A.  
Petniou & Olympou  
161 23 Marousi  
Greece

T: +30 215 5008060  
F: +30 215 5008061

info@bakertilly.gr  
www.bakertilly.gr

#### **A. INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

##### **To the Shareholders of the Non-Profit Organization «ActionAid Hellas»**

(Translated from the original in Greek)

##### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

##### **Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Non-Profit Organization «ActionAid Hellas» ("the Organization"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2022, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Non-Profit Organization «ActionAid Hellas» (the Organization) as at December 31, 2022, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the regulations of L. 4308/2014.

##### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs), as these have been incorporated in the Greek legislation. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Organization within the meaning of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) that has been transposed into



Greek Law, and the ethical requirements, that are relevant to the audit of the financial statements in Greece and have fulfilled our other responsibilities under those ethical requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### **Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the regulations of L. 4308/2014 and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Board of Directors is responsible for assessing the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless Board of Directors either intends to liquidate Organization or to cease operations or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### **Auditor's responsibilities for the Audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements, as a whole, are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control.

Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by Management.

Conclude on the appropriateness of Management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.

Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with Management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Athens, 28/04/2023

The Certified Auditor Accountant



Baker Tilly

Certified Auditors SA

Patmou & Olympou, 15123, Marousi

SOEL Reg. No 176

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Spyridon Grouits".

Spyridon Grouits

SOEL Reg. No.2793

## Governance

ActionAid Hellas was founded in 1998, its legal form is that of a Civil, Non-Profit Organisation, and its statutes have been legally registered under number 6442/98. It is governed by the General Assembly and the Board of Administration, both strictly and exclusively made up of volunteers.

### General Assembly

It comprises up to 25 members and constitutes the highest strategic decision-making body; further, it controls and supervises all other organization bodies.

In June 2023, GA members were:

Svetoslav Danchev  
Adwoa Adoma Kluvitse  
Eleni Asvesta  
Iro Varsami  
Katerina Vigou  
Elias Galinos  
Bianca Glavani  
Vassilis Davettas  
Penny Dalkou  
Spyros Kapnias  
Christina Carabela  
Katerina Kyrili  
Vassilis Makrakis  
Konstantinos Machairas  
Christos Michailidis  
Kyriakos Pissaris  
Fanis Rigas  
Nefeli Stefopoulou  
Maria Stratigaki  
Nikolaos Travlos  
Dimitra Christodoulou

### Board of Administration

It comprises seven members, six of which are elected by the General Assembly, while one is appointed by ActionAid International. The term of office of the BoA is three years and the latest elections were held in June 2023. Based on the above, for the 2023-2026 term, the BoA shall be:

Christina Carabela  
- Chair  
Konstantinos Machairas  
- Vice-Chair  
Svet Danchev  
- Treasurer  
Eleni Asvesta  
- Member  
Elias Galinos  
- Member  
Vassilis Davettas  
- Member  
Atalanti Chatzipatera Moquette  
- ActionAid International representative

### ActionAid International

Our international model of governance abides by the organisation's fundamental principles of effective decentralisation, participatory decision-making, and constantly enhanced accountability. The seat of ActionAid International is located in Johannesburg, South Africa. ActionAid International is governed by an international General Assembly, comprising representatives from 27 countries worldwide, and by an International Board, elected by the GA.

## Our people - December 2022

In December 2022, our Athens office, together with our Community Centre in Athens and our Youth Centre in Thessaloniki, employed 104 people (82 women and 22 men) in 9 departments:

1. Design, Impact & Innovation
2. Communications, Advocacy & Campaigns
3. Governance, Internal Policies & Institutional Relations
4. Programmes & Institutional Fundraising
5. Individual Fundraising
6. Major Donors Fundraising
7. Supporter Relations
8. Human Resources & Organisational Development
9. Finance, Administration & IT

For further information on our office in Greece, visit [actionaid.gr](https://actionaid.gr)

ActionAid is an independent international civil society organisation, fighting poverty and injustice in Greece and all over the world. Since 1972 it has been training people and supporting their communities, so that they can claim a life of dignity and a fairer world for all.

In Greece it started with the Child sponsorship Programme in 1998, whereas in 2000 it launched its educational programme and from 2014 onwards it has also been supporting vulnerable people who live in Greece.

**act:onaid**

204 Mesogeion Av.  
15561 Holargos  
T: 212.000.6300 (Greece)  
T: 22.100.399 (Cyprus)  
E: [info.hellas@actionaid.org](mailto:info.hellas@actionaid.org)

**actionaid.gr**

Search for ActionAid Hellas at:     