Donor report 2022





# The power of partner-ships

War, climate-related crises, and inflation have made the situation for children and young people worse in 2022, especially for those who are already struggling. Not least the war in Ukraine, the drought in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel, and massive flooding in Bangladesh and Pakistan have had a huge effect on children and young people. Moreover, we are all affected by the financial crisis, a heightened security situation, higher electricity prices and rising interest rates – and a changing aid landscape. To solve the challenges the world faces today, strong partnerships are essential. This is what the 17th sustainability development goal is all about: *Partnerships for the goals*.

And that is why we have directed all our forces where it is most needed and useful. That is, on children. Your investment in India, Philippines, Cambodia, Haiti, Palestine/Gaza, and Ukraine, together with our long-standing expertise and experience, has enabled many children and young people to go to school and grow up in a supportive environment, so they can shape their lives and contribute to a sustainable future for themselves and their communities. In this report, you can read about the impact your investment has had on children and young people.

Your investment not only empowers the individual child, youth, or families themselves, but also societies overall. This is standing up for solidarity and equality – and making a positive change. We cannot protect ourselves from emergencies and humanitarian crises. But if we empower communities, they are more resilient when disaster once strikes. That means something, to every one of us.

Now, let us bring your power into 2023. This year we focus, among other things, on strengthening the mental health of children and young people, so that they have the power to build strong societies tomorrow.

Thank you so much for standing by our side.

Stockholm in May 2023

Anna Ernestam, Secretary General

# India

The year 2022 began with hopes of bouncing back to normalcy, although there were frequent threats of a fresh outburst of COVID. The task at hand was how to effectively address the damages that were left behind by pandemic. Mental health and psycho-social support remained to be our focus; Mental health profiling of children and youth across the children's villages in India commenced to be able to provide proper support when needed, and training of mothers and co-workers were completed.

## SOS Family like care and Youth care in Tirupati

Among the changes that we saw last year, we have now changed the youth program to be more like the SOS Family Care standard where the ratio of care takers is 1:8. Eight youth are taken care of by one youth father, who focuses on the daily care of the youth. This has greatly helped us improve the quality of the support and care provided to the youth. We also have a youth worker who focuses on training, overall development and other activities that help the youth prepare for leaving

#### **Tirupati**

- 132 children
- 103 young people

care and reach their full potential. Currently we have four separate youth centers with eight young people in each unit. One youth home is located within the children's villages campus with a separate demarcation and another youth home is located outside in a rented building with a youth father and a nightly security guard. During the year, the program has encouraged and guided youth to join new generation courses like Data Science, Genetic, Perfusion Technology etc. In addition, youth are encouraged and supported to join multi skilled based courses. Furthermore, the young people in the program participated in youth engagement activities, community service programs, interview preparation session, Youth Can program etc. to prepare for an active life fully integrated in the community and with increased possibilities to find a job and an income. The children and youth participated in various awareness programs in important topics such as child marriage, gender sensitization, girl child education and preventive abuses.

Some of the highlights from the year were that one of the youths was admitted to the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Life skill training was conducted to the youth including problem solving skills, creative thinking, and decision-making. Youth took part in Tony Blair Institute; Generation Global Program, Capacity building and experience sharing sessions. Thereto, career guidance sessions were conducted with 10th grade, intermediate 1st year and 2nd year students.

For young people aged 15 and above, the activities focused on their transition to adulthood. Two of our youth boys aspiring for IIT this year and they are preparing to get into this. The team in the village in Tirupati is supporting the youth in all aspects related to the transition process and to prepare them for an independent life.

## A new family and a sense of belonging

In a world where children should grow up with supportive and nurturing bonds, Rama had a rough start. Rama's family broke after her mother abandoned her father and left the children in his care and her dad couldn't be a present parent due to his alcoholism. When Rama was 4 years old, she had no reliable caregivers around her who could spare any attention, love, or resources to raise her up.

The Child Welfare authorities in her local district took cognizance of her situation and referred her to SOS Children's Villages, Tirupati. This is how Rama came under the Family Like Care program and under the care of her SOS caregiver, Venkata Lakshmi who provided her with the love, care, and support she needed to heal from her past. Rama slowly started acclimatizing, thriving in her new environment, and learning to live with her siblings.

Rama's enrollment in the preparatory school with the assistance of education co-workers proved to be a turning point in her life. She seamlessly caught up with her age-appropriate class and became a favorite among her classmates, forming lasting friendships. Her impressive natural talent and swift learning skills

were evident, and she found immense pleasure in participating in a wide range of extracurricular activities, including dance, music, and arts and crafts.

Through her participation in cultural programs at the children's village, Rama gained confidence and improved her social skills. She became a very observant and attentive child, eager to learn and participate in new things. She even found joy in helping her SOS mother with gardening work, cherishing the family intimacy that had been missing from her life.

Rama's journey from a traumatized child to a confident, happy girl is a testament to the power of love, care, and support. Rama has found a new family and a sense of belonging. She is ready to take on the world and achieve her dreams.

## Journey from Despair to Hope: A Tale of Resilience

When Ajay was a young boy, his life was rife with loss and hardship. But with the determination and support of the SOS Children's Villages India, he has been able to overcome his circumstances and pursue his dreams.

At the age of 7, Ajay found himself in a difficult situation after his father passed away. With no other options available, Ajay's mother had to resort to begging as a family to make ends meet. As if that was not hard enough Ajay also lost his mother soon after his father' demise owing to illness. Ajay did not have anybody to turn to even though he was just 7 years old.

Ajay was brought under the care of SOS Children's Village Tirupati by the local child welfare authorities after it was found there was no relative or kin to care for him. This is where Ajay met his SOS-mother Bujjiamma. Bujiamma is a kindhearted and strong caregiver who turned his life around and became his inspiration. With her guidance and support, he was able to acclimate to life in a family home with his new siblings. Through participation in resilience-building activities and counseling, Ajay was able to overcome his distress and start anew.

Ajay has been engaged in various capacity-building programs in the village, which have helped him groom his emotional and social skills. As he moved into a youth care program at the age of 14, he was able to further develop his personality, gain clarity about his career goals, and develop independent living skills. Ajay's passion for academics has been a significant motivating factor in his life, and with the assistance of his SOS co-workers, he has excelled in his studies. With the goal of studying engineering at India's prestigious technological universities, he has diligently worked to establish a robust academic foundation. He has also enrolled in fundamental English and computer courses to acquire the necessary skills for his educational pursuits. His dedication and hard work enabled him to score a perfect 100/100 in his grade 10 exams.

Despite the challenges he has faced, Ajay has remained determined to succeed in life. His journey is a testament to the power of resilience and perseverance, and a reminder that with the right support and guidance, anything is possible. Now Ajay has his eyes set at IIT the premiere engineering institute in two years.

– I credit SOS Children's Villages India with giving me the hope to rebuild my life and providing me with the necessary guidance to excel academically, Ajay says.

# Financial report India

Donated by Akelius University Foundation, EUR	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals	2023 Budget*
Investment costs renovation	0		
CV, YF, FS Tirupati	266 701	269 394	0
Total	266 701	269 394	0
SEK (using exchange rate at the time of payment)	2 749 682	2 777 457	
Average exchange rate	10,31	10,31	0

Total budget/actuals, all facilities above, EUR	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals
Investments/maintenance	12 171	9 954
Current working expenditures	285 353	255 177
Personnel expenditures	98 340	87 143
Other expenditures	8 955	11 027
Total	404 819	363 301
Share covered by Akelius	66%	67%

<sup>\*</sup>According to communicated re-allocation plan funds will be moved to Haiti from 2023.

# **Philippines**

As one of the 8th most at-risk countries in the world due to significant exposure to natural hazards and its limited coping capacity, Philippines is increasingly vulnerable to climate change, which endangers the country's development achievements, including poverty reduction. If this is not addressed, this will be passed down from generation to generation in a cycle that has widespread negative economic, political, and social consequences. The aftermath of COVID-19 and bad economy have been influencing the lives of the children, young people, and families, particularly the ones whom we support.

## SOS Family like care in Tacloban

SOS Children's Village in Tacloban underwent management transition in 2022 with the retirement of its Village Director. Despite the changes in the high-level management, the program location still implemented its programs and services without any major difficulty.

The village implemented Psychological and Emotional First Aid to children, young people, SOS parents and co-workers. This helped the program participants to maintain a healthy mental state, and ensure

#### Tacloban

- 79 children in family like care
- 48 young people

emotional and psychosocial well-being, especially important since adjustment to the new normal is still on-going. Learning sessions on children empowerment, reproductive health, leadership, juvenile delinquency and criminal liability, teenage pregnancy, child's rights and responsibilities, and other activities were conducted. Moreover, the gatekeeping process were improved.

Even outside the organization, SOS Children's Village in Tacloban also takes an active role to protect and work for the rights of children and youth as a member of Area Based Standards Network (ABSNET) and the Regional Sub-Committee for the Welfare of Children (RSCWC). On the 4th quarter of the year, one of the social workers together with a young person participated in a consultation to prepare the advocacy work related to a policy on Positive Discipline.

Child safeguarding and Child protection policy orientations were conducted for all internal stakeholders, like program participants, caregivers, and co-workers. Thereto, there were also continuous updates and trainings provided for the children and youth on child protection, safeguarding including reorientation on children's rights and responsibilities including prevention of child sexual abuse.

Youth participation activities were conducted across all programs as the Youth Council takes initiatives in capacity building activities to their fellow young people. Two young people were selected as part of the project Youth Power 3.0 in Asia. Opportunities such as these provide an avenue for young leaders to improve the skills they presently possess in preparation for the different planned activities. Employability trainings were conducted to ensure that our beneficiaries are prepared for independent living and higher employability rate. For example, three youths attended a hairdressing training, run by a top salon with the opportunity to work after the training.

The Village celebrated its 73rd SOS Day celebration in June 2022. Children got to show off their talent in singing, dancing, drama, and arts, build children's leadership, communication, and collaboration skills group dynamics activity.

For 2023, we plan to strengthen our family reunification initiatives to bring children in the village back to their families if, and when, this is possible ensuring child safeguarding and the best interest of the child. We also intend to arrange activities to increase the employability skills of the youth in preparation for them leaving the program. Another priority for 2023 is to intensify capacity building for caregivers to identity, assess and address psychosocial needs of the children.

## A place where children's dreams can come true

The children we care for in SOS Children's Villages Philippines are all unique in their own ways. They have their dreams—things they want to do and the kind of people they want to be.

#### She who lives to tell their tales

Every person we meet has a story, and Alyn finds inspiration in them. Alyn loves to write stories, and like many writers, she needs to draw it from somewhere, or rather someone. Whereas some would travel far to find it, or weave worlds they dream of from the depths of imagination, she writes stories based on people she meets along the way.

When she's not writing, she likes to keep herself busy with various activities instead of spending time outside. Not only does it help her keep herself occupied, but it also helps her in her daily life.

Writing takes time and patience, and sometimes drafts need to be rewritten.

Her family in SOS also helps her with both her daily activities, and with the stories she writes. More than that, they also helped her build her confidence in facing people. After all, they are her inspiration.

- SOS Children's Villages was a big help to me because I learned a lot from them, says Alyn.

Alyn also wishes to share what she learned and created with her fellow children and youth, but that's only part of who she wants to be. She wants to be a successful writer that can write beautiful stories, and as a good and reliable writer.

– Even if it's not now, I want to show everyone that I've become successful with the help of SOS [Children's Villages].

#### He who wishes to learn with everyone

If Alyn loves to write, Julian loves to read and learn. He loves reading books, specifically those centered around fantasy and history. He also loves to meet new friends, and watch movies and series that are available to him. Julian quickly does his homework after coming home from school.

His love for reading connects to him being a fast learner and bloomed into a passion for education. Julian values his education, and even dreams of establishing his own school. He wants to build a school so that youth like him gets a chance to study. Many children want to pursue their education but can't go to school due to financial constraints. Through his dreams, he wants to share the joy and benefits of education.

The care SOS Children's Villages Philippines gave him allowed Julian to grow into a responsible person with a heart and dreams for studying.

– I want to be an RRC, which stands for 'respectful, responsible child'. I also want to become a Chief Executive Officer in the education industry, says Julian.

## SOS Family like care in Calbayog

During 2022, 77 children lived in the families in the Children's village and received support and protection from a caring SOS-parent.

For 2022, SOS Children's Village in Calbayog has made important progress in several program areas, such as diversifying our care services to ensure the best care option in each situation, strengthening youth employability and youth care services, and improving our gatekeeping processes to ensure that it is only those children that cannot stay with their biological family that enter alternative family like care. Through securing partnerships with nearby

#### Calbayog

 77 children in family like care Local Government Units, we were also able to welcome and support ten newly admitted children that had to be removed from their biological family, under family like care. We have successfully integrated seven young people from family like care into the community.

Furthermore, over 300 youth were trained through the NCII TVET courses offered by our EET Department, through the partnership and support of the provincial and regional offices of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA). These care leavers are now starting to sustainably support their households through livelihood and entrepreneurial pursuits. Finally, our programs have produced seventeen graduates - three of which garnered high academic distinctions in their own universities.

SOS Children's Village in Calbayog celebrated its 50th Founding Anniversary in 2022. Apart from recruiting care professionals, SOS Children's Villages in Calbayog became committed to further capacitating co-workers. Social Workers and technical staff were exposed to different internal and external pieces of training and seminars to be able to continue developing and strengthening the care and support for the children, youth and families. Innovating alternative childcare also includes implementing activities that are transformative for a child's development and growth. With this, SOS Children's Village in Calbayog has deepened the breadth of its activities as designed sessions that directly address mental health and well-being. This provided a smooth mental, emotional, and psycho-social transition from a complete stay-at-home set-up during the pandemic to finally mingling with the community as face-to-face classes were implemented. This program innovation allowed children and youth to have increased self-awareness and establish a safe network of expression in times of anxiety and doubt. The children and young people became more digitally equipped as new laptop units were handed over to them.

## The world sounds better with Jana's new hearing aid

As face-to-face classes start after two years of online classes, a young girl named Jana is excited to see her classmates again. She prepares herself for "going out of her shell" after a long time.

- Yes! I will finally be able to meet my classmates and teachers in person, says Jana.

It was both a nerve-wracking and exciting experience for her, something she prefers over accomplishing modules at home.

Since elementary school, Jana wanted to excel in different areas, earning her awards and certificates, as well as a spot on the honor roll for years. Now, she had grown up as an intelligent, responsible, and loving girl to her family, especially to her Mama Judith, older brother, and siblings. She is also a supportive and friendly sister to them. Jana had also become more serious about her plans, and she wanted to make her family proud, especially her mama. Jana loves her Mama Judith very much, and she's sweet and caring towards her mama the way her mama is towards her. During a trip to a different province, she was worried that maybe her Mama would get too tired cleaning up the house without her as the 'chores-buddy,' for the village was expecting a visitor at the time.

But that trip was something that would change her life for the better. Jana was chosen as the sole beneficiary for a sponsored hearing aid project. It was part of her wish as she has been waiting for a hearing aid for a while now.

– Now that I already have this, I could do more things comfortably now and live life in a better way together with other people. I promise to take good care of this, says Jana.

She exclaimed after she finally received her hearing aids, joyful for the change it will bring to her life as she moves forward.

# **Financial report Philippines**

Donated by Akelius University Foundation, EUR	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals
CV Tacloban, CV Calbayog	296 382	296 649
Total	296 382	296 649
SEK (using exchange rate at the time of payment)	3 055 701	3 058 453
Average exchange rate	10,31	10,31

Total budget, Tacloban, EUR	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals
Investments/maintenance	0	1 053
Current working expenditures	106 339	135 906
Personnel expenditures	172 443	179 036
Other expenditures	25 767	18 125
Total	304 549	334 120
Share covered by Akelius	42%	39%

Total budget, Calbayog, EUR	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals
Investments/maintenance	0	1 456
Current working expenditures	111 851	133 983
Personnel expenditures	170 826	176 621
Other expenditures	25 125	18 502
Total	307 802	330 562
Share covered by Akelius	50%	48%

According to communicated re-allocation plan, funds will be moved to Bolivia from 2023 (see budget on the next page).

# Budget, Bolivia

Donated by Akelius University Foundation, EUR	2023 Budget
Santa Cruz programme, Bolivia	353 558
Total donation	353 558
SEK (using exchange rate at the time of payment)	3 874 996
Average exchange rate	10,96

Total budget, Santa Cruz, EUR	2023 Budget
Investments/maintenance	3 936
Current working expenditures	270 592
Personnel expenditures	517 631
Other expenditures	35 991
Total	828 150

# Cambodia

In all programs, we focused on child safe-guarding improvement, and conducted refresher trainings, workshops, discussions with internal and external partners at all program units. Another priority during the year was health and education, such as reproductive health training for youth boys and girls. To strengthen youth employability youth participated in workshops, seminars, and individual development plans were conducted and career consultancy based on their interest and job market were provided to the youth.

## SOS Family like care in Prey Veng

Prey Veng has extended the number of beneficiaries in Kinship Care which means that children that cannot stay with their biological parents are being cared for by relatives or other fictive kins, supported by SOS Childrens Villages. Activities were implemented as per plan. All beneficiaries at all program units at Prey Veng had access to formal education and live in healthy conditions. Some of the challenges during the year were the inflation and challenges to recruit qualified care workers for family like care.

#### **Prey Veng**

- 35 children in family like care
- 100 children in Kinship care

#### Ratanakiri

- 72 children in family like care
- 104 children were strengthened in early childhood development
- 25 youth in youth care

#### Kampot

- 73 children in family like care
- 76 children in Kinship care
- 12 youths in youth care

## SOS Family like care in Ratanakiri

All children in family like care had access to formal education and 90% of the students passed grade 12 exam. Twelve youths are at universities and four successfully got jobs.

The caregivers were equipped with skills on small business at home. Furthermore, we focused on Child Rights and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), Strengthening livelihood, youth employability and youth empowerment was another prioritized area and there were many actions related to strengthening employability skills, life-skills and vocational skills of the youth to prepare them for an independent life. The team also conducted youth camps focusing on personal development and leadership skills. Much of these initiatives were made in collaboration and alliance with partners in the commune and at district levels.

All children and youth also had their individual development plans developed and revised to ensure best possible care and support for them given their situation and to prepare and equip them for an independent life. Livelihood enhancement, increase in income is a priority while considerable expenditure for childcare and Youth alumni, youth club with alliances at commune and district level. Increased focus on youth employability skills, life skills and vocational skills. Improve personality and leadership of youths through youth camps. We also conducted a self-reliant plan for early childhood development and Kinship care into communities.

# SOS Family like care in Kampot

All children passed their school grades and the individual development plans were updated to ensure each child get the best support based on their needs and goals. We provided child safeguarding and parenting care training to mothers, other staff, and children. All children received vaccination per standard and received proper health treatments according to needs.

Next year we plan to reduce the number of family houses; from 12 to 10, while keeping the number of children per family house at maximum 8. As part of the continuous work to strengthen quality care we will

provide more trainings on child safeguarding, food security, parenting skill, self-sufficiency, drug usage and increase focus on youth employability skills, life skills and vocational skills, and improve leadership skills of youths through youth camps.

## Prey Veng: New hope for four siblings

Every child deserves to live in a loving family with parents and siblings so they can be happy, healthy, safe, and, most importantly, loved. A family is a warm and welcoming home that provides love, care, safety, food, and shelter, making it the best place for a child to have a joyful childhood and create good memories. Unfortunately, there are many children who don't have a home or parents.

Recently, four children who are biological siblings and don't have parents were brought to SOS Children's Village in Prey Veng. The oldest sister is 12, the younger sister is 6, the third boy is 5, and the youngest one is 3. These children were living with relatives who couldn't take care of them properly. The youngest ones were even sick when they arrived at the village. They had to undergo medical checkups and receive the vaccinations they needed. The two boys were severely ill and had to be taken to a pediatric hospital in Phnom Penh for treatment. The two girls were enrolled in school.

Since moving to SOS Children's Village in Prey Veng, the lives of these siblings have changed. They quickly adjusted to the village life and enjoy going to school. Currently, three of them attend school while one stays back under the care of their SOS-mother. After school, all of them spend time playing together.

## Ratanakiri: Youth Enjoy a Fantastic Trip to Angkor Wat Temple

Mel's SOS caregiver, who acts as her mother figure, is happy and smiling because Mel recently received the Outstanding Student award among her fellow classmates at school. Mel's dedication and hard work throughout the year resulted in excellent academic performance and good grades. This is not the first time she has achieved the highest score in her class.

To celebrate the students' achievements and the end of the semester, the village organized an outing. Mel and her classmates were taken on a picnic tour to a national park called Kulen Mountain, which is known for its beautiful waterfalls.

- I had a lot of fun during the trip, especially taking pictures and swimming, recalls Mel.
- We also had a picnic lunch in a cozy cottage by the river. The weather was cool due to the waterfalls and the surrounding greenery, making the environment fantastic!

# Impressive Achievements of a Youth in Kampot

Meet Chan, an 18-year-old residing in the SOS youth house in Kampot, managed by SOS Children's Village in Kampot. Chan's journey began in a family that was struggling to make ends meet, in Takeo province. His parents separated when he was young. His mother relocated to be with her new family, while his father battled alcoholism. The family faced financial hardships, leaving no means for Chan's education or the care he needed as a child. Recognizing the importance of his education and well-being, Chan's father and relatives made the decision to send him to SOS Children's Village in Kampot.

Currently, Chan is a diligent student in the 12th grade at Kampot Krong High School. He is known for his friendly nature, articulate communication, and gentle demeanor. Physics is his favorite subject, and he consistently devotes time after school to review his lessons, conduct further research, and solve additional exercises. Alongside his commitment to academics, Chan actively contributes to household chores, sharing responsibilities such as sweeping, dishwashing, and cooking with his SOS family.

In the academic year 2020-2021, when Cambodia faced the challenges of the pandemic and schools transitioned to online learning, Chan stood out as one of the few students who seamlessly adapted and maintained excellent academic performance. Despite the disruptions to routine, he achieved commendable results and actively participated in online competitions across various subjects, notably excelling in mathematics. His exceptional performance earned him recognition as an outstanding student, receiving a certificate for his accomplishments.

Throughout the academic year 2022-2023, Chan has consistently ranked among the top three students in his class of 40. His dedication and achievements have garnered admiration from both his teachers and the school principal.

Chan's remarkable journey demonstrates his resilience, hard work, and commitment to education. With the support of SOS Children's Village in Kampot, he has overcome challenging circumstances and emerged as an inspiration to his peers.

## **Financial report Cambodia**

Donated by Akelius University Foundation, EUR	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals	2023 Budget
SFC, YC Ratanakiri and SFC Prey Veng	366 018	422 427*	574 817
Total	366 018	422 427	574 817
SEK (using exchange rate at the time of payment)	3 773 650	4 355 220	6 299 997
Average exchange rate	10,31	10,31	10,96

Total budget/actuals, EUR	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals	2023 Budget**
Opening balance	-88 925	-88 925	0
Investments/maintenance	21 552	29 042	8 765
Current working expenditures	209 819	281 289	461 001
Personnel expenditures	200 446	211 412	311 927
Other expenditures	13 903	19 004	27 231
Total	356 795	451 822	808 924
Share covered by Akelius	98%	91%	68%

<sup>\*</sup> YC Ratanakiri was by an error not included in the budget.

<sup>\*\*</sup> From 2023 the costs for the whole locations Ratanakiri and Prey Veng, Cambodia is included according to SOS CVI's new programme structure.

# Financial report Kampot (Cambodia)

Donated by Akelius University Foundation, EUR	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals
Surplus from Philippines and India agreement allocated to SFC Kampot, Cambodia	164 888	173 567
Total	164 888	173 567
SEK (using exchange rate at the time of payment)	1 699 995	1 789 474
Average exchange rate	10,31	10,31

Total budget, Kampot, EUR	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals
Investments/maintenance	1 860	7 100
Current working expenditures	157 210	148 725
Personnel expenditures	135 884	143 180
Other expenditures	14 197	10 230
Average exchange rate	10,31	10,31
Total	309 151	309 234
Share covered by Akelius	52%	53%

## Haiti

The operational context of SOS Children's Villages in Haiti has been on a downward slope since 2020 with the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic, the development and strengthening of armed groups and criminal gangs throughout the country, violence, kidnapping for ransom, rape, armed robbery, organized crime, the poor functioning of public services, the problem of national governance, the absence of legally constituted authorities in the country, famine and the precariousness of public health services. Thousands of Haitian school children have been left without education due to the deteriorating security situation and are also living under extreme stress affecting their mental health.

We are witnessing a collapse of the economic system, and nothing is being done or planned to straighten the slope in the short term. The growing insecurity and hunger are the biggest concerns of the population, and the state does not take any decision that could improve the living conditions of the people. On the contrary, the public administration is demanding more taxes from taxpayers such as the increase in the price of passport stamps, the compulsory change of vehicle plates, the increase of more than 100% in the price of petroleum products although very rare in the formal market, which increases people's cost of living much more. Also, there is the problem of the dollarization of the market; while the local currency is the gourde, everything is done in US dollars and the exchange rate is very high with daily variation without control. The inflation rate for the month of December 2022 has reached a threshold of 48.3% causing even more increase in the cost of living and many Haitians are facing food insecurity, hunger, and malnutrition.

## SOS Family like care in Les Cayes

Even if the gang violence is more concentrated to the capital, during the year, there has been many unrests due to the fuel situation and the high price of goods in Les Cayes. The price of goods has increased three times more than the other provinces; not just because of the the earthquake the previous year, but also since the access way to Les Cayes from Port-au-Prince has been taken for more than a year by gangs, and it is difficult to assure the transport.

#### Les Cayes

71 children in family like care

The national school closure means that the Hermann Gmeiner School of les Cayes has also been closed during periods.

During these difficult circumstances the team has made great efforts trying to ensure continuous education and school support. For the children under our care, we have established together with the Director of the school an agenda with the teachers at the school so they can come to the village and make activities with them. We have established five classrooms within the houses to facilitate the accomplishment of the task of the teachers. At the beginning of the month of November, we will start with the reinforcement for some young people who graduated from professional courses in cosmetology and sewing so they can continue to practice those techniques. We also plan to have an English course for the benefit of some program participants by dividing them into several categories.

During this year, 15 children were placed in the Children's village by the national adoption authorities (IBESR), and six children were reintegrated into their biological families as their situation had changed and they were now able to provide care for their children. The remaining children are supervised and supported in their personal development by the care workers. We organized two workshops on the new programmatic orientation of SOS Children's Villages which is expected to further strengthen the quality of the care and support provided. 19 young people were reintegrated into their biological families during the year 2022 in a process based on an educational- and support plan for family reunification, within the framework of the deinstitutionalization and empowerment of young people. Also, in the order to restore and/or strengthen family ties research and family mediation was made in collaboration with the IBESR for 24 children, adolescents and young people and psychosocial activities were arranged together with IBESR on National Children's Day and International CIDE Day.

## Tico wants to go back to school

In recent months, Haiti has gone through a critical situation, which has made the challenges of children and youth even more difficult.

Tico, 10, dreams of becoming a theologian, and for this he wants to go back to school. However, for the moment, his dream will have to wait.

Like many children in Haiti he can't go to school as they wait for the situation in the country to stabilize. He used to go to school in Les Cayes, but it has been closed since July 2022.

Haiti has been through what could be described as one of its worst crises for several months. Protests over rising fuel prices and gang violence make living in Haiti increasingly difficult and dangerous.

Tico was abandoned on a riverbank with his older sister when he was only 3 years old. Today, seven years later, he lives in Les Cayes and is part of a family at the SOS Children's Village in Les Cayes.

– I feel very well, and I am happy to belong here, he says.

However, his greatest wish is to go back to school. He tells us that in the meantime he spends his free time playing with his friends.

- I like to play with my classmates. We play mind games like dominoes, cards, checkers and others.

With schools closed, SOS Children's Villages carries out some activities to help children to continue to learn, says Peter Anis, SOS Children's Villages Emergency Advisor in Haiti.

– As far as the educational programme is concerned, teachers are present in the first cycle. Children in the second cycle who cannot go to school receive special activities and assistance from teachers to keep them up to date, he said.

Keeping the programmes for children running has been a challenge, says Faymi Loiseau, National Director of SOS Children's Villages in Haiti.

- Our programmes are really affected; we can't give the responses and support we are supposed to give, she says.

Daily life in the children's villages has been affected by the high inflation rate, which has driven up prices of all goods. Many staff are also still unable to come to work due to roadblocks and unrest in the streets.

- Education is important in children's life but with this current situation, they can't access it as schools are closed. Even virtual schooling won't be available for children in the communities as they or their parents do not have internet access so they could receive lessons and homework. They were guaranteed a hot meal when coming to the program now that they can't come a lot of them won't be able to access a hot meal. We can't go to the communities either thus the ones in our family strengthening programme can't receive the support we normally provide to them; the community families' situation was already precarious now it's deteriorating, Peter Anis says.
- Right now, many of our programmes are paused in what is called 'hibernation mode' until they can function normally, but even coming out of the crisis the children will still be the most affected, Mr. Anis explains.

# Financial report Haiti

Donated by Akelius University Foundation, EUR	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals	2023 Budget
Les Cayes programme, Haiti	387 973	387 973	364 964
Education Les Cayes, Haiti	0	0	354 009*
Total	387 973	387 973	718 973
SEK (using exchange rate at the time of payment)	4 000 000	4 000 001	7 879 944
Average exchange rate	10,31	10,31	10,96

Total budget/actuals, EUR	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals	2023 Budget
Investments/maintenance	43 701	12 677	51 854
Current working expenditures	264 570	210 027	439 997
Personnel expenditures	273 429	204 450	461 169
Other expenditures	15 627	12 896	33 512
Total	597 327	440 051	986 532
Share covered by Akelius	65%	88%	69%

<sup>\*</sup> According to communicated re-allocation plan funds from India will be re-allocated to Haiti.

# Palestine/Gaza

Internal conflict and working with two separate governmental bodies in Gaza affected the quality of services provided by the ministries. The needs for networking with other organizations and UN Agencies and be an active member within clusters that coordinate development and humanitarian work became a priority. Ongoing conflicts and wars affect the wellbeing of children, other participants and staff in the program. The needs to provide structured interventions to support this groups through investing in emergency preparedness, mental health programs, provide source of income to marginalized families and support education became mandatory.

## SOS Family like care in Rafah

To measure the impact of the integration of five SOS families into community – when it comes to mental health, communication, life skills and social norms – a study was conducted on program level. The results formed the basis for this year's priorities.

One of the priorities for SOS Children's Villages this year was to create a mental health and Psychosocial committee to align all mental health activities in the

#### Rafah

- 51 children in family like care (in the village)
- 28 children in family like care (integrated in SOS houses utside the village)

program into one guiding document and to develop the required tools to enable all specialist to do their job standardized and with the same high quality. In addition, we empowered our partnership with other specialized agencies working in field of health, psychosocial and educational fields. Another priority was to develop reporting and responding procedures for child safeguarding, focus more on caregivers' capacity building and children's awareness, being members of the child protection clusters and experience exchange. We also worked to establish a strong cooperation with ministries to enhance our responding in case of any accident. We also focused on enhancing the quality of education by developing digital educational tools. In 2023 we will continue that work, as well as strengthening our work in youth care and emergency response.

## A caring girl with lots of energy

In her free time, Ibtihal enjoys the company of other young girls in the village. She would often visit them or welcome them at home. They would enjoy hours of talking, sharing news, watching television, or listening to music while drinking soft drinks. The lively voices and laughter rise over the house, and everybody is happy. When a cool breeze blows across the gardens and beautiful passages of the village, Ibtihal loves to take slow walks with friends. When there is an exciting subject to talk about, the walk might extend after sunset.

Ibtihal 's biological sister is so dear to her and so different from her; their different natures and moods also influence them. Ibtihal is very sensitive, but her sister's strength and ability to stand up for herself inspired Ibtihal to be stronger. Moreover, the village's kind family and friendly environment made Ibtihal more open and relaxed to communicate.

– I like school very much, I have good grades, and I do my homework everyday, says Ibtihal proudly.

Indeed, Ibtihal is now in primary school. She understands the importance of education. Nevertheless, according to SOS mother Yasmeen, this has not always been the case. She adds:

– Last year, Ibtihal would not always write down her homework in her notebook. She would often tell me she had no homework to do. However, most of the time, when I checked in her classmate's notebooks, I found she had some! But she does not do that anymore. Because she is more attentive in class, the little girl has started enjoying school even more.

– In the school, every student is very nice. We are also helpful to one another. Everyone is trying to make the school a better place. I love attending school so much. It is better than online schooling, says lbtihal.

Ibtihal is a nice girl full of life. As she is energetic, always smiling, charming, sensitive, and friendly, her character is an asset. She approaches others with ease, which is why she has many friends. Indeed, you will never find her alone.

lbtihal 's friends with whom she shares a good time always accompany her.

- We play with our teddy bears and dolls! We brush their hair; we made their braids and buns, she says.

#### SOS's mother adds:

– Ibtihal prefers to be outside. There is more space. She does not like to sit still at home. She has a lot of energy to spare. Ibtihal participates in many workshops in the village to evacuate all that energy. Sports, music, dance, drama, drawing, and visual arts fill her days. I want to thank you in the end for your invaluable support as it allows us to fill Ibtihal's life with so much love and security and so many loving people.

# Financial report Palestine/Gaza

Donated by Akelius University Foundation, EUR	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals	2023 Budget
Programme Rafah, Palestine	368 574	387 973	364 051*
<b>Total Donation</b>	368 574	387 973	364 051
SEK (using exchange rate at the time of payment)	3 800 000	4 000 000	3 989 996
Average exchange rate	10,31	10,31	10,96

Total budget/actuals, EUR	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals	2023 Budget
Long term care	735 246	747 261	-
Investments/maintenance			22 708
Current working expenditures			775 856
Personnel expenditures			1 196 520
Other expenditures			55 543
Total	735 246	747 261	2 050 627*
Share covered by Akelius	48%	49%	17%

<sup>\*</sup>From 2023 the costs for the whole location Rafah, Palestine is included according to SOS CVI's new programme structure.

# **Ukraine**

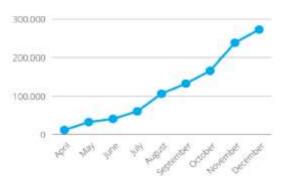
We were in Ukraine long before Russia invaded and we will be there long after. We are working on a long-term basis to support families to rebuild their lives. The children need comprehensive and long-term support in various forms. SOS Children's Villages in Ukraine works to strengthen families so that they do not split up. We do this on the basis of the family's needs and select the appropriate necessary support programmes. This is how SOS Children's Villages differs from other humanitarian organisations: we provide individual support according to need. We help through personal contact, and we are always available and reliable. We prioritize the children and their interests and adapt our efforts to their needs.

In 2022, SOS Children's Villages Ukraine has reorganized and significantly expanded its activities to meet the increased needs of Ukrainian children and their families caused by the war. Last year, SOS Children's Villages in Ukraine reached around 2,000 people; in 2022, more than 125,000 from almost 47,000 families received direct support. Indirectly, we reached more than 270,000 people. In total, we distributed more than 333,000 interventions during the year; in family-based care, we reached 15,672 children.

#### Total reach:

- 276 628 people in total
- 272 924 people through the SOS Children's Villages programme in Ukraine
- 3 704 people from Ukraine were supported by the emergency programme with the help of other SOS organisations in Europe.

#### SOS Ukraine Program Participants



In addition, from operating in only two regions last year, SOS Children's Villages in Ukraine has expanded its activities to 15 new regions, covering 70% of the country's regions. Activities in the occupied Luhansk region are currently suspended. Support in the Kiev region continues, and operations in the new regions are run either through partners or through new SOS centres (see map below).



Nearly 9 million Ukrainians have fled to other countries in Europe, and it is estimated that around 6 million are displaced within the country, many having been forced to move several times. In the neighbouring countries to which children and families from Ukraine have fled, SOS Children's

Villages staff are supporting them to adapt to their new life. No one knows when the families will be able to return home again, so we focus on ensuring that the children can go to school, develop, meet friends and have a safe upbringing where they are right now. In 2022, we reached almost 4 000 children and parents (directly and indirectly) with our interventions in neighbouring countries.

## SOS Youth care in Kyiv and Brovary

In addition to the key challenge from the full-scale invasion, there were systematic absence of electricity and heating in the Youth center, caused by regular bombing of critical infrastructure facilities. Despite this, we were still able to implement the following actions for young people in Ukraine:

#### **Kyiv and Brovary**

- 1 799 serviced were provided
- 393 new beneficiaries joined (16 boys and 98 girls aged +18, 94 boys and 185 girls under 18)
- 149 individual psychological consultations;
- 47 psychotherapeutic consultations for young people;
- a training program for parents entitled How to live in new conditions;
- a support group was organized and trainings for 15 parents of the youth care program participants were held;
- 15 sessions were held in the format of the psychological game *Women's Circle* for mothers of the Youth Centre participants;
- social and pedagogical consultations were held with 81 young people;
- 8 young people received employment counselling;
- 15 art therapy classes were held, in which 112 young people took part;
- 31 creative and 13 cooking master classes were held;
- 16 evenings of board games and movies were organized and held, in which 191 young people took part;
- 35 people received humanitarian aid in the form of clothes;
- 78 people received humanitarian aid in the form of hygiene and care products;
- in the framework of the eloquence course '15 lessons for smooth Ukrainization', 23 classes with youth were conducted;
- in the framework of the reading club 'Young Avid Reader', 17 classes were conducted;
- 7 excursions for 45 young people were organized and held;
- the educational seminar 'My rights' was conducted to mark the International Day for Protection of Children, which was attended by 13 people; play sessions were also held in Brovary city (55 people) and in Borodianka settlement (27 people);
- a play session for 18 children was held in the youth club 'Red Sails';
- the following trainings were held for young people: 'Safe Behaviour Course', 'First Aid Course',
  'Fundamentals of Stress Resistance', 'Financial Competence', training program 'Readiness for
  Work', training program 'Time Management and Financial Literacy', in which participated 50 young
  people;
- as part of the implementation of the Humanitarian Funding Pool project, the team of the Youth Centre and employees of the Brovary youth program organized in Brovary city 4 shifts of the day camp 'Centre for Children and Youth Development' for children from families in difficult life circumstances and internally displaced persons in which 89 teenagers became participants;
- as part of the online project 'Let's talk about...', 16 live broadcasts were held and 16 videos were uploaded, which got 1727 views
- the production of jewellery made of epoxy under the Molod.ist brand was launched at the YC in the area of the development of social entrepreneurship.

In 2023 we plan to implement the program *I am among my people* in the YC activities, which was developed within the framework of the UAct project and is fulfilled by the National Organization of the Scouts of Ukraine AUYPO with the support of the UNICEF Children's Fund and the World Organization of the Scout Movement.

## The story of Anna

Anna was born 2003, in the Kyiv region, in a large family. Unfortunately, her biological mother could not provide good and safe care or a secure upbringing for her children, so Anna and her brothers were placed in the foster family Iryna, where the children were raised until 2020. After that, the foster mother ceased the operations, and Anna transferred to full state support and studies at the State Educational Institution 'Kyiv Regional Higher Vocational School of Construction' for a florist, landscaper.

At first, Anna wanted to live in a dormitory provided by the vocational school and located nearby, but the living conditions were poor there, and she decided to move to the small group home (SGH) upon her mentor's advice. Although the SGH is far from the vocational school, Anna has satisfactory living conditions and everything she needs for harmonious development. She dreamt of entering the university and getting a pedagogical education or becoming a journalist, however, she had to enter the vocational school and choose a profession that was not her vocation when the foster family ceased its operation.

Anna never gives up faith that she will still be able to get a higher education and she diligently studies at the vocational school, as well as studying additional literature in the field of activity that interests her, therefore, in June 2023, Anna will graduate from the vocational school and enter a university.

Anna is an active participant of the Youth Program and participates in various activities to ensure useful leisure time. She has undergone the training in digital technologies and her level of knowledge in this field has improved. She also studies English and can already communicate freely and understands the grammatical peculiarities of the language.

In 2022, Anna took part in financial literacy trainings and completed the Personal Growth course, which helped her learn how to plan her own budget, save, become independent, quickly make decisions, and take responsibility. Also, she began to improve her cooking skills, prepares various new dishes. If she does not know something, she turns to the specialists of the Youth Program for advice.

Anna is a principled, creative person, interested in many things. Sometimes she can get distracted, but she is purposeful, understands her strengths and situations that cause difficulties, is able to analyse and draw conclusions. She is interested in historical sites, antiques, reads a lot; Anna's love for reading began at the age of 8. Recently she is fond of animation, draws, sews, knits, does needlework. She mostly likes humanitarian subjects, especially literature, as well as biology and geography. She is fond of history and since childhood she would like to take part in some expedition or visit historical excavations. Currently, Anna is studying at the vocational school in the third year and in her free time works at McDonald's, where she is actively moving up the career ladder, and her purposefulness and responsibility make a significant contribution to that end. She knows how to save and plan a budget, she collects the money she earns for trips and for her own accommodation. In 2021, she got a new hobby – to travel and return from trips with new experience and understanding of the peculiarities of other nationalities. In 2022, Anna managed to visit three new countries: Poland, Latvia and Uzbekistan. As she herself says:

- Of course, this is an invaluable experience, but it is better at home. I love my country, and want to live in free and independent Ukraine.

Anna monitors her health and nutrition and tries to keep up with everything. She is proactive, socially responsible, loves to learn and wants to find personal fulfilment and bring benefit to society. She dreams of not feeling an acute need for something in life, to have her own home, a stable job that would bring joy and travel around the world.

# Financial report Ukraine

Donated by Akelius University Foundation, EUR	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals	2023 Budget
Youth programme	156 755	124 846	0
Emergency programme Ukraine	0	0	260 400
Total	156 755	124 846	260 400
SEK (using exchange rate at the time of payment)	1 616 141	1 287 166	2 853 984
Average exchange rate	10,31	10,31	10,96

Total budget/actuals, EUR	2022 Budget	2022 Actuals	2023 Budget
Closing balance		21 532*	-21 532
Investment/Maintenence	917	611	0
Current working expenditures	51 288	35 284	0
Personnel expenditures	91 981	59 107	0
Other expenditures	4 731	2 069	0
Emergency programme Ukraine	0	0	35 000 000**
Total	148 917	97 072	34 978 468
Share covered by Akelius	100%	100%	1%

<sup>\*</sup> The balance from 2022 will be used for the emergency programme Ukraine.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The budget is preliminary and might decrease according to available funds.



- Operated in almost **140** countries
- 512 500 people participated in our family strengthening programs
- **69 200** people participated in our alternative care
- **307 200** people were reached through health interventions
- **195 500** people were given an education
- 1 386 400 people were reached through our humanitarian actions



Source: SOS Care Promise database, Annual reports 2022 from SOS Children's Villages in Philippines, Haiti, India, Cambodia and Palestine

[Version 2] Updated 22-05-24 by Johanna Perwe <a href="mailto:johanna.perwe@sos-barnbyar.se">johanna.perwe@sos-barnbyar.se</a>