

Donor Report 2024

How Your Investment Transformed the Lives of Children and Families in the Philippines, Bolivia, Haiti, India, Cambodia, Palestine, and Ukraine.

*A creative workshop on children's rights, held at a social center in Ukraine.
Photo: Katerina Ilievska*





Empowering Futures: Transforming Lives

In 2024, The Akelius Foundation has played a vital role in driving meaningful and lasting change for children, young people, and families living in vulnerable circumstances — including those affected by the devastating impacts of war.

Thanks to your generous investment, despite the many global challenges we face today, children have been able to thrive and access quality education, families have developed the skills and confidence to become self-reliant, and young people have been empowered with the tools they need to transition into adulthood with resilience and hope.

These efforts have not only strengthened emotional well-being and resilience but have also contributed to broader, positive transformations within communities.

Petra Nyberg

Head of International Program Development
SOS Children's Villages in Sweden



The Philippines

The Situation for Children and Youth

Philippines have had a positive progress during recent years where the country now is classified as a lower-middle income nation. Despite this, 5.8% of the population still live in multidimensional poverty and over 1.3 million primary-aged children are out of school (UNDP, 2017; World Bank, 2023). The high number of children being out of school has various causes, some of which is poverty of the family, climate catastrophes disturbing children's right to education. Many children, especially in rural areas, have limited access to education leading to children being further exposed to child labor. Furthermore, 12.8% of youth are not in education, employment, or training (World Bank, 2022), a situation that can lead to feelings of exclusion and hopelessness among young people.



Many children, especially in rural areas, have limited access to education leading to children being further exposed to child labor

Health and safety are further critical challenges. Malnutrition affects many children, which lead to health problems and learning difficulties. Further, gender inequalities put girls and young women at risk of physical or sexual violence where 5.5% of ever-partnered women aged 15–49 reported experiencing physical or sexual violence in the past year (World Bank, 2017). The Philippines also has challenges with children being subjected to human trafficking and exploitation, particularly online sexual exploitation, which is a growing.

How Your Support Transformed Children's Lives in Tacloban

Safe and Loving Family Like Care for Vulnerable children

In the past year, the Family-Like Care made significant strides, supporting 90 children and youth under alternative care, with 36 in Small Group Homes and Supervised Independent Living, and 54 under the FLC program. The children received food, shelter, education, healthcare, and psychological support. A strong focus was also placed on family reunification and independent living preparation. The education program supported children across various grade levels, with one successful self-employment transition. However, challenges have been identified regarding children with special



needs, requiring specialized care, which prompted interventions and Care Conferences to address individual needs.

Empowerment and Support for Young People Leaving Care

Additionally in 2024, Youth Care and Employability was strengthened, equipping young people with the skills and opportunities needed for independent living and sustainable careers. Through the Supervised Independent Living program, 34 young people gained the skills and confidence to transition into adulthood. Here, a particular focus is set on equipping participants with vocational skills, financial literacy and job readiness. Remarkably, all four young adults who exited this program in 2024 achieved full self-reliance, a testament to the life-changing impact of this initiative.

Direct Family Empowering program

During the year of 2024, 1,182 individuals were empowered through the Direct Family Empowering program ensuring that these families got support and resources they needed to stay together. Addressing financial sustainability, refining implementation frameworks, and strengthening workforce capacity remain top priorities. Families in the Family Strengthening Program, over all SOS-locations in the Philippines, transitioned to self-sufficiency after an average of 3.8 years. Of the 276 families who exited the program this year, 80% achieved self-reliance. Furthermore, strategic partnerships enabled continued educational opportunities, including grants for senior high school and college students, and vocational training for caregivers.

Financial Report

Presented in the Bolivia section.

→ Moving forward

Looking ahead, SOS Children's Village Tacloban remains committed to overcoming challenges and enhancing the quality of care for children and families. By fostering partnerships, expanding economic and educational opportunities, and strengthening financial sustainability, the village continues to uphold its mission of providing a safe and empowering environment for children to reach their full potential.



Bolivia

The Situation for Children and Youth

Bolivia is going through a deep economic, political, and social crisis that has severely impacted the well-being of families and children. In 2024, according to government data, inflation reached 9.97%, the highest in 16 years, raising the cost of living and creating shortages of essential products due to the lack of foreign currency. However, there is also inflation that is not recognized by government agencies, mainly caused by the lack of foreign currency and fuel shortages, which have created a parallel market where the cost of living has increased by approximately 45% throughout the country.

The economic situation in Bolivia put severe challenges on the most vulnerable families. Inequality and limited access to essential services put children at risk of not getting a safe and loving upbringing. In 2023, 58,597 primary-aged children were out of school. This not only hinders children of learning opportunities but also increases their vulnerability to exploitation and child labor. In fact, 13.9% of children aged 7–14 were engaged in employment as of 2015.



Inequality and limited access to essential services put children at risk of not getting a safe and loving upbringing.

Furthermore, the situation is compounded by violence and insecurity. In 2018, 18% of women aged 15–49 reported experiencing physical and/or sexual violence within the last 12 months. Such violence not only affects women but also has devastating consequences for children growing up in these environments, impacting their emotional and psychological well-being.

In 2024, SOS Children's Villages Bolivia has been a key player in mitigating the effects of the crisis and creating solutions for children and youth at risk of losing parental care or who have already lost it.

How Your Support Transformed Children's Lives in Santa Cruz

Family Strengthening programme

During 2024, a family strengthening program has been implemented in Santa Cruz including sessions on emotional recovery for children as well as a family support



program for parents and caregivers. The family strengthening program had a total of 548 participants during the year and it helped families build resilience, improve emotional well-being and develop the skills needed to overcome challenges to prevent family separation.

For caregivers, a comprehensive training program was introduced to enhance their parenting skills. This included workshops on positive parenting, emotional connection, and protective caregiving, with a strong emphasis on gender equity. A total of 408 child and youth caregivers participated in this training program. Additionally, a personal development program was launched to boost caregivers' self-esteem and resilience, ensuring they felt empowered to provide the best care possible.

Economic empowerment has also been an important component of the work in Santa Cruz during 2024. Training and resources were provided to help caregivers develop vocational and entrepreneurial skills, enabling them to achieve financial independence and better support their families. By fostering economic stability, families got support in creating a more secure and nurturing environment for their children. This initiative guided 614 families toward self-reliance with 53.85% of households successfully achieving independence by the end of the program.

For children without parental care, 98 participants found a safe and nurturing environment in our Family-like Care program. For the youngest members of the community, 101 children benefited from Early Childhood Care and Development, ensuring they had a strong foundation for their future.

Finally, we worked to foster a sense of community and environmental responsibility among families in our care. By promoting community-based projects focused on child protection, safety, and environmental sustainability, we encouraged families to actively participate in creating a better future for their children and their communities.

Preparing Adolescents for Independence

For adolescents and young adults transitioning to independence, we provided holistic support to help them lead autonomous lives. This included vocational training, career guidance, and partnerships with local businesses to create employment opportunities. 40 young adults in Supervised Independent Living took steps toward independence, with an impressive 80% achieving self-reliance upon exiting the program. Through these efforts, young people gained the skills and confidence needed to build a more stable future.

Building Life Skills and Self-Protection in Children and Adolescents

To equip children and adolescents with the tools they need to navigate life's challenges, several educational and developmental programs were implemented. For children aged 6 to 12, a self-protection program using the "Backpack of Good



Treatment" methodology was introduced. This initiative taught children essential skills such as peer violence prevention, self-awareness, and emotional regulation. Adolescents aged 13 to 18 participated in workshops on topics like healthy relationships, sexuality education, and pregnancy prevention, empowering them to make informed decisions about their futures.

Strengthening Community and State Systems of Protection

Advocacy work has also been in focus during the year of 2024 to strengthen the broader community. In partnership with local authorities, one supported the implementation of foster care services and transferred our family support methodologies to state programs for early childhood care. This collaboration ensured that more children could benefit from safe, nurturing environments, even in the absence of their biological families. Additionally, Professionals in local protection systems was trained to enhance their capacity to deliver high-quality services aligned with child safeguarding principles. In total, 7.512 individuals participated in community-strengthening activities.

Financial Report

Donated by Akelius University Foundation, EUR	2024 budget	2024 Actuals	2025 Budget
Programme Tacloban, Philippines	147 986	148 352	78 094
Programme Santa Cruz, Bolivia	187 866	187 500	268 827
Total	335 852	335 852	346 921
SEK (using exchange rate at the time of payment)	4 000 000	4 000 002	4 000 000
Average exchange rate	11,91	11,91	11,53

Total budget, Tacloban, EUR	2024 Budget	2024 Actuals	2025 Budget
Investments/maintenance	0	-613	0
Current working expenditures	-200 207	-183 109	-163 188
Personnel expenditures	-209 472	-193 760	-211 007
Other expenditures	-27 582	-7 183	-16 584
Total	-437 261	-384 665	-390 779

Share covered by Akelius Tacloban	32%	37%	19%
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Total budget, Santa Cruz, EUR	2024 Budget	2024 Actuals	2025 Budget
Investments/maintenance	-25 030	-41 628	-18 740
Current working expenditures	-607 061	-674 296	-535 745
Personnel expenditures	-832 576	-703 413	-683 919
Other expenditures	-486 333	-206 459	-411 523
Total	-1 951 000	-1 625 796	-1 649 927
Share covered by Akelius Santa Cruz	9%	11%	16%

* According to updated agreement funds will be phased out from Philippines and re-allocated to Bolivia.

→ Moving forward

The operation in Santa Cruz has operated its project according to plan. The economic crisis, caregiver migration, lack of knowledge about alternative care methods, and lack of response in mental health continue to pose challenges. To ensure the sustainability and impact of the program, priority will be given to influencing public policy, strengthening alliances with the state, and integrating mental health and child protection strategies in collaboration with other actors.



Haiti

The Situation for Children and Youth

Haiti faces profound socio-economic challenges that deeply affect its children and young people, making it one of the most vulnerable countries in the Western Hemisphere. With over 11.6 million people in the population, nearly one-third are under the age of 14 (World Bank, 2023). 41.3% of the population lives in multidimensional poverty where children are particularly affected as 37.8% of those aged 7–14 are exposed to child labor (World Bank, 2012). Only 40% of the population has access to healthcare, which, combined with the lack of food and clean water, threatens to limit children's mental and physical development.

Education remains a pathway out of poverty but is limited for many Haitian children and youth. While youth literacy rates are encouraging, with 89.3% of young women and 88.4% of young men able to read and write (World Bank, 2017), the broader picture reveals significant gaps. 27.9% of young people are not in education, employment, or training (World Bank, 2012), leaving them at risk of falling into cycles of poverty and exclusion. Gender inequalities is also remarkable where only 57% of women aged 15–49 are able to make their own informed decisions regarding sexual and reproductive health (World Bank, 2017).



27.9% of young people are not in education, employment, or training

During recent years, armed conflicts have escalated in the capital Port-au-Prince which led to over one million people being displaced. Haiti is experiencing a challenging situation, with children being particularly affected. The combination of ongoing violence, economic difficulties, and political instability has made it hard for many people to access basic needs like food, water, education, and safety. Additional efforts by the authorities, with support of international communities are needed to address these root causes.

How Your Support Transformed Children's Lives in Les Cayes

The programs in Les Cayes relies on four key interventions: providing alternative care for children without parental support, strengthening families to prevent separation,



training staff to better support beneficiaries and improving the socio-economic conditions of families.

Safe and Nurturing Homes in Family-Like Care

To start with, 67 children found nurturing homes in family-like care, and 27 caregivers were trained to provide quality care and support for vulnerable children. The training was on parental responsibility, practical implementation on SOS-parent guide, support for resolving family problems and code of conduct. This, to strengthen their ability to provide a safe upbringing as possible providing the support that is needed for their children in care. All these actions and many others, being locally relevant, conceptualized, and implemented in close collaboration with community partners, were carried out with the intention of enabling the integral development and resilience of these 67 participants, to prepare young people for successful socio-professional integration by offering them tailored training and promoting entrepreneurship.

The financial resources have also been mobilized to train 36 young people in basic computer skills, facilitating courses in cooking, sewing and tiling, enhanced psychosocial activities and training on social skills.

Community Empowerment for Family Empowerment program

Through the Community Empowerment for Family Empowerment program, an average of 118 participants each month gained the tools to build resilience and stability in their families. In 2024, several activities were implemented in the community centers of Bourjolly, Bord de Mer, and Brefête, aiming to strengthen the capacities of participating families and guarantee children's rights. 95 participants acquired knowledge about children's rights and the procedures for implementing protection mechanisms (protection committee) to guarantee children's rights in school, institutional, and family structures.

Furthermore, the program provides quality preschool education and food ration to 226 children attending community centers five days a week. In parallel, awareness sessions on hygiene and preventive health were organized, and 85 hygiene kits were distributed to an equivalent number of families to improve their well-being. Four psychosocial support sessions were set up to help 10 families and children overcome trauma related to violence. These sessions created a vital listening and sharing space for the mental well-being of the participants.

Cultural, psychosocial, and sports activities were organized for 65 children, promoting their development and keeping them away from negative influences present in the communities. These activities also helped strengthen community ties. Among the 69 children who completed the preschool cycle in our services, 22 were able to integrate into the Hermann Gmeiner School in Les Cayes. Additionally, childcare services were



set up to relieve working families, allowing them to focus on their income-generating activities.

In the Direct Family Empowerment initiative, 315 participants received targeted support, with 121 families completing the program. These initiatives allowed these families to create financial resources to meet their needs and those of their children. Social workers also attended regular monthly meetings on mutual management, thus strengthening families' capacities to manage their resources effectively. While 6 of these families achieved full self-reliance, the journey toward long-term independence continues for many others. Employment and entrepreneurship training empowered 24 individuals to take steps toward financial independence.

Education and Support for Independent Living

Education has been a focus of the year, with 457 children and youth accessing primary and secondary schooling. The Hermann Gmeiner School in Cayes aims to provide quality education and a conducive environment for the development of program participants. Its main objectives include: promoting learning and academic success through adapted teaching methods, strengthening the educational capacities of teachers through targeted training, and supporting the vulnerable families of students by encouraging their involvement in the educational process. Sessions on rights, mutual respect and child protection was also provided for all 457 children.

Throughout the year, a set of strategic actions were implemented to ensure optimized management of its operations, such as awareness and training programs. These activities targeted 457 students, 25 teachers, more than 300 parents, and over 100 members of the educational community to strengthen their engagement and involvement. Pedagogical support included the regular provision of documents and teaching materials adapted to the identified needs.

208 young learners also benefited from early childhood care and development programs. For those transitioning to adulthood, 44 young people in Supervised Independent Living received guidance, with 50% of those who exited the program achieved self-reliance.

Financial Report

Donated by Akelius University Foundation, EUR	2024 Budget	2024 Actuals	2025 Budget
Les Cayes programme, Haiti	335 852	335 852	346 921
Total	335 852	335 852	346 921
SEK (using exchange rate at the time of payment)	4 000 000	4 000 001	4 000 000
Average exchange rate	11,91	11,91	11,53



Total budget/actuals, EUR	2024 Budget	2024 Actuals	2025 Budget
Investments/maintenance	-26 864	-25 488	-9 463
Current working expenditures	-551 968	-540 801	-535 581
Personnel expenditures	-397 280	-368 341	-408 440
Other expenditures	-47 498	-44 697	-43 901
Total	-1 023 610	-979 327	-997 385
Share covered by Akelius (incl funds from India/Haiti agreement)	54%	56%	64%

*From 2023 the costs for the whole location is included according to SOS CVI's new programme structure.



India

The Situation for Children and Youth

India, has a population of over 1.4 billion people, making it the most populous country in the world. Nearly 40% of its population are under the age of 18, but significant socioeconomic challenges hinder the potential of millions of children and young people. 16.4% of the population in India lives in multidimensional poverty and millions of families struggle to meet basic needs such as food, healthcare and education (UNDP, 2019). For children, this often translates into a lack of access to safe and nurturing environments, which are crucial for their development. The under-5 mortality rate is at 29 deaths per 1000 live births, which has improved but still reflect a gap in healthcare and nutrition for the youngest members of society (World Bank, 2022)

Furthermore, there are considerable challenges regarding child labor in India, where 1.7 million primary-aged children are out of school, leading them to instead work in agriculture, domestic labor, and industry (World Bank, 2023). The causes of the challenge often include poverty, lack of education, and sometimes family debt, which leads children to work to help the family pay it off. Additionally, inadequate school infrastructure and a shortage of qualified teachers leads to risking all children not getting their right to education. Due to entrenched gender norms, girls often face additional challenges that can limit their access to education. This lack of engagement not only limits their personal potential but also poses a significant challenge to the country's socio-economic development.

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The year 2024 posed significant challenges for the organization with changes in child care regulations and a less favorable funding environment in the social sector. In response, the focus has been placed on strengthening our programs, prioritizing the quality of care and ensured suitable care options for our children.



How Your Support Transformed Children's Lives in Tirupati

Safe and loving Family-Like Care

A safe and stable home is essential for every child's development. Through Family-like Care, 74 children, 22 boys and 52 girls, who lost parental care found a loving home, where they could experience the warmth and stability of a family. Child Safeguarding Session and Common-Sense Parenting Skills have been organized during the year to foster family bonding between the mother and the Children. Family houses received budgets for nutritious food, ensuring that children grow up healthy and strong. Clothing and healthcare support, including general health check-ups and hospitalization when needed, were also provided. These measures contributed to the overall well-being of children and youth, enabling them to focus on their education and personal growth without the burden of unmet basic needs.

Strengthening Youths with Education, Vocational Training and Self-Confidence

Skilling of Youth has been the primary focus of the organization during the year of 2024. It has been possible to provide educational assistance to children and youth at various stages of their learning journey. From preparatory education and tuition support to bridge classes, these initiatives have helped children and youth perform better academically. A 100% pass rate was achieved for the children in 10th grade and English communication training was also provided. During the English course, 17 participants enrolled where 5 of them completed the course and received certificates. The remaining participants are in the process of completing the course.

In our Small Group Homes, 19 children received tailored support in a safe and caring setting, helping them rebuild their confidence and sense of belonging. Several activities have been conducted throughout the year, among them awareness sessions including Child protection and child rights, Life skills and personality development as well as Birthday celebrations for all the youths. Caregivers were also provided with training in parental skills, enabling them to create safe, nurturing environments for the children in their care. These efforts have strengthened the overall safeguarding framework, ensuring that children and youth feel protected and supported. All the 10 youth boys cleared class X boards exam with good remark and they were all admitted to different courses like Diploma in Handloom and Textile Technology.

For 106 young people in Supervised Independent Living, tools and guidance they need was provided to transition into adulthood with strength and independence. Every single young person who exited our Supervised Independent Living program this year did so as a self-reliant individual, achieving a remarkable 100% success rate. Vocational training and IT skill courses were offered, equipping them with employable



skills and enhancing their career prospects. The program empowers youth to build a better future for themselves and the nation. The vocational training provided through these programs not only facilitates wage employment but also supports self-employment opportunities. Furthermore, resilience-building activities were facilitated as well as safe spaces for young people to express themselves, build confidence, and develop life skills. Awareness programs on climate change and character building were conducted, encouraging children and youth to become responsible and informed members of their communities.

Building Partnerships for Sustainable Impact

To ensure the long-term sustainability of our efforts, partnerships with government departments and local stakeholders have been strengthened. These collaborations have enabled us to link youth to government social security schemes, providing them with additional support as they transition into independent lives. By working closely with community-based organizations, access to livelihood, health, and care service has expanded creating a stronger safety net for vulnerable children and youth.

Financial Report

Donated by Akelius University Foundation, EUR	2024 Budget	2024 Actuals	2025 Budget
SOS Programme Tirupati, India	92 840	89 088	21 463
SOS Programme Les Cayes, Haiti	243 012	246 765	324 591
Total	335 852	335 852	346 054
SEK (using exchange rate at the time of payment)	4 000 001	4 000 002	4 000 000
Average exchange rate	11,91	11,91	11,53
Total budget/actuals, Tirupati, EUR	2024 Budget	2024 Actuals	2025 Budget
Investments/maintenance	-575	-14 015	-4 415
Current working expenditures	-266 787	-271 200	-281 725
Personnel expenditures	-99 099	-95 422	-86 848
Other expenditures	-15 774	-13 822	-14 158
Total	-382 235	-394 459	-387 146
Share covered by Akelius Tirupati	23%	22%	5%



Total budget/actuals, Les Cayes, EUR	2024 Budget	2024 Actuals	2025 Budget
Investments/maintenance	-26 864	-25 488	-9 463
Current working expenditures	-551 968	-540 801	-535 581
Personnel expenditures	-397 280	-368 341	-408 440
Other expenditures	-47 498	-44 697	-43 901
Total	-1 023 610	-979 327	-997 385

Share covered by Akelius Les Cayes (see Haiti)

*According to updated agreement funds will be phased out in Tirupati, India and re-allocated to Les Cayes, Haiti.



Cambodia

The Situation for Children and Youth

Cambodia has experienced notable economic growth and advancements in poverty reduction, with consistent growth rates of approximately 7% annually over the past decade. Despite these achievements, many individuals remain vulnerable to poverty, including orphans, street children, abandoned youth, and those affected by old age, disabilities, and violence. The poverty rate has decreased from 30% to around 17%, but these groups still face significant challenges.

Regarding children's right to education, in 2023, nearly 80 000 primary-aged children were out of school (World Bank 2023), leaving them vulnerable to a cycle of poverty and limited opportunities. Many parents, especially in rural areas, do not always have knowledge of the importance of education, which contributes to children leaving school prematurely. Girls in Cambodia generally have access to basic education, but there are still significant barriers to their full participation in the education system.



Many parents, especially in rural areas, do not always have knowledge of the importance of education, which contributes to children leaving school prematurely.

Additionally, gender inequality is remarkable. 37% believe that a husband is justified in beating his wife under certain circumstances, highlighting the need for continued efforts to promote gender equality and empower women (World Bank 2022). 10.9% of women aged 15–49 also reported experiencing physical or sexual violence in the past year (World Bank, 2014).

How Your Support Transformed Children's Lives in Cambodia

Ratanakiri: Safe Family-Like Care for Vulnerable Children

The Family Like Care programme in Ratanakiri provided care to 96 children, including 57 boys and 31 girls, during the year of 2024. The programme continued to focus on providing holistic support to both children and young people, ensuring they received



the necessary resources and guidance for their development. Throughout the year, the programme provided consistent support to these children and youth, with a strong emphasis on improving their education, health, and confidence. The programme guided children and youth through their transitional phases, ensuring they were equipped with the skills and support needed for reintegration into society in the future. 8 children were successfully reintegrated with their biological families, marking an important step in their rehabilitation and reintegration process. This success highlights the programmer's sustainable long-term solution for children who have lost parental care.

In 2024, the SOS Children's Village Ratanakiri achieved notable progress in fostering an understanding of rights and education among children, youth, and families. Most families actively participated in the education and care program, with 70% of ethnic minorities recognizing the importance of education and ensuring their children receive schooling. This widespread understanding of the value of education was reflected in the 80% pass rate of children in the project on the national exam, a significant accomplishment that demonstrated the success of the educational support provided.

Ratanakiri: Direct Family Empowerment for Prevention of Family Separation

The Family Strengthening Programme served 429 children from 252 families in the target communities, providing vital support to families at risk of separating. This work has strengthened parent's ability to care for their children, ensuring that families can stay together even in the face of challenges. All children were provided with school materials, uniforms, and extra classes to improve educational access. Additionally, 12 youths, including 7 girls, were supported in enhancing their employability, studying at institutions in Cambodia and Thailand in fields such as medicine, law, business management, IT, and graphic design.

As a result, at least 70% of families saw significant improvements in their livelihoods, enabling them to send their children to school and providing better living conditions compared to the previous year. 150 families applied their learning from the programme, leading to successful income generation activities, improved food security, and better overall living conditions.

However, some families were unable to apply the learning due to challenges such as lack of resources, time constraints from livelihood activities, and limited access to necessary land. These families were unable to fully benefit from the agricultural and livelihood training provided. Despite these challenges, the programme continues to support these families through follow-up and ongoing assistance with capital for income generating activity.



Ratanakiri: Early Childhood Development

The Early Childhood Development Programme focuses on education and supporting the development of children under the age of 6. The programme enhanced children's cognitive, emotional, and physical growth through early learning support, play-based learning, and health and nutrition initiatives. Over the year, the programme supported 155 young children, including 15 children from the Family Like Care programme and 140 children from surrounding communities. These efforts contributed to the overall cognitive, social, and emotional development of the children involved. Key achievements include positive health and educational outcomes for the children, enhanced caregiver knowledge, and strengthened community integration through shared activities.

Gaps in health and nutrition were identified during the year, with some children, particularly in surrounding communities, lacking adequate nutritional support and regular health care. The programme will focus on improving the provision of nutritional support and health check-ups, ensuring all children receive proper care, including regular vaccinations and nutritious meals.

Prey Veng: Direct Family Empowerment for Prevention of Family Separation

In 2024, The Family Strengthening Program made significant strides in supporting vulnerable families in the region. The program assisted 263 children from 179 families by providing essential school materials, uniforms, extra educational support, and hygiene kits. These resources enabled the children to attend school regularly and improve their educational outcomes.

Caregivers were provided with valuable training and resources to enhance their skills in areas such as positive parenting, child protection, and preventing child abuse. Additionally, they gained practical knowledge in agricultural techniques, including vegetable cultivation and animal husbandry, which helped to improve their food security and increase household income. As a result of these efforts, 150 families successfully applied the training they received and saw improvements in their livelihoods, allowing them to better support their children's education and send them to school.

The Family Strengthening Program also facilitated the formation of savings groups, which equipped families with essential skills in managing finances, conflict resolution, and group management. This initiative helped enhance the financial stability of participating families, further improving their living conditions. The year's activities led to tangible improvements for the families, with 150 families experiencing positive changes in their economic stability, better access to education for their children, and improved overall well-being. Many of the children from these families were able to pursue higher education, including university studies, thanks to the improved financial conditions of their households.



The program further conducted 27 training sessions and community awareness meetings throughout the year, reaching 1,043 participants. Topics covered included positive parenting, domestic violence prevention, online child safety, primary health issues, and the importance of gender equality. In addition, special sessions were held on preventing drug and alcohol abuse, as well as promoting proper nutrition.

Financial Report

Donated by Hugo research foundation, EUR	2024 Budget	2024 Actuals	2025 Budget
SFC, YC Ratanakiri and SFC Prey Veng, Cambodia	530 293	530 293	547 770
Total	530 293	530 293	547 770
SEK (using exchange rate at the time of payment)	6 315 789	6 315 792	6 315 789
Average exchange rate	11,91	11,91	11,53
Total budget/actuals, EUR	2024 Budget	2024 Actuals	2025 Budget
Investments/maintenance	-754	-11 381	-7 248
Current working expenditures	-414 415	-390 110	-448 170
Personnel expenditures	-275 883	-270 974	-323 247
Other expenditures	-27 981	-18 989	-49 776
Total	-719 033	-691 454	-828 441
Share covered by Akelius	70%	73%	63%

* From 2023 the costs for the whole locations Ratanakiri and Prey Veng, Cambodia are included according to SOS CVI's new programme structure.



Palestine

The Situation for Children and Youth

Over the past two years, the humanitarian crisis in Palestine, particularly in Gaza but also in the West Bank, has significantly worsened. The situation has been marked by intense conflict, severe restrictions, and widespread suffering among the Palestinian population.

In Gaza, the conflict escalated dramatically in October 2023. Since then, a high number of civilian casualties and the destruction of residential buildings and public infrastructure. The ongoing military operations have left many areas under siege, with limited access to food, water, electricity, and healthcare. The fuel crisis has further exacerbated the situation, threatening the delivery of essential humanitarian services.

More than 60.000 people were killed in Gaza between October 2023 and June 2024, 13.000 of them were children (UN, 2025), and nearly 900 people in West Bank where Israeli forces have conducted large-scale operations.



More than 60.000 people were killed in Gaza between October 2023 and June 2024, 13.000 of them were children

The humanitarian crisis in Palestine has led also to significant displacement. As of early 2025, there are approximately 1.9 million internally displaced people in Gaza. In the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, the number of displaced people is also substantial, though specific figures are less frequently reported.

Regarding children, UNICEF reports that over 47% of the displaced population in Palestine are children. This means that nearly 900,000 children are among the displaced in Gaza alone. These children face severe challenges, including limited access to education, healthcare, and necessities, and are particularly vulnerable to the ongoing conflict and instability. Among the main affectations and risks for children are:

Violence and Trauma: Children are exposed to high levels of violence, including military operations, airstrikes, and clashes. This exposure leads to physical injuries, psychological trauma, and long-term mental health issues.

Displacement: Many children are displaced from their homes due to conflict, leading to instability and disruption in their lives. Displacement often results in a lack of access to basic services and education.



Health Risks: The destruction of healthcare facilities and limited access to medical services have increased health risks for children. Outbreaks of waterborne diseases, malnutrition, and inadequate healthcare are prevalent

Education Disruption: The conflict has severely disrupted education, with many schools damaged or used as shelters. Children face interruptions in their learning, leading to long-term educational setbacks.

Poverty and Food Insecurity: High levels of poverty and food insecurity affect children's growth and development. Many families struggle to provide adequate nutrition, leading to malnutrition and related health issues.

How Your Support Transformed Children's Lives in Palestine

Following the repercussions of Israeli military operations on Gaza strip on 2014, since then, Akelius Foundation has been a generous supporter of SOS Children's Villages Palestine emergency project and its children's village programme unit.

Among those ten years, the continuous support of Akelius Foundation has relieved and saved lots of displaced families and abandoned children.

During the most intense and threatening period of 2023 escalation, Akelius Foundation contributed in helping 76 children having a secured a place to stay at and providing basic lifesaving needs, this was extended to the 29 village staff and their families.

During the first 68 days of 2024, Rafah Children's Village has been of the most secured places in Gaza strip, where it has been operating as a shelter for the 76 Family-Like Care programme participants, staff and their families. Since October 7th diplomatic efforts have never stopped within the federation to secure our target group and evacuate until ended with successes where a group of 95 people (68 children from Family-Like Care, 8 SOS-mothers, 3 education staff and their families) were evacuated through a very complex three days travel journey to arrive in Bethlehem that is 70km close to Gaza Strip.

Upon their arrival in March, solidarity, care and responsibility have been intensively delivered through different formal and informal approaches, local community tried to provide the evacuated group with the supported they couldn't provide to Gaza.

During the first couples of weeks of their arrival, the evacuated group stayed at a hotel neighbouring Bethlehem children's village, during this period, they got the psychological first aid, medical checks, nutritional and psychological assessments.

Despite their complex journey, trauma and mixed feelings of leaving their relatives in ambiguous conditions, children and staff have been able to actively take part in the



different events of holly Ramadan, each of Bethlehem family houses has hosted a family from evacuated group for Iftar gathering. Moreover, it was the impossible chance for the children in Rafah's Family-Like Care to leave Gaza and meet their friends in Bethlehem children's village.

A month later, evacuated children and staff have been integrated into the community of Bethlehem in leased apartment in al Doha city (on city of Bethlehem), in parallel, children were enrolled to the academic system after abruption of six months.

During summer, a customized summer school program has been designed and implemented for the evacuated group, where these two months program aimed healing children, relieving them from the bad experience they went through and indicate scope of interventions that we should consider in the next years.

While evacuation was turning the impossible into possible and saving lives of 95 people, the political situation in West Bank jeopardized this impact, this was due the fact of living under siege where people confront different geo political and geo economical limitations but also exposed to the different military operations.

Team of SOS Children's Villages in Palestine has been tirelessly working towards addressing the different needs of children under our care in the way that delivers the aimed impact on children but also on the caregivers who have been evacuated, within these efforts, a teenager's house was opened in December 2024 to tackle the specific needs of male children who reached the age of 13 years. This house is being led by three male caregivers who act as coaches and partners in defining their development plans.

During this period, Rafah Children's Village has been anchored as lifesaving shelter, where the evacuation allowed for having the space to safeguard lives of new people; former SOS participants, children who couldn't evacuate, staff, their children and extended families. The village has been a safe place for approximately 270 displaced people where their majority is of vulnerable children.

According to SOS Children's Villages in Palestine established security triggers, the above beneficiaries had to leave the village under the force of fire and smell of death. At that time, safe places were very scarce, but the team of Palestine has been able to take preparedness measures where we established two tent camps; one in Khan Younis and the other is in Deir Al-balah which unfortunately was dissembled by the IF in August 2024.

In addition to mentioned group of participants, Khan Younis camp has delivered different services to the community; family like care, interim care, family support, mental health and education, this has been done in collaboration with different local and international partners.

Prior to observing the complete and colossal destruction of Rafah children's village, children and staff have been dreaming of returning to the village. Despite this, they are



keen on moving forward and challenge the situation, the living conditions has been advancing by establishing new caravans and premisses.

While SOS Children's Villages is an integral part of the Palestinian community, we are keen on expanding our interventions in the field we are confident we could have impact especially education in emergency in Gaza strip and expects to have their loyal partners by our side.

More on the Evacuation

At start, due to the vulnerable situation, an evacuation of 68 children, 8 caregivers and 3 staff members who work directly with the children from Gaza program to Bethlehem was successful in March 2024. There was also an evacuation from Gaza to refugee camps in Khan Younis and Deir El Balah. For the children in Bethlehem, a comprehensive plan for the evacuated children was implemented including different interventions with the children and the caregivers. This included mental health, medical and educational interventions. SOS Children's Villages in Palestine kept all children under their care in contact with their biological and extended families including the evacuated children during the critical war situation. Furthermore, 3 out of the 8 children who were not part of the evacuation process successfully reintegrated with their biological families in Gaza. Thus, a total of 76 children who no longer could live with their family's found safety and belonging under SOS Children's villages care in 2024.



The children's village in Rafah is now destroyed due to bombings. However, thanks to the evacuation in March 2024, the children were living in Bethlehem when the bombs struck.

Furthermore, the evacuated children who arrived in Bethlehem during the war faced significant challenges in integrating into the new place. These included adjusting to a new environment, coping with trauma from the war, navigating cultural differences and forming connection with caregivers. This was responded to with various training, contingency plans and establishment of emergency protocols. They have also provided MHPSS, Mental health and psychosocial support to children and mothers during the war through psychological first aid interventions, stress-relief sessions and trauma-informed interventions.

// The successful evacuation gives a glimmer of hope. At the same time, our concern remains with all the children who are still in danger in Gaza," says the Chief Programme Officer at SOS Children's Villages International.



Emergency Response Program

Emergency response services in the Occupied Palestinian Territories have also given access of vulnerable individuals and families to essential needs and lifesaving basic services. Humanitarian assistance has been carried out in forms of providing food, non-food items and emergency care to those affected by the crisis. Further, accommodating internally displaced people in shelters and providing comprehensive support to those in alternative care has also been proceeded. This initiative has been done in refugee camps in Khan Younis and Deir El Balah.

Direct Family Empowerment and supporting life skills of adolescents

Before the evacuation from Gaza in March 2024, a total of 1,285 individuals were reached through the Direct Family Empowerment program, providing struggling families with the tools and support they need to stay together and create a stable environment for their children. In addition, 97 young people participated in Employment and Entrepreneurship Training, equipping them with skills to build brighter futures. 8 young adults transitioning to independence were supported through our Supervised Independent Living program, with 75% of those exiting this year achieving self-reliance—a testament to the long-term impact of your contribution. Unfortunately, these programs are no longer operating because of the current situation.

Financial Report

Donated by Akelius University Foundation, EUR	2024 Budget	2024 Actuals	2025 Budget
Programme Rafah, Palestine	335 852	335 852	346 921
Post-evacuation of children*	500 000	500 000 **	-
Total Donation	835 852	835 852	346 921
SEK (using exchange rate at the time of payment)	9 955 000	9 710 500	4 000 000
Average exchange rate	11,91	11,62	11,53
Total budget/actuals, EUR	2024 Budget	2024 Actuals	2025 Budget
Investments/maintenance	-7 297	-93 795	-46 548
Current working expenditures	-701 349	-883 645	-1 466 710
Personnel expenditures	-1 071 373	-684 847	-1 295 072
Other expenditures	-53 685	-109 300	-117 746



Total	- 1 833 704	-1 771 587	- 2 926 076
Share covered by Akelius	43%	45%	11%
<i>Opening balance 2025 post- evacuation*</i>			200 000

*Post-evacuation expenses were funded by Akelius Foundation and Saïd Foundation. The remaining funds are expected to be used during 2025.

**In 2024, costs related to the post-evacuation of Gaza program participants to Bethlehem were part of the budget for Rafah Children's Villages.

→ Moving forward

Thanks to the Akelius Foundation, life-saving efforts have been made for children in Palestine. However, the situation remains difficult, and many resources, efforts and support will be needed to give children who have lost everything a future. The main humanitarian needs identified are:

- Mental Health and Psychosocial Support: Children require access to mental health services and psychosocial support to cope with the trauma and stress caused by the conflict.
- Access to Education: Ensuring that children can continue their education in safe and supportive environments is crucial. This includes rebuilding schools and providing learning materials.
- Healthcare Services: Improving access to healthcare, including vaccinations, treatment for malnutrition, and care for injuries, is essential for children's well-being.
- Protection from Violence: Measures to protect children from violence and exploitation are needed, including safe spaces and legal protections.
- Basic Needs and Humanitarian Aid: Providing food, clean water, shelter, and other necessities is critical to support the survival and development of children in Palestine.



Ukraine

The Situation for Children and Youth

The overall security situation throughout Ukraine was very complex and highly volatile in 2024. The people of Ukraine continued to pay the highest price for the ongoing war, as every day attacks took lives, destroyed homes and brought more suffering. During 2024, Russian Forces regularly conducted long-range missiles and kamikaze drones' attacks against Ukraine, ranging from single strikes to complex country-wide attacks involving over 200 air munitions. Those strikes continued to focus on civilian infrastructure, mainly on energy, industrial and logistic facilities. Damage to power generating facilities and transmission systems led to increased restrictions of energy consumption across the entire country, which resulted in power cuts and water supply outages in many regions across the country.

On Monday 8th of July 2024, the Russians conducted a massive, combined missile attack on Kyiv where 33 people were killed including four children and another 121 people were injured. Besides, they damaged the largest children's hospital Okhmatdyt with a cruise missile, which was within walking distance from SOS CV UA National Office. A block of flats and a Maternity hospital were also among the hit targets. On 21 November Russia conducted the largest and most powerful missile attack against Ukraine since Feb 2022 in Dnipro city by an intermediate-range ballistic missile "Oreshnyk" – a rocket with six warheads, where each carried six submunitions. Currently, Ukraine has no air defense system capable to intercept such a munition.



SOS Children's Villages in Ukraine contributed to the reconstruction of the rehabilitation unit at Okhmatdyt Children's Hospital, which was heavily damaged in missile attacks during the summer. Despite the attack, the hospital continued to treat children with severe injuries and illnesses.



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The use of loitering munitions (LM) increased sharply in 2024, rising from 364 launched in January to 2434 in November increasing the risk of falling debris and their devastating impact.



Russians began to use guided aerial bombs more actively in Kharkiv, Sumy and Kherson regions and increased intensity of mortar shelling and drones' attacks of border areas in Sumy and Chernihiv regions.

Fighting in front-line communities, especially the enemy's attempt of a major offensive in Kharkiv region in May, led to new displacements. Attacks in large urban centres of Kharkiv, Odesa, Dnipro, Kyiv, Kryvyi Rih and other cities caused multiple civilian casualties and damage to homes, hospitals and schools. In Donetsk oblast (region), hostilities which aggravated humanitarian needs also resulted in shrinking humanitarian access. Wildfires spreading across Donetsk and Kharkiv oblasts destroyed hundreds of homes and triggered new displacements. Thousands of people from Sumy, Kharkiv, Donetsk, and Kherson regions continued to leave their homes and move to the western regions of the country.



This is where we operated in Ukraine, in 2024.



How Your Support Transformed Children's Lives in Ukraine

Mental and Psychosocial Support

Mobile teams provided psychological support to children and families affected by war. Professionals like teachers and social workers received training. Children joined camps with structured activities to support their well-being. The focus was on long-term support, especially in heavily affected regions. Group and individual sessions helped reduce anxiety and trauma. However, reaching the most vulnerable remains a challenge due to safety risks.

Support for War-Injured Children

SOS provided medical, psychological, legal, and educational support to one-third of children injured in the war. We helped rebuild the damaged children's hospital Okhmatdyt and partnered with others for rehabilitation. Children and parents received trauma support, legal aid, and access to remote education. Camps and seminars were organized in collaboration with other NGOs.

Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

Families received conditional and multi-purpose cash support to cover costs like rent, evacuation, and rehabilitation. This included foster families, families with injured children, and those returning from abroad.

Self-Reliance and Income Support

Families previously supported to start small businesses continued to grow. Training and mentoring helped more families become self-sufficient, improving their financial stability.

Foster Families

Training was provided for new foster parents. Camps and psychological support were offered to foster families. Recommendations were made for placements or reunification. Shelters were built for safety, and child protection teams ensured children's well-being.

Family Strengthening Centers

Centers in eight regions supported vulnerable families with:



- Help for displaced families
- Support for foster families
- Housing assistance
- Cash and medical aid
- Education and parenting support
- Activities for children's development
- Collaboration with NGOs and authorities

Youth Programs

In Kyiv, youth joined forums and events to learn about safety, rights, and leadership. Career guidance helped many find jobs or continue studies. The youth center offered counseling, activities, and education.

Advocacy: Every Child Deserves a Family

SOS Children's Villages worked to ensure children grow up in families, not institutions. Campaigns and partnerships led to a new national strategy promoting family-based care over orphanages.

Financial Report

Donated by SOS Barnbyars Stöd Stiftelse, EUR	2024 Budget	2024 Actuals	2025 Budget
Emergency programme Ukraine	419 815	420 867	182 590
Total	419 815	420 867	182 590
SEK (using exchange rate at the time of payment)	5 000 000	5 012 531	2 105 263
Average exchange rate	11,91	11,91	11,53



Total budget/actuals, EUR	2024 Budget	2024 Actuals	2025 Budget
Emergency programme Ukraine	-10 899 960	-11 271 851	
Investments/maintenance			-56 620
Current working expenditures			-578 675
Personnel expenditures			-1 088 946
Other expenditures			-52 398
Total	-10 899 960	-11 271 851	-1 776 638
Share covered by Akelius	3,67%	3,56%	9,79%

In contrast with funding in 2024 which supported emergency programs, financial contributions for 2025 will be allocated to a 3-year partnership program for long-term care.

Advancing the SDGs

Your investment has contributed to advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Thanks to Akelius Foundation, we have been able to create meaningful and lasting changes for children, young people, and families in vulnerable situations, building a brighter and more sustainable future for all.



SDG 1: No Poverty

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being

SDG 4: Quality Education

SDG 5: Gender Equality



SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities

SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

Together, We Are Changing Lives

Your unwavering support has transformed the lives of children, families, and communities in the Philippines, Haiti, India, Cambodia, Bolivia, Palestine, and Ukraine. Thank you for being an integral part of this important work in 2024 — your generosity is changing children's lives.

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Sources: World Bank, UNDP, SOS Children's Villages in the Philippines, Haiti, India, Cambodia, Bolivia, Palestine, and Ukraine.