

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



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Annual Report 2021

ActionAid the Netherlands is part of the global ActionAid federation. ActionAid is a leading international human rights organisation working in over 45 countries with communities and local organisations, supporting them to claim their rights and build a life without poverty and injustice. With our grassroots experience, we demand progress from those in power at local, national, and international levels to build lasting change.

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Cover photo:

On the cover is Marie from Liberia. She is a member of National Rural Women Structure (RW) in Gbarpolu County, supported by ActionAid. Marie heads a group that focuses on strengthening their capacity to challenge and reject all forms of gender-based violence, and lead advocacy campaigns at the sub-national level for e.g. land rights for women. **Photo credits:** Ruth McDowall/ActionAid

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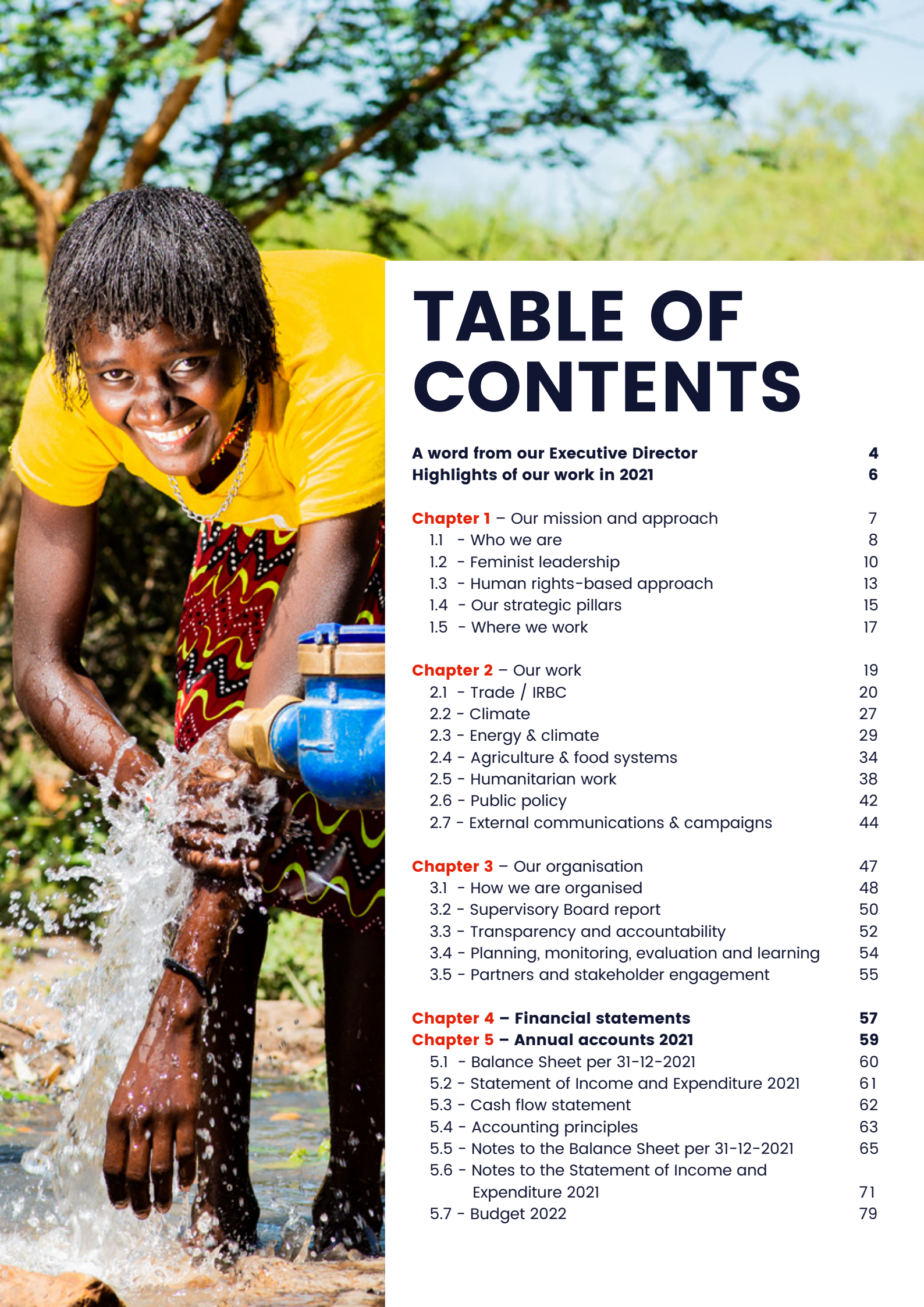


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WELCOME

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Marit Maj, director ActionAid

I want to start by sharing with you a lesson I learnt from African-American writer Anna J. Cooper. In her book *A Voice from the South: By a Black Woman from the South* (1892), she argues that big problems cannot be solved by vexing oneself or orating about them; action is needed. How right she was more than 130 years ago. Women who want to change the world, improve their chances and correct social and economic inequalities, need to put their words into action. And I am proud that ActionAid facilitates that action all over the world.

A great deal changed in 2021, but global inequality did not change for the better. In fact, inequality increased during last year. For many of our partner countries in the Global South, the COVID-19 pandemic has put the development of gender equality back at least 10 years. Research shows that women are hit the hardest by the negative social and economic effects of the pandemic.

Fortunately, some things did change for the better. In this annual report, you can read about our accomplishments. We started the new five-year phase of our Fair Green and Global programme with

Together, we keep fighting to change the broken economic system which serves the haves and undermines the rights of most others. ActionAid works towards a feminist economy, an economy centred around care and well-being for all, not just wealth and profits for the few.

the ActionAid offices in Kenya, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Guatemala and Bangladesh. In Kenya, community groups in Marereni banded together with ActionAid Kenya's local partner Malindi Rights Forum (MRF) and managed to stop an eviction threat by salt mining companies in Kinyaule village. And Shell was found guilty of endangering the lives and basic human rights of individuals by neglecting to do their part to combat climate change. ActionAid the Netherlands was one of seven NGOs which took on Shell in this historic court case.

And to think, we did all of this while still working from home instead of in the office. This became the 'new normal' for most of us, as countries moved from one lockdown to the next. It allowed us to organise several successful webinars and hybrid events, bringing strong women and representatives from the Global South to the table. Together we keep fighting to change the broken economic system which serves the haves and undermines the rights of the have nots. ActionAid works towards a feminist economy, an economy centred around care and well-being for all, not just wealth and profits for the few. An economy that respects human rights and nature and is based on justice and equality.

2021 was my first year at the helm of ActionAid, and I am extremely proud of what we have been able to achieve with women and communities around the world. Our work would not be possible without the support of our loyal donors and supporters, and we thank you for that! We have welcomed many new partners and friends who have helped us to work towards a feminist, just and green transition through system change and shifting power. Many participated in *The 35 Challenge*, rallying against violence against women, supported our *Wat is nou écht belangrijk?* campaign for a feminist future, and signed our petition for a law on corporate social responsibility. We are incredibly grateful for our ambassador Geraldine Kemper and the effort and energy she has put into our work. We also want to thank our other ambassadors and our Feminist Organizers who have volunteered their time.

We hope this year's report will inspire you to join forces with us in changing the future. Together we will continue to work with women and their communities all over the world to fight for equality and justice. Together we put words into action.

Marit Maij

Executive Director
ActionAid the Netherlands



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Together with partners, we gathered over **40,000 signatures** in support of legislation that will hold companies responsible for human rights violations in their production chains.
- After that petition, Dutch Minister De Bruijn of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, announced the development of a national law; the first step to putting a law into effect and improving the lives of millions around the world!
- The Marereni community in Kenya **put a stop to land grabbing** by salt mining companies.
- We **reunited 11 children** with their parents after a destructive fire in a Rohingya refugee camp in Bangladesh.
- *The Manganese Matters* report has supported communities in South Africa to **create change in manganese mining policies**.
- In total, ActionAid reached over **25 million people** worldwide with emergency relief as well as long-term support.
- Together with partners, we **held Shell accountable** for endangering the lives and basic human rights of individuals by neglecting to do their part to combat climate change.

A woman wearing a vibrant red sari is seated at a wooden table, operating a vintage black sewing machine. The machine has gold-colored decorative patterns and a yellow measuring tape is draped over its side. The background is a solid teal wall. The scene is brightly lit, highlighting the textures of the fabric and the details of the sewing machine.

1. OUR MISSION AND APPROACH

Which is more important: profit or well-being? The answer these days is too often: profit. And it usually comes at the expense of welfare. Because of this mentality, we see a global struggle with the climate crisis and rising inequality. This has disastrous consequences for human rights throughout the world. Women, disadvantaged by their socioeconomic and cultural position, are hit extra hard. Our devastating economic system violates human rights and worsens climate change. It's high time to step up and intervene.



Our international strategy calls for the development of feminist and human rights-based alternatives. Innovative approaches that lead us towards a feminist, just and sustainable world.

1.1 WHO WE ARE

ActionAid the Netherlands is part of the global federation ActionAid International which strives to create a just, equitable and sustainable world. A world in which every person enjoys freedom from all forms of oppression, with a specific focus on the struggles of women and girls. Within ActionAid International, we work together with 15 million people in over 45 countries. The International Secretariat is based in Johannesburg. Each ActionAid member country contributes its expertise and experience to the federation's strategy. Together we work in over 2,000 communities worldwide, partnering with local groups and social movements. We focus on creating systemic change, which we regard as one of the key ways to battle inequality. We use research and evidence from local areas as a foundation to campaign and lobby for lasting change. When change is led by active, informed and organised people, we strongly believe it can transform power.

OUR APPROACH

Our international strategy calls for the development of feminist and human rights-based alternatives. Innovative approaches that lead us towards a feminist, just and sustainable world. This progressive approach can be seen in the way we focus on governance and feminist leadership, and it shines through our work around the world. Organisational learning is key to innovation - staff and partners within the ActionAid International family share best practices and learnings through Communities of Practice. That is one of the ways we try to ensure that our culture encourages learning and creativity.



We are connected in focus, purpose and passion, as well as being favourably different in our ways of working.

Another important aspect of the human rights-based approach is the input that comes from grassroots movements. ActionAid works together with communities in the Global South to implement their own ways of creating sustainable change. This enables us to think differently about how to approach seemingly intractable problems. Our goal is to work with others for positive change at scale, through solution-focused resourcefulness. This means we can change the lives of more people, in a more profound, sustainable and efficient way.

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

We also attract eager and inquisitive interns to all departments within ActionAid, to make sure we always have fresh minds and the latest ideas in-house, and up-to-date knowledge available. The same goes for the partners we choose to collaborate with. We are connected in focus, purpose and passion, as well as being favourably different in our ways of working. We specifically look for partners who are different to us, so we can learn collaboratively and innovate together. We also learn from mistakes within successful programmes by acknowledging them, being transparent and rethinking how we can work most effectively towards transformational change.

To prevent poor fiscal management, we work with clear learning cycles in all programmes, we identify causes of confusion soon after they arise and act on them. By taking a bottom-up approach within ActionAid, we hear about challenges and bottlenecks before we even start working with partners – this also calls for our innovative mindset.



We believe in a world where equal rights are self-evident. Where there is plenty of room for diversity and sustainability. Feminism is the answer to the current destructive economic system. A feminist economy puts the well-being of people and nature at its core.

1.2 FEMINIST LEADERSHIP

ActionAid believes in welfare and well-being. We believe in a world where equal rights are self-evident. And where there is plenty of room for diversity and sustainability. If we want to create such a world, we need to break current power structures. That way women worldwide can realise their potential and initiate positive change. That is a future that has something to offer women. Women are trapped in a vicious cycle of poverty, exclusion and oppression, especially in the Global South. Feminism is the answer to the current destructive economic system. A feminist economy puts the well-being of people and nature at its core. Examples are the revaluation of care, sustainable use of the earth, investing in a circular economy, tackling tax avoidance by multinationals and strengthening of the position of women worldwide.

ActionAid is committed to more feminism in politics and resists the current economic structure. We seek to strengthen the position of people who are being exploited and we work side by side with those who raise a fist against injustice. We fight at a local, national and international level for system change and a redistribution of power. That way we get to the root of the problem. Together we make sure that human rights, the climate and the environment are protected and respected.

At ActionAid, we see feminist leadership principles in the workplace and inclusive use of power as positive ways to build an organisation that can change the world. We must try to work by the standards we set. We apply 10 feminist leadership principles to what we do and how we do them.

This is a journey of continual improvement instead of an expectation of perfection from our colleagues.

FEMINIST LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLES

As part of our commitment to women's rights, we recognise, embody and champion 10 feminist leadership principles. We apply these principles not only to what we do, but also to how we do things. This includes how we work with our staff, supporters, partners, donors, suppliers and everyone we encounter through our work and in our workplaces. These principles are applicable to people of all genders and at all levels, from board members to new hires starting their first job with ActionAid. Working in accordance with these principles helps us to build an organisation that can change the world.

At ActionAid, we see applying feminist principles in the workplace and inclusive use of power as positive ways to build an organisation that can change the world. Inspired by the words 'Be the change you want to see in the world,' the feminist leadership principles are our vision of what a feminist future with feminist structures of power could look like. But to make that happen, we ourselves must try to work by the standard we set. We embody feminist principles through our behaviour in the workplace, and the way we behave helps to create a safe, productive and progressive workplace culture. We appreciate that this is a journey of continual improvement instead of an expectation of perfection from our colleagues.

Within our organisation, we hold monthly meetings to discuss one of these principles. We consider how a principle relates to our work, our interaction with our colleagues and for us as humans. When requested, extra training sessions are offered to gain more in-depth knowledge and understanding of a principle, so all colleagues feel comfortable and skilled to put the principles at the heart of their work.

ActionAid's 10 feminist leadership principles:

1



SELF-AWARENESS

Working towards accepting our vulnerabilities, as well as recognising and valuing our own strengths and those of others.

2



SELF-CARE AND CARING FOR OTHERS

Taking care of our own emotional and physical well-being and encouraging and supporting others to do the same.

3



DISMANTLING BIAS

Checking our own and institutional privilege and power based on advantages we have such as gender, class, race, ability and other factors.

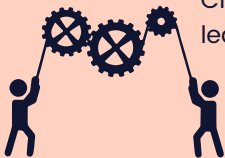
4



INCLUSION

Building diverse teams and responding to different barriers to participation.

5



SHARING POWER

Creating a space for others to lead.

6



RESPONSIBLE USE OF POWER

Being clear, timely and transparent in making decisions.

7



ACCOUNTABLE COLLABORATION

Ensuring collective goals are clearly defined and mutually owned. Holding ourselves and others accountable for achieving them.

8



RESPECTFUL FEEDBACK

Seeking, giving and valuing constructive feedback as an opportunity for two-way learning.

9



COURAGE

Giving each other the confidence to try new things. Taking initiative, learning from mistakes and not fearing failure. Trust is the foundation for growth and change!

10



ZERO TOLERANCE

Calling out any form of discrimination and abuse of power, and ensuring our own conduct is free from any kind of harassment and exploitation.



The human rights-based approach is developed from the understanding that poverty and inequality arise because of the marginalisation and discrimination associated with human rights violations. For people to move out of the margins, first their basic human rights must be protected.

1.3 HUMAN RIGHTS- BASED APPROACH

We put women at the heart of what we do because we believe we cannot end poverty and inequality when half the world's citizens are denied their rights. Awareness raising is essential for people to be able to challenge unequal power relations at a local, national and global level.

ActionAid uses a human rights-based approach, which is developed from the understanding that poverty and inequality arise because of the marginalisation and discrimination associated with human rights violations. For people to move out of the margins, first their basic human rights must be protected. It requires a people-centred approach that supports those living in poverty to:

1. **Become aware of their rights.**
2. **Then organise themselves to claim these rights.**
3. **Then hold authorities to account when their rights are being infringed upon.**

We believe that people, especially women, living in poverty and exclusion in the Global South must be central in driving social change. All over the world, women have less social, economic and political power. ActionAid works together with women and organisations to



With a long-term presence in approximately 45 countries, ActionAid has strong relationships with communities and organisations in the Global South.

promote feminist economic alternatives that challenge the status quo. We stand with courageous women speaking out for change in their communities, as well as backing the grassroots organisations they lead.

With a long-term presence in approximately 45 countries, ActionAid has strong relationships with communities and organisations in the Global South. Projects are coordinated by ActionAid country offices and implemented by partners and community cooperatives. In this way, we make the best use of the knowledge and experience of the people involved.

However, this alone is not enough. We use the micro (local) level problems and experience to influence international politics at a macro level. The input of marginalised people is essential in providing alternative solutions. Our research and input are used to change local, regional, national or international legislation. This way we bring micro level problems to the table as examples for macro level solutions. We also generate public pressure to hold our governments to account and to push for respect, protection and fulfilment of human rights. In 2021, ActionAid the Netherlands worked directly with partners in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Guatemala, Kenya, South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe.



1.4 OUR STRATEGIC PILLARS



Governments put in place binding regulations that hold corporations accountable for human rights violations and protect the rights of people and nature. National and international tax policies are improved to avoid tax evasion. IRBC stands for international responsible business conduct.



Governments and companies operate based on climate justice and implement sustainable alternatives. Governments stimulate climate justice through fair climate finance.



Binding regulations will be in place for mining companies to respect human rights and the environment. The energy transition will not happen at the expense of women and communities in the Global South.



Communities in the Global South will have fair access to and control over water and land, and food is produced sustainably.



Advancing women-led emergency preparedness, prevention and response.



The well-being of people and nature is a key aspect of public services and political decisions. Governments in the Global South will have more budget to invest in gender-responsive public services as a result of improved rules against tax evasion.

ActionAid International launched a ten-year strategy in 2017: *Change the rules for a just and sustainable world*. Our strategy is to build international momentum for social, economic and environmental justice, driven by people living in poverty and exclusion. In practice, this means working closely with people living in poverty and exclusion, civil society organisations, social movements and supporters. Together, we deliver grassroots programmes, provide emergency relief and campaign for causes such as women's economic rights, tax justice and climate justice.

In 2021, ActionAid the Netherlands restructured its Theory of Change. This document forms the basis of the new three-year strategy that will be finalised in 2022. We focus on six areas of influence, with women's rights and feminist leadership at the heart of every pillar.

We work on these goals through the following interventions:

1. Supporting programmes in the Global South by (1) mobilising resources – raising funds through investment and innovation; and (2) mutual capacity building – exchanging skills and knowledge by linking community organisations across borders from the local to international level.



We deliver grassroots programmes, provide emergency relief and campaign for causes such as women's economic rights, tax justice and climate justice.

- 2.** Investing in knowledge and research by performing qualitative and quantitative research, writing business cases and whitepapers and offering feminist leadership training in the Netherlands. This increases public and political awareness on the importance of feminist solutions for global problems.
- 3.** Policy influencing and lobbying through community-based action research and publishing reports. We also engage in dialogue with corporate and political stakeholders in the Netherlands, Europe and internationally to address direct and indirect impact of their decision-making on people's livelihoods and opportunities in the Global South.
- 4.** Public campaigning to mobilise and unite Dutch citizens to speak out against human rights violations and inequality. By linking issues faced both in the Global South and the North, creating a common cause and clear calls-to-action, we build a movement of people that use their joint power as consumers, voters, campaigners and supporters to fight for a just and sustainable world.



THE IMPACT OF FEMALE LEADERSHIP

Irene Alonyo is a 32-year-old mother of two and a local council leader in Nebbi, Uganda. She grew up in an area where women in public offices were not valued. When she moved to Nebbi, a bigger town than her hometown, she joined an ActionAid funded programme called Activista.

“I have learnt that knowledge is power, and I want ActionAid to continue teaching women different life skills.”

Activista is a movement that challenges social injustices within the community. Irene says:

“Through Activista, I was equipped with business and leadership skills which gave me the courage to run for local council, and I won. I have set up a women’s group in my political jurisdiction to discuss our achievements and challenges. We also talk about solutions for gender-based violence issues and advise women to speak up and seek help when faced with domestic challenges in their families. I have learnt that knowledge is power, and I want ActionAid to continue teaching women different life skills that can help them escape poverty as the first step towards fighting violence against women.”



A woman with a red headwrap, wearing a white long-sleeved button-down shirt and a long red skirt, stands on a dirt path. She is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a lush green landscape with trees and foliage under a clear blue sky.

2. OUR WORK

ActionAid the Netherlands supports six areas to create lasting and sustainable change. These areas are trade / IRBC (international responsible business conduct), climate, energy & mining, agriculture & food systems, humanitarian aid, and public services. In all these areas, we put women and women's rights at the heart of everything we do.



The destructive balance of power opens the door to exploitation of communities and women in the Global South. We fight for binding international laws and regulations promoting international responsible business conduct.

2.1

TRADE / IRBC

The power of the private sector and unfair tax laws lead to inequality and social, economic and political exploitation. Economic inequality, especially the extreme wealth inequality partly caused by tax avoidance, leads to imbalanced relations. As a result, the private sector and the most prosperous countries can bend all social, economic and political systems to their will. This destructive balance of power opens the door to exploitation of communities and women in the Global South.

Examples of this exploitation are human rights violations in international supply chains, including land grabbing, environmental pollution, violence against women and unfair and unsafe working conditions. To bring about the necessary system change and shift of power in the field of trade, we fight for binding international laws and regulations promoting international responsible business conduct (IRBC). We want to stimulate a fair Dutch and international tax system that protects human and environmental rights.



For the first time, the Ugandan government has adopted an action plan to support businesses and encourage them to respect human rights issues.

UGANDA:

Adoption of National Action Plan on Business & Human Rights

In September 2021, the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development and the Uganda Human Rights Commission launched a National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, based on UN guiding principles. This is a five-year plan designed to protect citizens against the increasing abuse of human rights by investors. Violations linked to business practices include exploitation of labour through low wages, unlawful termination of employment without notice and compensation, and conflicts over land acquisition. The last violation has led to displacement of communities and affects women and vulnerable groups the most. Other business-related abuses include environmental degradation and pollution.

It is the first time that the Ugandan government has adopted an action plan to support businesses and encourage them to respect human rights issues. Although the plan is not bound by law and is mostly aspirational, Ugandan civil society sees the adoption of the plan as a step forward and as a tool in the struggle against social injustice caused by corporate actions. ActionAid and its local partner in Uganda contributed to this process through the Uganda Consortium on Corporate Accountability, a platform that brings together several civil society organisations that jointly advocated for the development of the plan. ActionAid's partner took part in various strategy and advocacy sessions organised by the Consortium, with participants from civil society and the Ministry.



The Ombudsman's support and contribution is crucial to bring this situation to the attention of other state institutions, but the reduced budget limits the work. ActionAid has financially supported the Ombudsman so the visits requested by the communities can take place.

GUATEMALA:

Human Rights Ombudsman monitors the human rights situation in the Northern Lowlands and provides recommendations

The Human Rights Ombudsman, in response to the request of the Movement of Communities in Defense of Water and the Territorial Coordinator of Women in the Northern Lowlands, has carried out verification visits to investigate human rights violations in the Northern Lowlands. During these visits, women and their communities were able to express their struggles against human rights violations of social, environmental and health issues, as well as in relation to work, food, land and territory because of palm oil monoculture.

As a result of these visits, the Ombudsman has put the situation on the political agenda and is recommending ways for state institutions to address the problems and conflicts in the area due to the expansion of the palm oil industry. The Ombudsman plans to make at least one more visit in 2022 to verify the specific situation of women affected by palm oil production.

Currently, the state has reduced the budget for the Ombudsman and postponed disbursements, as a strategy to limit the Ombudsman's work. ActionAid has financially supported the Ombudsman by providing food and shelter to enable the visits requested by the communities to take place.

The Ombudsman's support and contribution is crucial to bring this situation to the attention of other state institutions. Not only at the national level, but also in an international setting with actors who are actively working in palm oil supply chains. This is important because there is a great lack of information about the human rights situation in the Northern Lowlands, and an even greater lack of information about the impact on women. Having access to this information and these recommendations supports women and their communities in their struggle for recognition and respect for their rights.



This report stipulates that the G20 countries miss out on more than USD 32 billion of tax income annually from the five big tech companies.

GLOBAL:

Campaigning for a fair global tax deal

ActionAid campaigned on the OECD/G20 global tax deal to improve the financial position of countries in the Global South. Concerned by the fate of these countries, we raised public and political awareness on the need for stronger measures that allow them to get a fair share of taxable profit of the companies active in their country and to raise the level of minimum tax. In May, ActionAid International launched the report 'Mission Recovery: How Big Tech's Tax Bill could kickstart a fairer economy'. This report stipulates that the G20 countries miss out on more than USD 32 billion of tax income annually from the five big tech companies. The Netherlands potentially misses out on tax income up to USD 456 million per year.

Our research into the tax missed out on in countries around the world because of unclear tax rules for big tech companies was widely covered by more than 18 Dutch newspapers and media sites and RTL Z TV news. ActionAid teamed up with Brian Boland, one of the Patriotic Millionaires calling for fair tax, and this resulted in two big interviews in Dutch newspapers, Financieel Dagblad and NRC. In the Netherlands, we had several discussions with politicians and policy makers (including the negotiators) about this and achieved support for several of our recommendations. In October, the OECD/G20 adopted the package that still favours rich countries more, despite improvements. In anticipation of this, ActionAid released a report on how countries in the Global South can tax digital companies in the absence of robust global regulations. The report gave them some workable alternatives. Triggered by the unfair outcome of the OECD/G20 process, we also supported the call of the G77, a group of 134 countries in the Global South, to call on the United Nations (UN) to demand equal decision-making power.



A strong international ActionAid delegation joined efforts to advocate for a Feminist Binding Treaty at regional, national and international level in the months leading up to the negotiations.

GLOBAL:

Keeping the process of a Feminist Binding Treaty on Business and Human Rights alive

During 2021, we continued to advocate for a Feminist Binding Treaty on Business and Human Rights. A strong international ActionAid delegation (Bangladesh, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Guatemala, Kenya, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Uganda and Zimbabwe) joined efforts to advocate for a Feminist Binding Treaty at a regional, national and international level in the months leading up to the negotiations. National level consultations and expert meetings were organised in France, Guatemala, the Netherlands and Uganda, engaging Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), policy makers and experts to raise awareness and push for national level engagement in the negotiation process. In Bangladesh, the 2020 national level consultation led to an awareness-raising social media campaign in Bangla and English to get greater support for the Binding Treaty process.

During the seventh negotiation round in October, roughly 70 UN member states participated in a hybrid negotiation process. For the first time since the start of the negotiation process in 2014, states engaged in an interactive session to negotiate the text of the treaty. Many countries from the Global South continue to support the negotiations process for a UN Binding Treaty. However, many industrialised countries from the Global North, home to multinationals, are not engaging constructively in the process. The United States threatened the process by wanting to propose an alternative to the UN Binding Treaty. In response, CSOs mobilised to successfully prevent the process from derailing. ActionAid joined the efforts through the Feminists for a Binding Treaty and the Treaty Alliance. Although the European Union (EU) delegation defended aspects of the UN Binding Treaty in places, such as the strong gender perspective in the treaty text, the EU still does not have a negotiation mandate to engage in the UN Binding Treaty negotiations. That is why ActionAid the Netherlands joint advocacy efforts with SOMO, IUCN-NL, Milieudefensie and WO=MEN continue to push the Dutch government to ensure an EU negotiation mandate.



Through its work in countries such as South Africa, Zimbabwe and Uganda, ActionAid emphasises the importance of positive impact on local women and contributes to a covenant that works towards combatting violations of women's and human rights.

THE NETHERLANDS:

Making tax a priority issue at the elections

Together with the Tax Justice Network and the European Labour party, we launched a successful campaign during the elections to trigger political parties to make the fight against tax avoidance their priority. Our call and petition initiative received a lot of attention in the Dutch media. As a result, a total of six political parties signed our tax manifesto committing them to pursue much needed policy measures to tackle tax avoidance. We also arranged public stunts, including one at the Dutch parliament where we asked politicians to send letters to letterboxfirms. This action was attended by a broad spectrum of political parties.

THE NETHERLANDS:

Renewable energy covenant

With our knowledge of human rights and women's rights violations in communities and in supply chains, we were actively involved in the negotiations for the renewable energy covenant facilitated by the Social Economic Council (SER). The purpose of the covenant is to work together with various stakeholders to combat human rights violations and environmental damage relating to sustainable energy sources such as wind and solar energy.

Thanks to our close cooperation with communities, we know which measures are needed in business processes to guarantee human rights at the start of the chain. The extraction of raw materials such as copper and manganese are vital for wind and solar energy infrastructure. But their extraction is associated with human rights violations. Through our work in countries such as South Africa, Zimbabwe and Uganda, ActionAid emphasises the importance of positive impact on local women and contributes to a covenant that works towards combatting human rights and women's rights violations.

Negotiations for the covenant are nearing completion. In 2022, the agreement will be signed, and the parties can start identifying and addressing human rights violations in the supply chains of renewable energy sources.



In the last consultation round on the proposal, ActionAid Netherlands made concrete recommendations for the inclusion of the gender dimension in the proposal, resulting in the integration of a gender perspective in the legislation's guidance.

THE NETHERLANDS:

Strong push for gender-responsive national mandatory due diligence legislation

ActionAid's two-year Feminists Unite campaign has borne fruit. For the 2021 national elections, all political parties had to write their party programmes. Last year, eight political parties added binding legislation for businesses to prevent human rights abuses and environmental harm in their supply chains to their programmes. With the Dutch government committing to mandatory human rights due diligence legislation at the end of 2020 with a preference for European level legislation, four political parties (ChristenUnie, GroenLinks, PvdA and SP) took it upon themselves to push the process forward at national level. In the run up to the Dutch national elections in March 2021, these political parties submitted an initiative legislative proposal on mandatory human rights due diligence to parliament. This legislative proposal is the result of the long-term joint advocacy efforts of ActionAid together with a coalition of CSOs through the MVO Platform as well as WO=MEN. In the last consultation round on the proposal, ActionAid The Netherlands made concrete recommendations for the inclusion of the gender dimension in the proposal, resulting in the integration of a gender perspective in the legislation's guidance.

With the legislative proposal pending in parliament and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs moving to influence the European mandatory human rights due diligence proposal by developing its own building blocks for due diligence legislation, ActionAid continued to raise awareness for women rights violations in global supply chains and pushed for gender-responsive national due diligence legislation. ActionAid published opinion pieces on the legislative proposal and the need for gender-responsive due diligence. We also wrote advocacy letters bringing evidence of women's rights abuses related to manganese mining in South Africa and gender-based violence (GBV) in supply chains to the attention of politicians. These actions led to questions raised in parliament and public support from parliamentarians for the need to include a gender perspective.



Although countries in the Global South and their communities are not responsible for the climate crisis, they are disproportionately hit by the consequences of floods, landslides, desertification and loss of drinking water.

2.2 CLIMATE

With over-consumption and fossil fuel use spiralling out of control, it's mainly wealthy countries that have caused the climate crisis. At the same time, they have destroyed the living environment of many communities in the Global South. Although countries in the Global South and their communities are not responsible for the climate crisis, they are disproportionately hit by the consequences of floods, landslides, desertification and loss of drinking water.

Polluting countries and companies do not take sufficient responsibility for the climate damage they cause. Imbalanced power relations between wealthy countries and companies and the rest of the world lead to the exploitation of communities and women in the Global South. Systemic change is needed to ensure a fair solution to the climate crisis, where the heaviest burden of the climate crisis and climate finance is borne by the strongest shoulders. We are committed to fair and accessible climate financing and countering false solutions.

Global: COP26

ActionAid the Netherlands worked together with the ActionAid federation to generate some key wins at COP26, the United Nations annual conference on climate change. After years of campaigning on Loss and Damage policies, this was firmly put on the agenda at COP26. The climate finance discussion is finally centred around the needs of people on the front line. And for the first time ever, agroecology made it into official negotiation texts. These are important wins for our international work to continue to build on.



Shell was found guilty of endangering the lives and basic human rights of individuals by neglecting to do their part to combat climate change.

THE NETHERLANDS: Climate case against Shell

Shell was found guilty of endangering the lives and basic human rights of individuals by neglecting to do their part to combat climate change. They must now decrease their emissions by net 40% by 2030 and do their fair share to reach a green and just future. ActionAid the Netherlands was one of the seven NGOs to take on Shell in this historic case.

ActionAid's involvement in the climate case against Shell led by Milieudefensie was well documented. We achieved a huge amount of media attention in the international press. Quotes from ActionAid the Netherlands Director Marit Maij were syndicated in the media worldwide over 400 times and there was an interview on French TV with one of our Dutch colleagues.

THE NETHERLANDS: Climate Justice Summer School

Twenty-five activists joined ActionAid the Netherlands first ever Climate Justice Summer School. After an immersive lecture series on women's rights, human rights and climate justice, they organised their own action and took to the streets. Five successful actions took place throughout the country. More than 20 national politicians engaged with the activity, hundreds of posters and stickers were stuck up, and tens of thousands of people were exposed to our core message: Net Zero = Not Zero!

The energy transition is absolutely necessary to solve the climate crisis. However, raw material extraction is not happening in a fair and safe manner. Women are hit especially hard by the negative effects of the mining industry.



2.3 ENERGY & MINING

Extracting raw materials happens at the expense of human rights, the climate and the environment. Raw material extraction is mainly used for two things: 1) facilitating the energy transition (e.g. solar panel production), and 2) producing other products (e.g. iron ore is used to make steel).

The energy transition is absolutely necessary to solve the climate crisis. However, raw material extraction is not happening in a fair and safe manner. Women are hit especially hard by the negative effects of the mining industry. The costs and benefits of resource extraction and the energy transition are distributed unequally, and the limits of our planet's resources are not considered in the extraction process. Binding laws and regulations are needed to limit the negative consequences of raw material extraction.

SOUTH AFRICA:

Women's rights in manganese supply chains

ActionAid organised its own independent research project named 'Manganese Matters' into the effects of manganese mining activities on communities and women in the Kalahari district of South Africa. The survey found that communities living near mines are exposed to a variety of health risks, poor water conditions, gender-based violence (GBV) and have their political rights infringed upon.

Our partner organisations Mining Affected Communities United in Action (MACUA), Women Affected by Mining United in Action



In December, the minister announced the start of work on Dutch legislation on IRBC, ahead of European plans. This makes the Netherlands a frontrunner on this topic.

(WAMUA) and Youth Affected by Mining United in Action (YAMUA) sprang into action after the Manganese Matters report was launched. Two branches of MACUA in the Kuruman and Kathu areas had local meetings to plan how to use the findings to hold mines accountable. They looked at how to develop dialogue with the relevant mines and how to mobilise locally to build a broader understanding of the impacts of manganese mining in the area.

WAMUA in Kuruman and Kathu noted the significant gap in policy understanding and the depth of GBV and its intersection with mining. WAMUA will hold a workshop in March 2022 to work towards building the role of women's leadership in the area and address the gap.

MACUA, WAMUA and YAMUA in the Northern Cape have used the findings of the report to begin engaging with duty bearers and mines. The only mine to have shown an interest in opening a shallow line of communication is South 32, but this has not yielded any tangible results yet.

The report has allowed MACUA and WAMUA to share their struggles at a national and international level and show how communities need to act in solidarity to advance their collective and common issues. The findings of the report have been used for a case study to advocate for free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) within the Minerals and Petroleum Resource Development Act and Mining Charter.

The research also traced the supply chain from South Africa to the Netherlands and Europe. We used this connection to create a 360° campaign on manganese mining and women's rights called '*Niet op die fiets!*', which will be discussed more in chapter 2.7. Due to the public awareness we raised, the Minister of Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade acknowledged the seriousness of the findings in the answers to parliamentary questions about the role of the Netherlands in international chains. In December, the minister announced the start of work on Dutch legislation on IRBC, ahead of European plans. This makes the Netherlands a frontrunner on this topic.

THE POWER OF INDEPENDENCE

Matlhogonolo Mochware from South-Africa has experienced the impact of the increased amount of manganese mines in her region first-hand. When she was 18, a miner raped her and she became pregnant.

“I try to teach women that nothing is as powerful as independence.”

She says: *“I dreamed of going to school. But I had to grow up quickly and take care of my sick mother, younger brother and a small baby that was forced on me.”*

Matlhogonolo encountered the ActionAid supported organisation MACUA and was selected to represent women from the Northern Cape within this organisation. *“I learnt how mining affects our community and about the violation of women’s rights.”* Now she actively trains women on topics such as financial independence and sustainable agriculture and helps to set up gardens: *“I try to teach women that nothing is as powerful as independence.”*





ActionAid Kenya and partners supported the artisanal miners, many of them women, to jointly analyse the newly drafted regulations and develop demands, which they presented to the Ministry and the media.

KENYA:

Women artisanal miners claim their rights

ActionAid and partner organisations supported artisanal miners from Kitui, Kilifi and Taita Taveta to stand up for their rights. The Ministry of Petroleum and Mining drafted new regulations that would give large-scale miners (such as multinational mining firms) much of the mining rights and take away the power of the community development agreement committees. These committees are a tool to engage mining affected communities in development decisions in their area. These committees receive and manage a percentage of the profits of mining for community development.

ActionAid Kenya and partners supported the artisanal miners, many of them women, to jointly analyse the newly drafted regulations and develop demands, which they presented to the Ministry and the media. Their demands included: 1) artisanal miners are to be engaged in the drafting of policies relevant to them; 2) formal registration for the artisanal miners' associations should be more easily arranged; 3) the percentage of the mining benefits destined for community development be increased from 1% to 5%; 4) large-scale miners should stop exploiting artisanal miners and stop using them for exploration services; 5) artisanal miners should be allocated special mining zones with financial stipends as is the case with large-scale miners; and 6) the government should provide gender-responsive public services such as separate washrooms for women and dispensaries in the mining sites.

The Ministry visited the mining site, and in response they committed to constructing the requested washrooms and dispensaries. This was considered a 'quick win' while noting that the other demands would require more negotiations to develop consensus.

KENYA:

Community stops land grab by salt mining companies

Community groups in Marereni banded together with ActionAid Kenya's local partner Malindi Rights Forum (MRF) and managed to stop an eviction threat by salt mining companies in Kinyaule



The empowered community of Mutoko stopped a quarry mining company from operating without an Environmental Impact Assessment in March 2021 because it was disrupting people's livelihoods and causing land degradation close to their homes.

village. This was despite attempts by the companies to intimidate the community. Together, MRF and the communities successfully undertook a public interest litigation process against the salt firms. The courts issued a moratorium to the mining companies, stopping further developments in any lands they had claimed. The litigation process sought to address historical land injustices and environmental and human rights violations due to the operations of the salt companies.

ActionAid Kenya supported the community through training, joint strategy planning and hands-on advice. The community said it is thanks to their constant engagement with ActionAid Kenya and MRF that they had the knowledge and capacity to speak out against the injustices caused by the salt firms and to defend their rights.

ZIMBABWE:

Parliament policy level commitment towards gemstone legal regulatory reforms

Policymakers made commitments to push for policy and legal reforms around gemstones, in particular by reforming the Precious Stones Act. This followed the side session engagements of the Zimbabwe Alternative Mining Indaba in November which were convened by ActionAid Zimbabwe and Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association (ZELA). The government connected the two partners with the Zimbabwe Gemstone Miner's Association, an association set up to improve the gemstone industry and to consider matters around policy reform. ActionAid Zimbabwe and ZELA are the only CSOs included in the association. This shows that policymakers appreciate and recognise our work, and that is important for the project as it allows us to engage with multiple actors in the gemstone sector.

ZIMBABWE:

Community agency against irresponsible mining in Mutoko

As a result of ActionAid Zimbabwe and ZELA's training and workshops on Business and Human Rights, communities are now knowledgeable and able to demand and assert their rights. The empowered community of Mutoko stopped a quarry mining company from operating without an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in March 2021 because it was disrupting people's livelihoods and causing land degradation close to their homes. The company then complied with the Environmental Management Act by carrying out EIA consultations in the community and correctly acquiring an EIA addressing the communities' concerns.



The current agricultural system contributes to deforestation, loss of biodiversity, pollution and climate change. It is highly dependant on fossil fuels, and communities, especially women, are being victimised by water and land grabbing.

2.4

AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS

Large-scale industrial agriculture is increasingly dominating today's global agricultural and food systems. This contributes to deforestation, loss of biodiversity, pollution and climate change. Industrial agriculture is also highly dependent on fossil fuels. In addition, communities, especially women, are being victimised on a large scale by water and land grabbing, thereby losing their access to and control over land and water and undermining their right to food. The enormous power of large-scale industrial farms and of political-economic elites makes it difficult for these communities to counter illegal practices.

Within the agriculture & food systems pillar, we focus on promoting the transition to sustainable and inclusive agricultural and food systems. We do this by promoting agroecology, discouraging industrial agriculture and preventing water and land grabbing. The latter can include lobbying for the strengthening of land rights and binding legislation to protect the land and water rights of women, youth, their communities and feminist companies.

KENYA:

Women securing land rights

ActionAid's partner Taita Taveta Human Rights Watch (TTHRW) organised a capacity training forum in Taita Taveta county. As a result, 21 widows were able to start a process to acquire key documents from the local administration, which they needed to obtain land titles in court. This was possible due to the help of another ActionAid Kenya partner, the Community Centre for Human Rights and Civic Education (CHRC).



In Kitui, three women whose land was taken away managed to get their properties back through a dispute resolving mechanism.

So far, six widows have acquired letters of administration from the magistrate's court, that will eventually enable them to obtain land titles. Ten widows are working with TTHRW to pursue death certificates which will help them obtain letters of administration. The fact that women without land titles presented their cases to CHRCE is a direct result of CHRCE's awareness-raising work. These cases will be followed up by CHRCE to support the women trying to obtain their land titles.

In Kitui, three women whose land was taken away approached CHRCE to help them to claim their land rights. These women managed to get their properties back through a dispute resolving mechanism facilitated by CHRCE.

UGANDA:

Ministry commits to safeguarding women's land rights

The Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development adopted a women land rights agenda jointly developed by civil society and women's groups. It contains 10 demands to safeguard land rights for women. The women land rights agenda also contains recommendations on the actions the government should take to protect affected communities. ActionAid Uganda was one of the CSOs behind the agenda. ActionAid Uganda provided input about land grabs in relation to large-scale plantations, as well as information for the demands focusing on corporate accountability, FPIC in land deals and compensation.

With the support and funds from ActionAid Uganda, the agenda was launched during a Women Land Rights Conference that brought together all land actors in Uganda. As a result of past and present campaigning and collaboration between the Ugandan Ministry and CSOs, the Minister of Land committed to implement and fund the recommended actions for the next five years. ActionAid Uganda will work closely with the Ministry to track progress of the demands in the agenda.

A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO LAND

Namaganda Sarapiya is a 72-year-old mother of nine and a resident of Madudu in the Mubende district in Uganda. After her father died, his land was divided between her and her siblings.

“I am grateful to know we have a place for women to report if they face any form of violence.”

However, her brother claimed that land should not be inherited by women and that her part of the land was therefore rightfully his. He started to intimidate her by removing her boundary markers and blocked her from using her own land. Namaganda went to an ActionAid shelter and received legal advice. A community liaison officer and the police visited their home and informed her and her family about the laws governing women's land rights in Uganda. *“After this, my brother understood he had no right to claim my land and apologised. I am grateful to know we have a place for women to report if they face any form of violence.”*



THE NETHERLANDS:

Response to United Nations Food Systems Summit

We published several op-eds, including a piece in NRC relating to the UN Food Summit about the need to shift power back from big industrial agricultural multinationals to farmers. In addition, we held lobby meetings with the government, contributed to a lobby letter and blogs for policymakers and politicians and raised public awareness. This all led to some small shifts in the position of the Dutch government, ahead of the problematic UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) that the Netherlands promoted. The UNFSS was not inclusive, excluding many CSOs and grassroots stakeholders from the Global South. It did not follow formal multilateral channels and prioritised lobbying and the agendas of large corporations above others. It also resisted a full transition to agroecological agriculture and food systems, instead incentivising business as usual and Dutch trade interests.

The UNFSS was not inclusive, excluding many CSOs and grassroots stakeholders from the Global South. It did not follow formal multilateral channels and prioritised lobbying and the agendas of large corporations above others.

Under pressure, some space opened up for agroecology. But this was overshadowed by the other pathways that followed business as usual ideas that only expand the domination of corporate parties and destructive industrial agriculture. Currently we see that resistance towards the UNFSS pathways has increased and that the Dutch government are clearly indicating that they will not block all agroecology initiatives anymore. Likely avenues for some support to agroecology may open.

THE NETHERLANDS:

Session on women's land rights at the International LandAc Land Rights Conference

To ensure a just transition for agriculture and food, we proactively lobby and advocate for community and women's land rights, tackling the drivers of industrial farming and promoting agroecology. Agroecology is the practice of inclusive and sustainable agriculture dedicated to farming in harmony with nature. Beyond the environmental and climate benefits, the practice has strong social, economic and political underpinnings. It is intrinsically feminist and therefore empowering for women.

Together with ActionAid Bangladesh, ActionAid Kenya and ActionAid Uganda, we organised a session at the (online) International LandAc Land Rights Conference. The ActionAid global secretariat gave a keynote speech. The session supported agenda setting and ongoing advocacy for community and women's land rights as relevant for food security and climate action agendas. The session promoted and debated challenges and opportunities around the theme: "How community & women's land rights relate to climate and COVID-19 vulnerability and resilience", with perspectives from Bangladesh, Kenya, Uganda and Dutch foreign policy. We received positive feedback and see that the agenda is gaining ground in the food security and climate action arenas. Knowledge and experience gained have been used for messaging during our lobbying work around the UNFSS.



We are committed to preventative humanitarian measures and fostering resilience within ActionAid's existing projects. Given the current gender inequality in the consequences of (climate) disasters, an important spearhead is the presence of female leadership in the preparation for these disasters.

2.5 HUMANITARIAN WORK

Within the humanitarian aid pillar, our commitment is twofold. Firstly, our work is in line with the work of the ActionAid federation, which provides humanitarian aid in emergencies (e.g. famine, conflict or climate disasters). In the event of major (climate) disasters, priority is given to fundraising for immediate emergency aid. Secondly, we are committed to preventative humanitarian measures and fostering resilience within ActionAid's existing projects. To guarantee the continuity of these programmes, we focus on the prevention of disasters and their consequences. Given the current gender inequality in the consequences of (climate) disasters, an important spearhead is the presence of female leadership in the preparation for (climate) disasters.

AFGHANISTAN

Following the military withdrawal of NATO forces from the country, there has been an escalation in tensions which has caused many people to flee their homes and become displaced in their own country. Most people left their homes with just the clothes on their back and very few essential items. As a result, displaced people are in dire need of emergency humanitarian assistance including food, water and essential items such as hygiene kits, cash, tarpaulins, tents, cooking utensils, clothing and bedding. Some of the displaced people are returning home, but many are still in urban areas and are at an increased risk of exposure to COVID-19, cold temperatures in the winter and food insecurity. The World Food Programme estimates that nearly 23 million people - or over half of Afghanistan's population - faced acute food insecurity in November. This devastating level of need is only likely to rise during the winter months. Additionally, two



million children and 700,000 pregnant and lactating women were at risk of acute malnutrition.

ActionAid supports refugees and families in several ways. In total, 870 families received cash funds. Over 1,000 women and girls received hygiene kits with essential items including soap and sanitary pads. Over 10,000 families received food support and essential items to survive Afghanistan's harsh winter, including blankets and heating equipment. ActionAid is also providing psychosocial counselling support to people whose lives are being devastated by conflict, severe drought and rising hunger.

Over 9,500 refugee households were affected by the fire due to damage to communal shelters and other prominent camp facilities which provided services to the refugees.

BANGLADESH: Rohingya Refugee Camp

The Rohingya people have experienced ethnic and religious persecution in Myanmar for decades. Hundreds of thousands have fled to other countries in Southeast Asia, including Malaysia, Indonesia and Philippines. The majority have escaped to Bangladesh, where there are two officially registered refugee camps: Kutupalong refugee camp and Nayapara refugee camp. As of December 2021, 913,660 Rohingya refugees are living in these camps. ActionAid Bangladesh has been active in Kutupalong since 2017, reaching 321,313 people.

On 22 March 2021, there was a massive fire in one of the Rohingya refugee camps. Around 46 shelters were dismantled to stop spreading the fire. Over 9,500 refugee households were affected due to damage to communal shelters and other prominent camp facilities which provided services to the refugees. Furthermore, health facilities were urged to remove gas and oxygen cylinders from their facilities. The displaced people took shelter in a different section of the camp. ActionAid Bangladesh provided support in several ways. The team provided 8,553 hot meals (lunch and dinner) to the families affected with the funding support from the World Food Programme. We distributed over 1,200 litres of water and opened three community centres to host displaced families, where roughly 160 individuals took shelter. The ActionAid Bangladesh team identified 11 unaccompanied children and reunited 10 of them with their family that same morning. In camps managed by ActionAid Bangladesh, 58 households moved to their relatives after the fire.

PROVIDING SAFETY DURING CRISIS

Jahanu Begum and her two young children were living inside the Rohingya refugee centre in Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh, when a huge fire broke out that ruined their shelter.

"I was so happy when I found my children at the ActionAid community centre."

In the chaos that followed, Jahanu lost sight of both of her children. She says: *"I completely broke down; I didn't know what to do. My home had burnt down, and I was looking for my children in the camps. I kept thinking of my memories with them and was crying. At last, I found them at the ActionAid community centre, and I was so happy."*

Because of ActionAid's presence in the camp, community volunteers were quick to safely evacuate families like Jahanu's and offer access to medical support, emergency shelter, food and sanitation services.





In the event of major (climate) disasters, priority is given to fundraising for immediate emergency aid. Secondly, we are committed to preventative humanitarian measures and fostering resilience within ActionAid's existing projects.

MORE HUMANITARIAN PROJECTS

The international ActionAid federation provides emergency aid all over the world. In 2021 these projects included, but were not limited to:

- Democratic Republic of Congo, where the eruption of the Nyiragongo volcano destroyed more than 9,000 homes, killed 32 people, affected 13 villages, and displaced 40,000 people. ActionAid provided dignity kits and cash transfers. Additionally, ActionAid held volcano simulation exercises in three communities, performed volcano awareness raising through radio broadcasts and distributed maps of the volcano's lava flows highlighting areas of risk.
- Gaza & Palestine, where despite a ceasefire in May, Palestinian communities remained concerned about the uncertainty of the situation. ActionAid has reached 7,200 people through our initial response based on a needs assessment. ActionAid Palestine provided essential food and household items including mattresses, blankets and kitchenware for 1,660 displaced families. Hygiene kits and dignity kits including menstrual hygiene products, soap, toothbrushes and other essential items were provided to 1,660 displaced families. Additionally, ActionAid Palestine provided psychosocial support for traumatised children and their families, protection support and services for women, as well as medicine and fuel for generators and mobile health clinics.
- Haiti, where an earthquake with a 7.2 magnitude struck in August. Over 800,000 people were affected, with over 750,000 people becoming acutely food insecure. More than 2,200 people lost their lives and over 137,000 homes were damaged or destroyed. Over 90% of health centres were destroyed and people struggled to access healthcare. More than 900 schools (approximately 70% of schools in south-western Haiti) were either damaged or destroyed, severely impacting the return of the school year for children. ActionAid mobilised resources to support the most affected communities while a full assessment was conducted. Almost all participants of the needs assessments were women. ActionAid assisted at least 2,000 households with immediate shelter, protection, cash and food assistance. In addition, ActionAid's food security programmes reached more than 10,000 families.



We focus on stimulating genderresponsive public services and increasing the financial space that governments in the Global South have for this, e.g. by stimulating progressive taxes.

2.6 PUBLIC POLICY

The current economy and tax laws are geared towards economic growth. They pay insufficient attention to the well-being of people, nature and the climate, and they contribute to the economic, social and political exploitation of women. We focus on stimulating gender-responsive public services and increasing the financial space that governments in the Global South have for this, e.g. by stimulating progressive taxes.

To ensure that public services and financing become gender-responsive and focus on welfare rather than profit, Dutch and international tax legislation must be amended. The Netherlands and the European Union must adopt a high-quality Feminist Foreign Policy and become a driver of gender-responsive public funding in multilateral institutions.

ZIMBABWE:

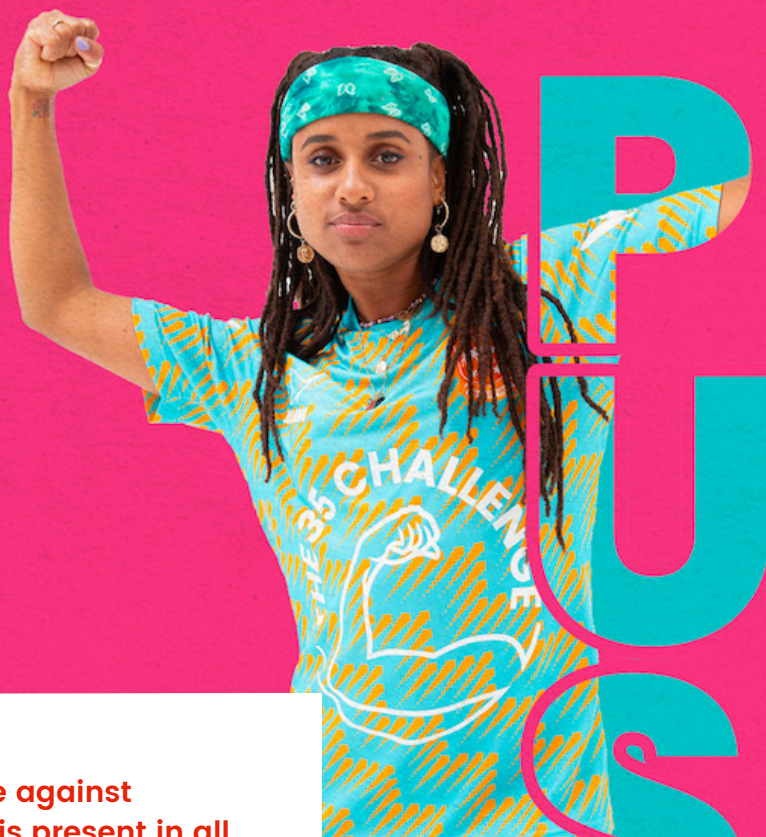
Black granite tax-based resource mobilisation improvements at local government level

ActionAid Zimbabwe and Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association (ZELA) were approached by Mutoko Rural District Council and Uzumba Maramba Pfungwe Rural District Council. These are neighbouring local authorities who hosted some quarrying companies



ActionAid Zimbabwe and ZELA organised a two-day engagement meeting to discuss the challenges the local authorities were facing in taxing mining companies. As a result, the local authorities increased and standardised their tax and levy rates.

in September 2021. They wanted help to improve their domestic resource mobilisation. The focus was on taxing and levying black granite mining companies that are paying almost nothing to the local authorities. ActionAid Zimbabwe and ZELA organised a two-day engagement meeting to discuss the challenges the local authorities were facing in taxing mining companies. They were offered technical expertise on the best solutions to implement. As a result, the local authorities increased and standardised their tax and levy rates, so that they will get a fair share from the resources being mined in their area. The new taxes and rates will be reflected in their 2022 annual budget and await confirmation. With this additional tax income, the local authorities can make steps towards more gender-responsive public services for the communities.



Violence against women is present in all the pillars of our work. It is the largest violation of human rights worldwide. Violence is an abuse of power, one that most often affects women and girls. Because women's rights are central to our work at ActionAid, we also highlight gender-based violence (GBV).

2.7 EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS & CAMPAIGNS

Awareness and support for women's rights and feminism is growing in the Netherlands, as is our supporter base. Together with our supporters, we launched several successful campaigns, creating awareness for multiple issues and providing financial support for our programmes worldwide. Nearly 29,000 people supported ActionAid in a variety of ways throughout the year.

THE 35 CHALLENGE:

Raising funds for programmes to end violence against women

Violence against women is present in all the pillars of our work. It is the largest violation of human rights worldwide. Violence is an abuse of power, one that most often affects women and girls. Because women's rights are central to our work at ActionAid, we also highlight gender-based violence (GBV). The 35 Challenge is an example of a campaign that focused solely on GBV.

New name, same campaign! We transformed the Women's Rights Challenge from the two previous years into The 35 Challenge. The 35 Challenge raised awareness about violence against women, which was at a high during the ongoing pandemic. Nearly 500 participants committed to training to do 35 push-ups, as 35% of women experience violence in their lives. This raised awareness for the global problem and raised funds for ActionAid's work combatting violence against women.



What is actually important!? With this campaign slogan we wanted to promote people to think big with regards to the national elections, to think about putting sustainable well-being above quick profits.

The 35 Challenge started on 1 November and ended on 25 November - the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. Several feminist activists and celebrities joined the campaign as ambassadors, such as Geraldine Kemper, Cheyenne Haatrecht, Tessel ten Zwaag, Pete Wu, Zoë Love Smith, Eva Eikhout and Dook van Dijck. The Challenge raised over €30,000, which will be used to support ActionAid's work to stop violence against women.

The 35 Challenge once again proved popular in the Dutch regional media, with coverage on Rotterdam regional radio and participants of the challenge featured on two local newspapers in the Hague, as well as an article in Women's Health Magazine online and support via their social media channels.

ELECTION CAMPAIGN: Wat is nou écht belangrijk!?

In March, the Netherlands held general elections. This was an important moment to encourage people to vote for equality, which we took to heart. Our campaign 'Wat is nou écht belangrijk!?' ('What is actually important!?!') launched a few weeks before the election.

The campaign had two goals. Firstly, to inform the public about the policies of the political parties, and secondly, to encourage supporters to sign our manifesto for a feminist and sustainable future. For the first part, we created the 'Feministische Partijwijzer' (feminist political party guide). In this booklet, we assessed and rated the policies of electable political parties on the topics of women's rights, tax evasion, climate, food (security) and mining. The booklet was a resounding success and was shared by many big social media accounts.

The second part, our manifesto, also garnered much support. We formulated eight points for a better (feminist) future and called on politicians to use these in their new policies. These points included putting the welfare of people and planet above the profits of companies, making climate action your highest priority and putting gender equality at the centre of your policies. Over 2,700 people supported the manifesto, which we handed over to politicians after the elections.





ActionAid was regularly featured in mainstream and specialist media outlets, covering topics such as the tax avoidance leading to inequality, corporate accountability, climate justice and violence against women. Through close cooperation with the media team at ActionAid International, we secured great international coverage as well.

NIET OP DIE FIETS!

We connected the Dutch tradition of cycling and the rising numbers of electric bikes as alternative transportation for cars in urban areas to the use of manganese in batteries for electric vehicles to build the campaign. We started a petition for Dutch legislation on international responsible business conduct (IRBC) and raised funds. Together with partners we collected more than 41.000 signatures calling for improved laws that will force corporations producing e-bikes and other products to safeguard human rights in their supply chain. Additionally, we used the Manganese Matters research to increase our lobbying efforts on IRBC legislation.

Our ground-breaking research into manganese mining in South Africa and the impact on women's rights received coverage on national radio and two articles in the Trouw newspaper as well as mentions in other media. Politicians also quoted the article in their debates in parliament.

ONLINE AND OFFLINE PRESENCE

Due to various lockdowns, online communications remained a pivotal way to stay connected and share our work. Therefore, this year our focus again lay with social channels such as Instagram, Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. Our presence on these channels has grown as we focused on quality content and sharing our message in a way that is relatable to our followers. However, 2021 also brought more opportunities to campaign offline than 2020. We attended a COVID-19 safe Women's March for International Women's Day to share our election message. We also attended the Climate March in November as organisers of the Gender Justice block with key messages from the Climate Justice Summer School.

MEDIA

In 2021, we continued our media outreach to advocate for systemic change and feminist solutions and contribute to the (international) public debates. ActionAid was regularly featured in mainstream and specialist media outlets, covering topics such as the tax avoidance leading to inequality, corporate accountability, climate justice and violence against women. Through close cooperation with the media team at ActionAid International, we secured great international coverage as well.

THANKFUL TO OUR SUPPORTERS AND AMBASSADORS

Throughout 2021 we were once again touched by the support we received from all over the country. Many people share our vision for a just and equal world and are willing to support us either with donations, petitions or by simply sharing and amplifying our message. We are very thankful to our ambassador Geraldine Kemper and everyone who supported us, and we will continue our work in 2022 to stand up for women's rights.

3. OUR ORGANISATION

Our accountability is to people facing inequality and injustice in the Global South and to our supporters here in the Netherlands. We need to ensure that they have confidence in how we use our resources. In this chapter, you can find out more about how we are organised, and the way we evaluate and collaborate.



The Supervisory Board worked with the ActionAid executive director, building on the work done in 2020. They supervise work on priorities such as organisational focus and structure, financial sustainability and fundraising, as well as innovation and impact.

3.1 HOW WE ARE ORGANISED

3.1.1 SUPERVISORY BOARD

In the Netherlands, our highest authority is the Supervisory Board. The Supervisory Board officially began on 1 January 2021, after a new constitution changed the governance structure of ActionAid the Netherlands from a one-tier board to a two-tier board. In 2020, the Board of Trustees ceased its duties, and all member transitioned to the Supervisory Board. The Supervisory Board worked with the ActionAid executive director, building on the work done in 2020. They supervise work on priorities such as organisational focus and structure, financial sustainability and fundraising, as well as innovation and impact.

Members of the Supervisory Board are appointed for a three-year term, after which reappointment is possible for a maximum of one additional term. Supervisory Board members are selected on predetermined profiles and come from a wide range of diverse backgrounds, all adding to the knowledge and profile of ActionAid.

Our current Supervisory Board members are:

| NAME | POSITION | MEMBER SINCE | BACKGROUND |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|---|
| Ans Zwerver | Chair | October 13, 2021 | Governance, International Development |
| Hans van Egdom | Financial Expert | January 26, 2021 | Finance (Finance and Audit Committee) |
| Maike Willemsen | Member | April 5, 2017 | Public Security |
| Emma Verheijke | Member | April 5, 2017 | Impact Management (Finance and Audit Committee) |
| Maarten van Heems | Member | June 5, 2018 | Campaigns, Communication |
| Marjorie Hennie | Member | July 14, 2021 | Legal |
| Michel Jacobs | Member | July 14, 2021 | Legal |



In 2021, we said goodbye to three Supervisory Board members: Marianne van de Zijde (Finance) served two terms and Anne-Marijke Podt (Governance, Politics) and Betteke de Gaay-Fortman (International Development) who both served one term. We thank them for their impassioned work.

The Supervisory Board oversees the overall progress of the global and national strategic plans, our annual action plan and the budget. In addition to its supervisory function, the Supervisory Board aspires to act as a sounding board and advisor to the executive director.

3.1.2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The executive director is responsible for the daily management of the organisation. Together with the management team, she drafts strategies, action plans and budgets and key policies. The Supervisory Board has to approve the year plan, multiannual plan and budgets before the executive director can adopt these and start implementation together with the team. The Supervisory Board receives quarterly updates.

The relationship between the Supervisory Board and the executive director is formally captured in the constitution, the Supervisory Board code, and the management code policies.

3.1.3 DEPARTMENTS

Following a restructuring at the end of 2020, ActionAid the Netherlands is now structured in the following four departments: Policy & Programmes, Public Engagement, Operational Support, and a dedicated team working on Partnerships & Fundraising. Policy & Programmes oversees our collaboration with partners in the Global South and takes the lead on research and lobbying efforts. Public Engagement works on brand recognition, campaigns and private fundraising. Partnerships & Fundraising is responsible for attracting large institutional donors. And Operational Support is there to make sure everyone else within the organisation has the means to do their jobs and make sure we comply with rules and regulations of the sector.



The Supervisory Board is regularly informed and consulted on major changes and important strategic choices relating to various matters. These include organisational development, operations, finances and the strategic direction of ActionAid the Netherlands.

3.2 SUPERVISORY BOARD REPORT

In 2021, our Supervisory Board consisted of seven members, four female and three male. The Supervisory Board has been chaired by Ans Zwerver since October 2021. Anne-Marijke Podt was the chair until July 2021. The Supervisory Board met during five formal meetings. Two were conducted online during the lockdown period, in line with the Dutch government's COVID-19 regulations. Fortunately, 2021 provided room to meet face to face as well, which happened three times in the second half of the year.

The Supervisory Board is regularly informed and consulted on major changes and important strategic choices relating to various matters. These include organisational development, operations, finances and the strategic direction of ActionAid the Netherlands. Our Finance and Audit Committee (FAC), consisting of two Supervisory Board members and supported by the executive director and head of operational support, also met five times to monitor the financial health of the organisation as well as the internal administrative processes. The FAC also makes recommendations to the Supervisory Board on appointing an external auditor and discusses annual management letters and annual reports with the external auditor.

The ActionAid International General Assembly holds at least one face-to-face meeting each year. However, due to COVID-19 restrictions, this meeting took place online. Several members of the Supervisory Board together with ActionAid's executive director attended parts of the five-day online General Assembly, on behalf of the organisation. During this meeting, strategic and operational plans, budget and



We expect 2022 to be another exciting year in which the organisation will roll out a new brand positioning to improve external communications about ActionAid Netherlands.

governance of ActionAid International are reviewed. Normally, an ActionAid International representative is part of the Supervisory Board of ActionAid the Netherlands. However, the international federation rules are being adjusted. We have an opening on the Supervisory Board for an ActionAid International representative, but we have left this role vacant until the new rules are confirmed. Members of the Supervisory Board are not paid for their duties. They can be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

The ActionAid Supervisory Board and executive director subscribe to the Code of Good Governance for Good Causes (Code Goed Bestuur). The Supervisory Board appoints, evaluates and dismisses the executive director, and it determines the executive director's compensation in accordance with the Adviesregeling Beloning Directeuren van Goede Doelen.

The Supervisory Board has seen that ActionAid as an organisation continued to prove itself to be flexible and agile in 2021 and able to cope with the COVID-19 crisis.

In 2022, the ActionAid Supervisory Board will continue to oversee and advise the organisation. We expect 2022 to be another exciting year in which the organisation will roll out a new brand positioning to improve external communications about ActionAid the Netherlands. The Supervisory Board would like to take this opportunity to thank all ActionAid staff members for their outstanding work over the past year. We should not forget all the excellent work we have accomplished together, nor the positive impact ActionAid has on the lives of so many. Power in people!



The ActionAid federation has a strict code of conduct. New staff members are required to sign the code before they start working at ActionAid. Additionally, online sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse (SHEA) & safeguarding courses were available for all staff within the federation.

3.3

TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

We aim to be transparent in the way we work, what we do and how we spend money. ActionAid the Netherlands holds the Central Bureau on Fundraising (CBF) seal of approval (Erkenningsregeling). We also have Dutch charitable status (ANBI) since 2008. In 2019, we received the ISO 9001:2015 certificate which has been extended in 2020 and 2021. This is the international standard for a quality management system. In addition, we abide by ActionAid International's strict requirements in the sphere of governance, monitoring and impact measurement.

3.3.1 STAFF AND INTEGRITY

Accountability is a core value of ActionAid. Being accountable means committing ourselves to the highest standards of integrity in all our actions. The ActionAid federation has a strict code of conduct. New staff members are required to sign the code before they start working at ActionAid. No violations to the code of conduct in the Netherlands were reported in 2021. Additionally, online sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse (SHEA) & safeguarding courses were available for all staff within the federation.

ActionAid staff is represented in a staff representation body and meets regularly with both the executive director and the human resources advisor. Issues such as continuing the staff climate survey and hiring a new occupational health and safety service were among the items discussed.

The ActionAid office in Amsterdam employed 21 staff members

Learning from earlier experience and improving the effectiveness and efficiency of our operations is a constant concern.

(19 FTE) in 2021. The organisation has four departments: Policy & Programmes, Public Engagement, Partnerships & Fundraising, and Operational Support, following a restructuring in 2020. ActionAid also regularly benefits from working with interns and volunteers who contribute to projects, research, events and write and translate articles for our website and newsletters. In addition, our robust base of campaigners who join us in our actions and campaigns is growing.

3.3.2 COMPLAINTS POLICY

We take complaints from supporters very seriously. If ActionAid receives a complaint, we respond and follow up within five working days, in line with our policy.

3.3.3 CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

We are as environmentally aware as possible in keeping with ActionAid's ideology and duty of care to the environment, the world and its inhabitants. We print as little and as efficiently as possible, and all printing is done on FSC paper. Waste is separated before it leaves our premises. We have a savings account with ASN Bank, and our regular bank account is with Triodos Bank. Our pensions are administered by Zwitserleven. Donations from companies are assessed using our company fundraising policy to ensure that these businesses meet the conditions of corporate social responsibility. Finally, we monitor our travel behaviour to ensure efficient use of resources and awareness of our carbon footprint.

3.3.4 ENSURING THE BEST USE OF RESOURCES

Our strategy, 'Change the rules for a just and sustainable world,' covers the period 2017 to 2028. The strategic objectives are coordinated with the overall objectives of the ActionAid International strategy. Within the long-term strategy, ActionAid develops updated three-year plans, the second covering the period from 2021 to 2023. Progress of the objectives is monitored using a monitoring framework that also feeds into the overall federation measuring of progress. Annual action plans based on the three-year plans are drawn up using SMART indicators. Learning from earlier experience and improving the effectiveness and efficiency of our operations is a constant concern. The internal processes and procedures are described in a comprehensive quality manual. The Supervisory Board approves long-term financial and strategic policies, along with annual plans and associated budgets.

Accompanying risk assessments are developed yearly and reviewed halfway through the year. The management team monitors actual income and expenditure against the budget and presents quarterly reports to the board. Internal processes are regularly reviewed by the management team and external parties. Each year, an external auditor prepares a management letter. The Dutch CBF performs three-yearly evaluations before awarding a renewed seal of approval. We were reviewed in 2020 and the seal of approval has been extended, continuing into 2021.



To help us be a thought leader, we set up an action group on feminist leadership qualities to stay updated on all global developments. Every month, we dive into one principle to discuss with colleagues and share experiences and lessons learnt.

3.4 PLANNING, MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

Together with our ActionAid colleagues in the Global South and their implementing partners, we are committed to building our capacity. We believe that every human being has valuable abilities and knowledge to contribute to our goals. Within our programmes, we define these goals with the target groups involved: women and their communities. They know best what should change and how that is possible within their context. We therefore organise participatory reflection and review processes. These provide an opportunity for community members and stakeholders to reflect on progress made and challenges encountered, and to advise ActionAid on ongoing activities.

Meanwhile, in the Netherlands we have developed our new multiannual strategy. This is in line with the second strategic implementation framework of the ActionAid federation. We work towards a just, sustainable and equal world in which human rights, climate and the environment are protected and respected. Feminist leadership is integrated into everything we do, and we strive towards a feminist, just and green transition by shifting power and changing the system. To achieve our short- and long-term goals, we lobby, advocate, campaign, mobilise and strengthen capacities. A standardised form is made to monitor progress and gain insight into how all colleagues contribute to our shared goals.

In all our collaboration with counterparts in the Global South and the Global North, we strengthen our capacities on feminist leadership. The more you know, the more you know you don't know, as Aristotle put it. To help us be a thought leader, we set up an action group on feminist leadership qualities to stay updated on all global developments. Every month, we dive into one principle to discuss with colleagues and share experiences and lessons learnt. Furthermore, we organise sessions on various issues such as ethical dilemmas, safeguarding and diversity.



Collaboration with these colleagues requires mutual accountability, solidarity and transparency. In practice, interaction with our partners is realised through frequent online contact and planning and implementing joint initiatives.

3.5 PARTNERS AND STAKE- HOLDER ENGAGEMENT

We inform and seek an active dialogue with all our stakeholders: partners and activists in the Global South, partners in the Global North, policy makers and politicians, journalists, donors, the ActionAid federation and last but certainly not least, the general public. On our website, we explain ActionAid's open information policy which is guided by our commitment to transparency and sharing information on our policies and choices with our stakeholders

PARTNERS AND ACTIVISTS IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH

Our collaboration with colleagues in the Global South is vital to the quality of our work and is a key ingredient for our advocacy and communication in the Global North. Collaboration with these colleagues requires mutual accountability, solidarity and transparency. In practice, interaction with our partners is realised through frequent online contact and planning and implementing joint initiatives. If an opportunity arises to influence policy or communicate with the media or the public, an activist from the Global South is usually invited to visit the Netherlands. Due to the lock down restrictions, activists could not be present in person, but participated actively in online events and lobby activities in 2021.

DONORS – INSTITUTIONAL AND PRIVATE

We keep in regular contact with our institutional and private donors. We update our donors through our yearly annual report, via social media as well as in printed newsletters. We realise that not every donor wants to receive as much communication, so in our newsletter and online, donors can request fewer mailings or no mailings at all. For telephone communication, we observe the requirements of the Dutch Do Not Call Register. Our complaints procedure ensures we react quickly and efficiently to any questions or complaints from donors.



We place significant importance on this cooperation because it allows us to tap into far more knowledge than we would otherwise be able to, and because it brings us so much closer to communities and changemakers in the Global South.

PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHER NGOS

We realise that change will only come about if enough people demand it. There is an immense value in numbers. We work closely with a wide range of organisations: our Fair Green & Global partners, and our partners in other networks including the Tax Justice Network, IANRA, Wo=Men, MVO Platform, IDVO and Partos. Effective collaboration requires maximum mutual transparency. We meet regularly with our partners, this year predominantly online, sharing new information and developments, research, results and views. Beyond our website, we are active on social media such as Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

POLICY MAKERS AND POLITICIANS

We are in regular contact with ministers, state secretaries, members of the Dutch parliament, Dutch embassies in the countries where we work, civil servants and other officials who deal with issues relating to our change agenda. We engage in (online) workshops, seminars, round tables and conferences to ensure that our voice and the voices of our local partners are heard.

MEDIA AND PRESS

Radio, TV and print journalists are important mediators between our organisation and the public at large, and between us and policy makers and politicians. Equally, we are a trusted source of information for journalists because of our thematic expertise and our contacts with Southern constituencies and local activists. We build good relationships with journalists and will always share new research, new perspectives and important developments.

ACTIONAID INTERNATIONAL

Since 2012, we are a formal member of ActionAid International, a federation working in approximately 45 countries, with its headquarters in Johannesburg, South-Africa. Our membership entails cooperation in programmes and campaigns as well as some shared strategies, procedures and processes, as well as mutual participation in each other's highest decision-making bodies. We place significant importance on this cooperation because it allows us to tap into far more knowledge than we would otherwise be able to, and because it brings us so much closer to communities and changemakers in the Global South. Despite our federation membership, ActionAid the Netherlands has a formal autonomy regarding decision-making.

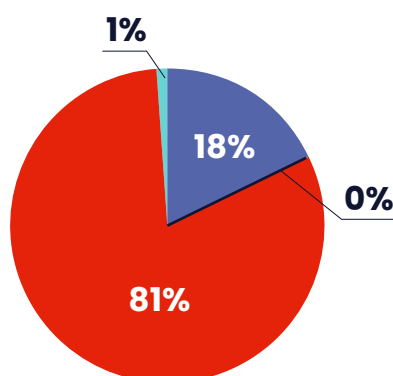
A woman wearing a red headscarf and a red ActionAid jacket is speaking into a microphone. She is holding a piece of paper in her other hand. In the background, there are several large black bags of supplies, some with 'COVID-19 RELIEF' labels. The scene is outdoors in front of a yellow wall.

4. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements 2021 have been prepared in accordance with the Dutch Directive 650 Fundraising Institutions (updated in 2016). On 17th of May 2022 the supervisory board approved the annual accounts after an audit by Dubois and Co. The auditor's report is included in this annual report.



INCOME (IN €)



■ Income from private individuals
 ■ Income from companies
 ■ Income from Government subsidies
 ■ Income from other non-profit organizations

| | | |
|---|------------|-----|
| ■ | €928,529 | 18% |
| ■ | €12,405 | 0% |
| ■ | €4,181,903 | 81% |
| ■ | €38,745 | 1% |

Total income € 5,161,583 100%

EXPENDITURE

In 2021 ActionAid spent €4,309,964 or 86% of its total costs on mission objectives. The costs of fundraising amounted to €503,767 which is 10% of our total costs. In 2021, we contributed to ActionAid International with a total of €20,000. This was in line with the amount in the budget. ActionAid International is working on a new Resource Allocation Framework in which we will agree on the contribution for the next years.

Our expenditure was much higher than budgeted, because of a clarification of a regulation within the RJ 650 about 5 Year contracts. We have signed contracts with 6 partners for five years and the whole amount is accounted for in 2021.

CONTINUITY RESERVE

The aim of our reserves policy is to safeguard solvency and maintain future activities. The ideal continuity reserve is defined by our reserves policy which advises a minimum of 10 percent of institutional income (€418,190) and a maximum of six months of total operational costs (defined as all staff costs, plus office and facility costs) (€724,500). Our free reserves (continuïteitsreserve) at year end will be at €842,782, above our reserves policy. We'll need this reserve for the operational costs for the next 4 years of FGG program, because we can allocate less overhead costs to the FGG program, due to less direct costs in the coming years.

RESERVE FOR PROGRAMMES

This reserve was determined in 2020 to reserve an amount for programmes that were initially planned in 2020 but will be implemented in 2021 and 2022. The activities related to these programmes will be coordinated by our Program & Policy team and will be reported upon in the annual report over 2022. At the end of 2021 we added the income from our 35 challenge event to this reserve. At year end the reserve will be €50,037.



5. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2021

5.1

BALANCE SHEET PER 31.12.2021 (IN €)

| Assets | 31 December 2021 | 31 December 2020 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Intangible Fixed Assets | 18,612 | 10,890 |
| Tangible Fixed Assets | 36,361 | 37,279 |
| Receivables, prepayments and accrued income | 2,331,920 | 113,812 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 1,194,903 | 2,171,463 |
| | 3,526,824 | 2,285,275 |
| Total Assets | 3,581,797 | 2,333,444 |
| Liabilities | 31 December 2021 | 31 December 2020 |
| Reserves | | |
| - Continuity reserves | 842,782 | 656,904 |
| - Reserves program | 50,036 | 61,873 |
| - Designated Fund | 691 | 3,127 |
| Long-term liabilities | 1,699,572 | - |
| Current liabilities | | |
| - Advances received from sponsors | - | 1,149,065 |
| - Short-term project liabilities | 707,055 | 125,966 |
| - Payables | 281,662 | 336,510 |
| | 988,716 | 1,611,541 |
| Total Liabilities | 3,581,797 | 2,333,444 |

5.2

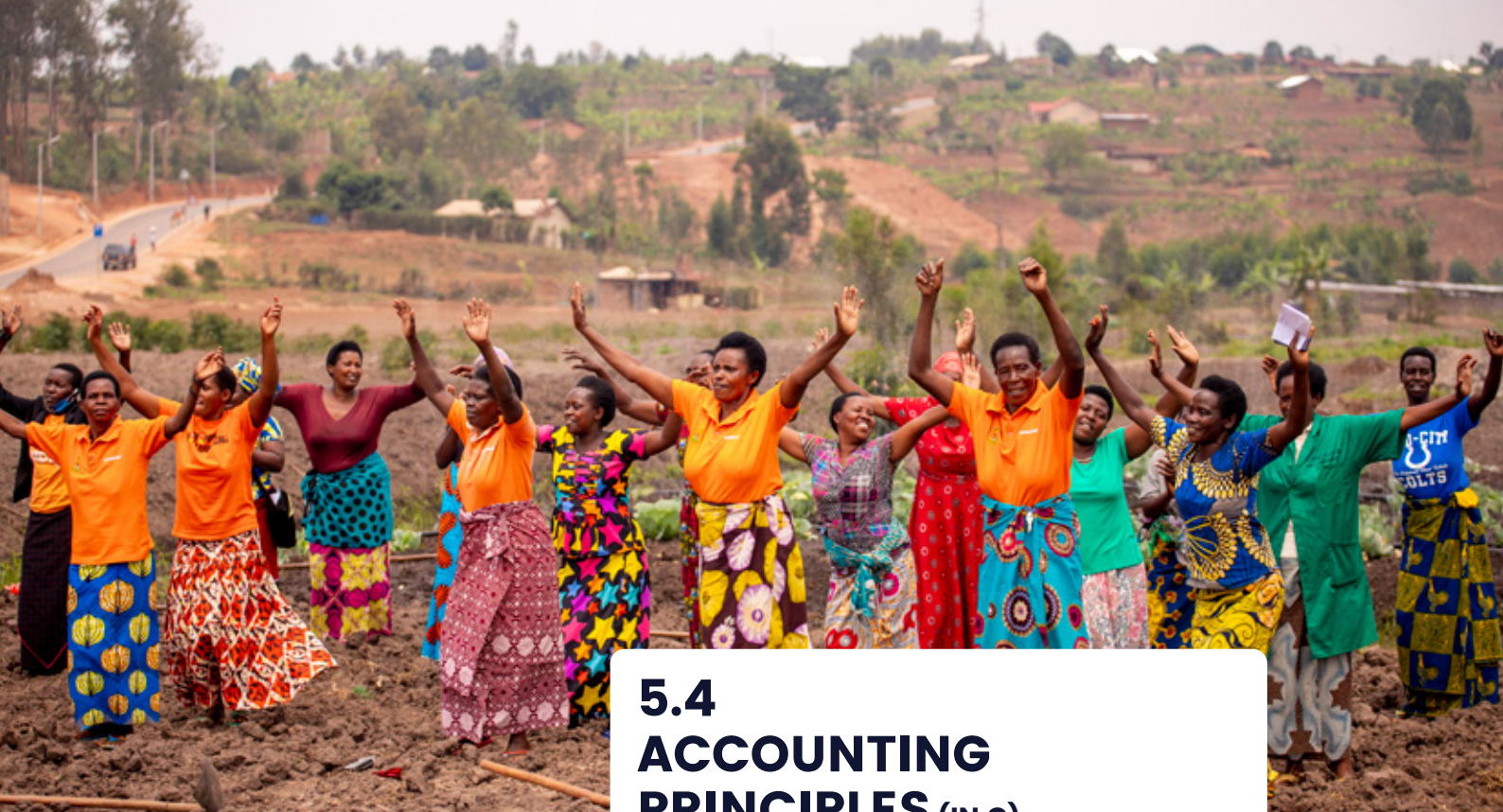
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2021 (IN €)

| Income | Actual 2021 | Plan 2021 | Actual 2020 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Income from private individuals | 928,529 | 959,000 | 1,038,207 |
| Income from companies | 12,405 | 6,000 | 11,212 |
| Income from government subsidies | 4,181,903 | 1,939,108 | 2,115,989 |
| Income from other non-profit organisations | 38,745 | - | - |
| Total Income | 5,161,583 | 2,904,108 | 3,165,408 |
| Expenditure | Actual 2021 | Plan 2021 | Actual 2020 |
| Related to mission objectives | | | |
| - Campaigning, Advocacy & Research | 926,833 | 589,105 | 597,376 |
| - Communication & Public Information | 647,965 | 419,211 | 428,749 |
| - Programme support to partners in the Global South | 2,735,165 | 1,392,132 | 1,362,527 |
| | 4,309,964 | 2,400,448 | 2,388,652 |
| Acquisition of income | | | |
| - Cost of fundraising | 503,767 | 399,521 | 419,041 |
| | 503,677 | 399,521 | 419,041 |
| Management and administration | 172,119 | 104,139 | 110,177 |
| Total Expenditure | 4,985,850 | 2,904,108 | 2,917,870 |
| Balance before financial income and expenses | 175,732 | - | 247,538 |
| Financial income/expenses | -4,127 | - | -4,072 |
| Surplus/deficit | 171,605 | - | 243,465 |
| Added to reserves | | | |
| - Continuity reserves | 185,878 | - | 186,415 |
| - Reserve for programmes | -11,837 | - | 61,873 |
| - Designated Fund | -2,436 | - | -4,823 |
| | 171,605 | - | 243,465 |

5.3

CASH FLOW STATEMENT (IN €)

| Operational Activities | 2021 | 2020 |
|--|-------------------|----------------|
| Surplus/ Deficit | 171,605 | 243,465 |
| Adjustments for depreciation | -47,296 | -4,224 |
| | 124,309 | 239,241 |
| Changes in working capital | | |
| - Trade receivables | -2,218,108 | -40,429 |
| - Trade long term liabilities | 1,699,572 | - |
| - Trade payables | -622,825 | 577,618 |
| | -1,141,361 | 537,189 |
| Total Operational cash flow | -1,017,050 | 776,430 |
| Investment activities | | |
| Disinvestments tangible fixed assets | 64,070 | 19,433 |
| Investments in intangible fixed assets | -12,100 | - |
| Investments in tangible fixed assets | -11,480 | -17,553 |
| Total Investment cash flow | 40,490 | 1,879 |
| Total Financing cash flow | -976,560 | 778,310 |
| Net cash flow | -976,560 | 778,310 |
| Decrease/increase in funds | 976,560 | 778,310 |
| | 2021 | 2020 |
| Cash on January 1 | 2,171,463 | 1,393,153 |
| Cash on December 31 | 1,194,903 | 2,171,463 |
| Decrease/increase in funds | -976,560 | 778,310 |



5.4 ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES (IN €)

GENERAL

The annual accounts were compiled in accordance with Guideline 650 for 'fundraising institutions' (*Richtlijn 650 voor Fondsenwervende organisaties*), revised in 2016.

PRINCIPLES FOR VALUATION AND PRESENTATION OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Intangible fixed assets are stated at acquisition price less linear depreciation based on economic life-cycle. For inventory furnishings and equipment, the life-cycle is five years.

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets are stated at acquisition price less linear depreciation based on economic life-cycle. For inventory furnishings and equipment, the life-cycle is five years.

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

- These are stated at amortised costs.
- Accounts receivable for approved projects are based on agreements with third parties and agreed values.

LIABILITIES

- Liabilities are stated at the value at which they were incurred unless indicated otherwise.
- Project liabilities refer to all liabilities under financing agreements concluded with third parties.
- New project liabilities are accounted for in the year in which the liability becomes definitive.



OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

- These are stated at amortized costs

PRINCIPLES FOR DETERMINING AND PRESENTING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

DETERMINATION OF RESULT

- Taking into account the accounting principles, the result is determined as the difference between the revenue and expenditure allocated to the year in question;
- Unless otherwise indicated, income and expenditure are accounted for in the year to which these relate;
- Income from ActionAid fundraising is accounted for in the year of receipt;
- Income from legacies is included in the accounting year in which their size can be reliably determined. Advance payments made are taken as income in the year of receipt;
- Subsidies for projects are accounted for based on projects costs spent;
- Gifts in kind are valued according to the estimated market value in the Netherlands.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION COSTS

Management and administration costs represent expenditure for internal management and administration that cannot be attributed to the objectives of the organisation or fundraising costs.

ALLOCATION PRINCIPLES

The table 'Details of cost allocation' on page 75 shows how the categories of costs are divided over the objectives expenditure, the cost of fundraising and the cost of management and administration. The following comments will clarify the table:

- Grants and contributions are subsidies provided to third parties.
- Own activities relate to actions performed by ActionAid through campaigns, communications, information, fundraising and southern programmes.
- Cost of management and administration are calculated in accordance with Guidelines 650 (2016).
- The costs are allocated on the basis of spent time on the objectives, fundraising and support activities.

5.5

NOTES TO THE BALANCE SHEET PER 31-12-2021 (IN €)

| Assets | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Intangible fixed assets | | | |
| | Software | Total 2021 | Total 2020 |
| Cost as per 1-1 | 12,100 | 12,100 | - |
| Disinvestments | - | - | - |
| Investments | 12,100 | 12,100 | 12,100 |
| Total | 24,200 | 24,200 | 12,100 |
| Depreciation previous years | 1,210 | 1,210 | - |
| Depreciation disinvestments | - | - | - |
| Depreciation | 4,377 | 4,377 | 1,210 |
| Book value per 31 Dec | 18,613 | 18,613 | 10,890 |
| Book value per 1-1 | 10,890 | 10,890 | 12,100 |
| Investments | 12,100 | 12,100 | - |
| Total | 22,990 | 22,990 | 12,100 |
| Depreciation | 4,377 | 4,377 | 1,210 |
| Book value per 31 Dec | 18,613 | 18,613 | 10,890 |

Tangible fixed assets

| | Leasehold improvements | Equipment | Computers | Total 2021 | Total 2020 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Cost as per 1-1 | 33,875 | 40,398 | 149,252 | 223,525 | 251,798 |
| Disinvestments | - | - | 64,070 | 64,070 | 19,433 |
| Investments | - | 363 | 11,117 | 11,480 | 5,463 |
| Total | 33,875 | 40,761 | 96,299 | 170,935 | 237,819 |
| Depreciation previous years | 32,519 | 29,536 | 124,192 | 186,246 | 205,974 |
| Depreciation disinvestments | - | - | 64,070 | 64,070 | 19,433 |
| Depreciation | 1,357 | 2,703 | 8,338 | 12,397 | 13,999 |
| Book value | | | | | |
| per 31 Dec | - | 8,522 | 27,839 | 36,361 | 37,279 |
| Book value per 1-1 | 1,357 | 10,862 | 25,060 | 37,279 | 45,824 |
| Investments | - | 363 | 11,117 | 11,480 | 5,463 |
| Total | 1,357 | 11,225 | 36,177 | 48,758 | 51,277 |
| Depreciation 2021 | 1,357 | 2,703 | 8,338 | 12,397 | 13,999 |
| Book value | | | | | |
| per 31 Dec | - | 8,522 | 27,839 | 36,361 | 37,279 |

All assets are used for operational purposes.

2020 figures are adjusted and divided in immaterial and material assets

Receivables, prepayments and accrued income

| Receivables | 31 December 2021 | 31 December 2020 |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Subsidies | 2,257,866 | 82,616 |
| Other receivables | 9,105 | 936 |
| Advance payments | 64,948 | 30,259 |
| Total | 2,331,920 | 113,812 |
| Details of subsidies to be received | | |
| - MFMC | 16,071 | - |
| - Min of Foreign Affairs | 2,241,795 | 82,616 |
| Total | 2,257,866 | 82,616 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | | |
| - Savings accounts | 123,123 | 975,805 |
| - Cash and bank accounts | 1,071,780 | 1,195,658 |
| Total | 1,194,903 | 2,171,463 |

The figure for cash and cash equivalents also includes an amount of € 20,126.48 (2020: € 20,627.94) for a bank account in South Africa. This amount is not at our free disposal.

Liabilities (reserves and funds)

| Continuity reserve | Total 2021 | Total 2020 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Value per 1-1 | 656,904 | 470,489 |
| Withdrawn/added from | 185,878 | 186,415 |
| Value per 31-12 | 842,782 | 656,904 |
| Designated Fund | Total 2021 | Total 2020 |
| Value per 1-1 | 3,127 | 7,950 |
| Transferred to restricted programmes | -3,127 | -7,950 |
| Added for Restricted Mailing | 691 | 3,127 |
| Value per 31-12 | 691 | 3,127 |
| Reserve for programmes AAI | Total 2021 | Total 2020 |
| Value per 1-1 | 61,873 | - |
| Added to | 30,460 | 61,873 |
| Withdrawn from | 42,297 | - |
| Value per 31-12 | 50,036 | 61,873 |

| Long-term Liabilities | 31 December 2021 | 31 December 2020 |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Partners of Ministry of Foreign Affairs FGIII | | |
| -ActionAid Bangladesh | 303,702 | - |
| -ActionAid General Secretariat | 235,859 | - |
| -ActionAid Kenya | 284,916 | - |
| -ActionAid Uganda | 273,768 | - |
| -ActionAid Zimbabwe | 301,328 | - |
| -ActionAid Guatemala | 300,000 | - |
| Total Long-term Liabilities | 1,699,572 | - |

| Current Liabilities | 31 December 2021 | 31 December 2020 |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Advances subsidies received | | |
| - Min. of FA Partnerships | - | 1.149.065 |
| Total current liabilities | - | 1,149,065 |

| Short-term project liabilities | 31 December 2021 | 31 December 2020 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Partners of Ministry of Foreign Affairs FGIII | | |
| -ActionAid Bangladesh | 165,829 | |
| -ActionAid General Secretariat | 64,429 | |
| -ActionAid Kenya | 129,187 | |
| -ActionAid Uganda | 128,284 | |
| -ActionAid Zimbabwe | 109,037 | |
| -ActionAid Guatemala | 110,000 | |
| -ActionAid South Africa | 288 | |
| Partners of Ministry of Foreign Affairs FGG II | | |
| -ActionAid Bangladesh | | 11,833 |
| -ActionAid Cambodia | | 3,139 |
| -ActionAid General Secretariat | | 10,739 |
| -ActionAid Kenya | | -2,115 |
| -ActionAid Uganda | | 9,582 |
| -ActionAid Zambia | | 51,759 |
| -ActionAid Zimbabwe | | 15,193 |
| -ActionAid Mozambique | | 327 |
| -ActionAid South Africa | | 19,133 |
| -ActionAid DRC | | 1,160 |
| -ActionAid Brazil | | 2,652 |
| -ActionAid India | | 2,285 |
| -ActionAid Malawi | | -2,237 |
| -ActionAid Vietnam | | 2,518 |
| Total short-term project liabilities | 707,055 | 125,966 |

| Liabilities (payables) | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Creditors | 61,163 | 63,720 |
| Taxation | 45,663 | 43,553 |
| Holiday days | 57,537 | 41,117 |
| Holiday allowances | 36,649 | 32,686 |
| Auditor | 34,075 | 19,395 |
| ActionAid International | 5,311 | 106,788 |
| Miscellaneous | 41,264 | 29,249 |
| Total payables | 281,662 | 336,510 |
| Total Current liabilities | 988,717 | 1,611,541 |

CONTINGENCIES

In January 2014 a contract started with Stichting Plan Nederland for hiring an office for € 50,000 a year. The contract period is nine years but terminable at one month's notice. The rent for 2021 was € 56,398. In May 2019 a new contact started with Toshiba for hiring a copy machine for € 108 per month.

5.6

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2021 (IN €)

| | Actual 2021 | Plan 2021 | Actual 2020 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Income from private individuals | | | |
| Regular giving | 786,736 | 815,000 | 784,938 |
| Appeals | 122,224 | 144,000 | 215,601 |
| Legacies | 19,569 | - | 37,668 |
| Subtotal | 928,529 | 959,000 | 1,038,207 |
| Income from companies | | | |
| Appeals | 12,405 | 6,000 | 11,212 |
| Subtotal | 12,405 | 6,000 | 11,212 |
| Government subsidies | | | |
| Min. of FA FGG II | 4,156,903 | 1,939,108 | 2,090,989 |
| IMVO | 25,000 | - | 25,000 |
| Subtotal | 4,181,903 | 1,939,108 | 2,115,989 |
| Income from other non-profit organisations | | | |
| -Minor Fund for Major Challenges | 31,288 | - | - |
| - Norad | 7,457 | - | - |
| Subtotal | 38,745 | - | - |
| Total Income raised | 5,161,583 | 2,904,108 | 3,165,408 |

Income from private individuals and companies are unrestricted except for € 691 restricted mailings
Income from Government subsidies and other non-profit organisation are restricted.

| | Actual 2021 | Plan 2021 | Actual 2020 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Salaries, pensions and social security contributions | | | |
| Gross salary | 953,062 | 979,938 | 948,107 |
| Social security contributions | 171,946 | 190,105 | 171,028 |
| Pensions | 41,036 | 44,565 | 40,258 |
| Subtotal | 1,166,044 | 1,214,608 | 1,159,394 |
| Other personnel costs | | | |
| Temporary staff | 12,112 | - | 16,648 |
| Staff recruitment | 5,833 | 1,000 | 3,521 |
| Commuting | 4,234 | 20,000 | 10,465 |
| Other | 37,503 | 48,500 | 31,427 |
| Subtotal | 59,682 | 69,500 | 62,061 |
| Office Rental and Service costs | | | |
| Rent incl. service | 56,802 | 57,000 | 58,111 |
| Removal costs | 408 | 500 | 408 |
| Other | 260 | - | 1,136 |
| Subtotal | 57,470 | 57,500 | 59,655 |
| Office costs and general expenses | | | |
| ICT support | 80,904 | 41,000 | 51,294 |
| Legal advice | 365 | 5,000 | 8,188 |
| Auditor | 26,515 | 21,000 | 21,874 |
| Insurances | 3,601 | 6,000 | 5,273 |
| Supervisory Board | 2,748 | 9,450 | 2,506 |
| Other office costs | 34,905 | 51,050 | 35,950 |
| Subtotal | 149,037 | 133,500 | 125,085 |
| Depreciation | 16,774 | 30,000 | 15,209 |
| Subtotal | 16,774 | 30,000 | 15,209 |

| | | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Subsidies and contributions | 3,109,600 | 961,000 | 1,071,393 |
| Subtotal | 3,109,600 | 961,000 | 1,071,393 |
| Own activities | 427,243 | 438,000 | 425,075 |
| Subtotal | 427,243 | 438,000 | 425,075 |
| Total Expenditure | 4,985,850 | 2,904,108 | 2,918,870 |
| Balance of financial income and expenses | | | |
| Dividend, Interest | 27 | - | 330 |
| Bank costs | -3,626 | - | -1,819 |
| Currency loss/gain | -528 | - | -2,584 |
| Total financial income and expenses | -4,127 | - | -4,073 |

The overview above matches the Explanation of Cost Allocation.

EXPENDITURE (2)

The table on page 75 explains cost allocations per category of expenditure against major allocation headings such as Campaigning, Advocacy & Research, Communication & Public Information, Programme support to partners in the Global South, Acquisition of Income and Management and Administration. In this table direct and indirect costs are based on time spent by staff. These costs include direct programme costs. The costs for subsidies and contributions are much higher than budgeted, because we made 5 contracts with 6 partners for 5 years.

| Subsidies and contributions | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Min. of Foreign Affairs FGG III | € 3,036,406 |
| Minor Fund for Major Change | € 7,770 |
| ActionAid International contribution | € 20,000 |
| ActionAid International projects | € 45,424 |
| Total | € 3,109,600 |

Details of Cost Allocation (in €)

| | Mission Objectives (86%) | | | Cost of Acquisition(10%) | | Overhead(4%) | Actual2021 | Plan 2021 | Actual 2020 |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | Campaigning, Advocacy & Research | Communication & Public Information | Programme support to partners in the Global South | Voluntary fundraising | Government subsidies | Management & Administration | Total | Total | Total |
| Direct programme costs | 492,131 | 244,698 | 2,358,424 | 4,387 | 4,477 | 5,483 | 3,109,600 | 961,000 | 1,701,393 |
| Own activities | - | 185,916 | - | 216,338 | 24,989 | - | 427,243 | 438,000 | 425,075 |
| Salary costs incl. social security and pension | 367,718 | 183,859 | 318,689 | 122,573 | 91,929 | 140,958 | 1,225,726 | 1,284,108 | 1,221,453 |
| Property costs | 17,241 | 8,621 | 14,942 | 5,747 | 4,310 | 6,609 | 57,470 | 57,500 | 59,655 |
| Office costs and general expenses | 44,711 | 22,356 | 38,750 | 14,904 | 11,178 | 17,139 | 149,037 | 133,500 | 125,085 |
| Depreciation | 5,032 | 2,516 | 4,361 | 1,677 | 1,258 | 1,929 | 16,774 | 30,000 | 15,209 |
| Total | 926,833 | 647,965 | 2,735,165 | 365,625 | 138,142 | 172,119 | 4,985,850 | 2,904,108 | 2,917,870 |



BOARD AND DIRECTOR COSTS (IN €)

Expenditure for the supervisory board (under office administration and general costs) consists of meeting and representation costs. All Supervisory Board members are unpaid volunteers. No loans, advances or guarantees were given to the Executive Director nor to any Board member. The Country Director's salary is determined by the board.

| Remuneration Director | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Name | M.E Maij | J.F. Aalstein |
| Function | Director / Board | Director / Board |
| Employment | | |
| Duration | determined | determined |
| Hours/week | 36 | 36 |
| parttime percentage | 100 | 100 |
| Period | 18-01/31-12 | 01-01/28-02 |
| Remuneration (EUR) | | |
| Annual Income | | |
| Gross Salary | 84,905 | 14,884 |
| Holiday Allowance | 6,792 | 1,236 |
| Year-end Allowance | 3,209 | 584 |
| Payment of Holiday-days | | 565 |
| Total | 94,907 | 17,269 |
| Taxed fees | n/a | n/a |
| Pension | 6,522 | 991 |
| Totaal 2021 | 101,429 | 18,260 |
| Totaal 2020 | n/a | 98,603 |

ActionAid follows the Advies Regeling Beloning Directeuren van Goede Doelen (VFI, 2011) (Advice remuneration NGO's directors, VFI 2011). The guideline gives advice - on the basis of severity criteria - on a maximum standard for annual income. This weighted criteria led to a BDS score of 360 with a maximum annual income of € 99,828

With this publication we meet with the Law on the Standard on High Top incomes (WNT). This standard for Gross salary + Pension is max. € 191,000)

| 2021 | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| M. E. Maij | |
| Executive Director | |
| Period | 18-01-2021 t/m 31-12-2021 |
| FTE | 1 |
| Employee | yes |
| Remuneration (EUR) | |
| Annual Income | 101,429 |
| Benefits payable over time | n/a |
| Maximum salary according to WNT norms | 183,042 |

| 2021 | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| J.F. Aalstein | |
| Executive Director | |
| Period | 01-01-2021 t/m 28-02-2021 |
| FTE | 1 |
| Employee | yes |
| Remuneration (EUR) | |
| Annual Income | 18,278 |
| Benefits payable over time | n/a |
| Maximum salary according to WNT norms | 31,833 |



| 2020 | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| J.F. Aalstein | |
| Executive Director | |
| Period | 01-01-2020/31-12-2020 |
| FTE | 1 |
| Employee | yes |
| Remuneration (EUR) | |
| Annual Income | 104,454 |
| Benefits payable over time | n/a |
| Maximum salary according to WNT norms | 189,000 |

RISKS

Risk management is an important aspect of our governance.

Standard procedure is to discuss the risks register twice a year in the supervisory board's finance and audit committee as well as in the full supervisory board: once at the time of the approval of the annual plan and once mid-year. The risk register is presented with ratings for probability and impact as well as with risk mitigation actions.

Our immediate mitigation strategy is diversification in income streams through investing in individual and high value fundraising, piloting new channels of fundraising and enhancing our brand. ActionAid will strengthen its effort to generate new institutional and philanthropic income and will invest in specific expertise to source and apply to new opportunities. In 2020 together with the FGG Alliance we successfully submitted a new funding proposal to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, under the Power of Voices programme. The Board is in control of the structure, the existence and operation of the AO/ IC systems. It has identified and evaluated the risks as indicated in this report.

A different risk is the shrinking political space in which we operate. This is both a medium risk for the wellbeing of our overseas colleagues as well as for our compliance with commitments to donors. Building good relationships with members of parliament,



press and embassies and continuously emphasizing the importance of protecting human rights and space for civil society is our key mitigation strategy.

A standard risk for organisations working in remote areas with complex project chains is fraud. The ActionAid federation has robust anti-fraud policies and stringent processes in place to prevent and deal with fraud. In that respect it is worth mentioning that regular internal audits from the ActionAid International secretariat are performed in all 45 ActionAid countries. Such an audit took place in the Netherlands in 2018.

Finally, the current media attention on sexual abuse cases involving INGOs has taught us to be vigilant and invest in robust safeguarding policies and practices to diminish any risks.

QUALITY MANAGEMENTSYSTEM

Since 2019 ActionAid has been audited by Eik certificering for quality management. In 2021 we met the requirements for the audits and renewed our certificate for NEN-EN- ISO 9001:2015 and Partos 9001:2015

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Our programme focus in 2022 will remain on assisting partners and communities to lobby for proper corporate conduct and fight against human rights violations such as land grabs, unfair tax regimes and unfavourable investment policies. As always, working on equality, we will focus on strengthening the rights and voices of women. We will continue to work closely with our colleagues in the federation and seek to strengthen international campaigns where possible. We will aim to be bolder and more visible. To that end we will continue to engage in substantial campaigns work, further strengthening the ActionAid brand in the Dutch public landscape. This will support our fundraising, which itself will gradually shift from street fundraising to online fundraising and telemarketing. But we will also look in and beyond the Netherlands to find institutional and philanthropic partnerships.

5.7

BUDGET 2022 (IN €)

| Income | Plan 2022 | Actual 2021 | Plan 2021 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Income from private individuals | 891,712 | 928,529 | 959,000 |
| Income from companies | 10,000 | 12,405 | 6,000 |
| Income from Government subsidies | 2,017,380 | 4,181,903 | 1,939,108 |
| Income from other non-profit organisations | 250,000 | 38,745 | - |
| Total Income Raised | 3,169,092 | 5,161,583 | 2,904,108 |
| Expenditure | Plan 2022 | Actual 2021 | Plan 2021 |
| Spent on Objectives | | | |
| - Campaigning, Advocacy & Research | 612,347 | 926,833 | 589,105 |
| - Communication & Public Information | 428,103 | 647,965 | 419,211 |
| - Programme support to partners in the Global South | 1,807,091 | 2,735,165 | 1,392,132 |
| | 2,847,541 | 4,309,964 | 2,400,448 |
| Acquisition of income | | | |
| - Cost of voluntary fundraising | 332,833 | 503,767 | 399,521 |
| | 332,833 | 503,767 | 339,521 |
| Management and administration expenses | 113,717 | 172,119 | 104,139 |
| Total Expenditure | 3,294,092 | 4,985,850 | 2,904,108 |
| Balance of financial income and expenses | -125,000 | 175,732 | - |
| Financial income/expenses | - | -4,127 | - |
| Surplus/deficit | -125,000 | 171,605 | - |



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CONTROLEVERKLARING VAN DE ONAFHANKELIJKE ACCOUNTANT

Aan: de raad van toezicht en het bestuur van Stichting ActionAid te Amsterdam.

A. Verklaring over de in het jaarverslag opgenomen jaarrekening 2021

Ons oordeel

Wij hebben de jaarrekening 2021 van Stichting ActionAid te Amsterdam gecontroleerd.

Naar ons oordeel geeft de in dit jaarverslag opgenomen jaarrekening een getrouw beeld van de grootte en de samenstelling van het vermogen van Stichting ActionAid per 31 december 2021 en van het resultaat over 2021 in overeenstemming met de in Nederland geldende RJ-Richtlijn 650 Fondsenwervende organisaties en de bepalingen van en krachtens de Wet normering topinkomens (WNT).

De jaarrekening bestaat uit:

1. de balans per 31 december 2021;
2. de staat van baten en lasten over 2021; en
3. de toelichting met een overzicht van de gehanteerde grondslagen voor financiële verslaggeving en andere toelichtingen.

De basis voor ons oordeel

Wij hebben onze controle uitgevoerd volgens het Nederlands recht, waaronder ook de Nederlandse controlestandaarden vallen, en de Regeling Controleprotocol WNT 2021. Onze verantwoordelijkheden op grond hiervan zijn beschreven in de sectie 'Onze verantwoordelijkheden voor de controle van de jaarrekening'.

Wij zijn onafhankelijk van Stichting ActionAid zoals vereist in de Verordening inzake de onafhankelijkheid van accountants bij assurance-opdrachten (ViO) en andere voor de opdracht relevante onafhankelijkheidsregels in Nederland. Verder hebben wij voldaan aan de Verordening gedrags- en beroepsregels accountants (VGBA).

Wij vinden dat de door ons verkregen controle-informatie voldoende en geschikt is als basis voor ons oordeel.

Naleving anticumulatiebepaling WNT niet gecontroleerd

In overeenstemming met het Controleprotocol WNT 2021 hebben wij de anticumulatiebepaling, bedoeld in artikel 1.6a WNT en artikel 5, lid 1, sub n en o, Uitvoeringsregeling WNT, niet gecontroleerd. Dit betekent dat wij niet hebben gecontroleerd of er wel of niet sprake is van een normoverschrijding door een leidinggevende topfunctionaris vanwege eventuele dienstbetrekkingen als leidinggevende topfunctionaris bij andere WNT-plichtige instellingen, alsmede of de in dit kader vereiste toelichting juist en volledig is.

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B. Verklaring over de in het jaarverslag opgenomen andere informatie

Het jaarverslag omvat andere informatie, naast de jaarrekening en onze controleverklaring daarbij.

Op grond van onderstaande werkzaamheden zijn wij van mening dat de andere informatie met de jaarrekening verenigbaar is en geen materiële afwijkingen bevat.

Wij hebben de andere informatie gelezen en hebben op basis van onze kennis en ons begrip, verkregen vanuit de controle of anderszins, overwogen of de andere informatie materiële afwijkingen bevat.

Met onze werkzaamheden hebben wij voldaan aan de vereisten in de Nederlandse Standaard 720. Deze werkzaamheden hebben niet dezelfde diepgang als onze controlewerkzaamheden bij de jaarrekening. Het bestuur is verantwoordelijk voor het opstellen van de andere informatie, waaronder het bestuursverslag, in overeenstemming met RJ-Richtlijn 650 Fondsenwervende organisaties.

C. Beschrijving van verantwoordelijkheden met betrekking tot de jaarrekening

Verantwoordelijkheden van de raad van toezicht en het bestuur voor de jaarrekening

Het bestuur is verantwoordelijk voor het opmaken en getrouw weergeven van de jaarrekening in overeenstemming met de in Nederland geldende RJ-Richtlijn 650 Fondsenwervende organisaties en de bepalingen van en krachtens de Wet normering topinkomens (WNT). In dit kader is het bestuur verantwoordelijk voor een zodanige interne beheersing die het bestuur noodzakelijk acht om het opmaken van de jaarrekening mogelijk te maken zonder afwijkingen van materieel belang als gevolg van fouten of fraude.

Bij het opmaken van de jaarrekening moet het bestuur afwegen of de organisatie in staat is om haar werkzaamheden in continuïteit voort te zetten. Op grond van genoemd verslaggevingsstelsel moet het bestuur de jaarrekening opmaken op basis van de continuïteitsveronderstelling, tenzij het bestuur het voornemen heeft om de organisatie te liquideren of de activiteiten te beëindigen, of als beëindiging het enige realistische alternatief is.

Het bestuur moet gebeurtenissen en omstandigheden waardoor gerede twijfel zou kunnen bestaan of de organisatie haar activiteiten in continuïteit kan voortzetten, toelichten in de jaarrekening.

De raad van toezicht is verantwoordelijk voor het uitoefenen van toezicht op het proces van financiële verslaggeving van de organisatie.

Onze verantwoordelijkheden voor de controle van de jaarrekening

Onze verantwoordelijkheid is het zodanig plannen en uitvoeren van een controleopdracht dat wij daarmee voldoende en geschikte controle-informatie verkrijgen voor het door ons af te geven oordeel.

Onze controle is uitgevoerd met een hoge mate maar geen absolute mate van zekerheid, waardoor het mogelijk is dat wij tijdens onze controle niet alle materiële fouten en fraude ontdekken.

Afwijkingen kunnen ontstaan als gevolg van fraude of fouten en zijn materieel indien redelijkerwijs kan worden verwacht dat deze, afzonderlijk of gezamenlijk, van invloed kunnen zijn op de economische beslissingen die gebruikers op basis van deze jaarrekening nemen. De materialiteit beïnvloedt de aard, timing en omvang van onze controlewerkzaamheden en de evaluatie van het effect van onderkende afwijkingen op ons oordeel.

Wij hebben deze accountantscontrole professioneel kritisch uitgevoerd en hebben waar relevant professionele oordeelsvorming toegepast in overeenstemming met de Nederlandse controlestandaarden, en de Regeling Controleprotocol WNT 2021, ethische voorschriften en de onafhankelijkheidseisen.

Onze controle bestond onder andere uit:

- het identificeren en inschatten van de risico's dat de jaarrekening afwijkingen van materieel belang bevat als gevolg van fouten of fraude, het in reactie op deze risico's bepalen en uitvoeren van controlewerkzaamheden en het verkrijgen van controle-informatie die voldoende en geschikt is als basis voor ons oordeel. Bij fraude is het risico dat een afwijking van materieel belang niet ontdekt wordt groter dan bij fouten. Bij fraude kan sprake zijn van samenspanning, valsheid in geschrifte, het opzettelijk nalaten transacties vast te leggen, het opzettelijk verkeerd voorstellen van zaken of het doorbreken van de interne beheersing;
- het verkrijgen van inzicht in de interne beheersing die relevant is voor de controle met als doel controlewerkzaamheden te selecteren die passend zijn in de omstandigheden. Deze werkzaamheden hebben niet als doel een oordeel uit te spreken over de effectiviteit van de interne beheersing van de organisatie;
- het evalueren van de geschiktheid van de gebruikte grondslagen voor financiële verslaggeving en het evalueren van de redelijkheid van schattingen door het bestuur en de toelichtingen die daarover in de jaarrekening staan;
- het vaststellen dat de door het bestuur gehanteerde continuïteitsveronderstelling aanvaardbaar is, tevens het op basis van de verkregen controle-informatie vaststellen of er gebeurtenissen en omstandigheden zijn waardoor gerede twijfel zou kunnen bestaan of de organisatie haar activiteiten in continuïteit kan voortzetten. Als wij concluderen dat er een onzekerheid van materieel belang bestaat, zijn wij verplicht om in onze controleverklaring aandacht te vestigen op de relevante gerelateerde toelichtingen in de jaarrekening. Als de toelichtingen inadequaat zijn, moeten wij onze controleverklaring aanpassen. Onze conclusies zijn gebaseerd op de controle-informatie die verkregen is tot de datum van onze controleverklaring. Toekomstige gebeurtenissen of omstandigheden kunnen er echter toe leiden dat een organisatie haar continuïteit niet langer kan handhaven;
- het evalueren van de presentatie, structuur en inhoud van de jaarrekening en de daarin opgenomen toelichtingen;
- het evalueren of de jaarrekening een getrouw beeld geeft van de onderliggende transacties en gebeurtenissen.



Wij communiceren met de raad van toezicht en het bestuur onder andere over de geplande reikwijdte en timing van de controle en over de significante bevindingen die uit onze controle naar voren zijn gekomen, waaronder eventuele significante tekortkomingen in de interne beheersing.

Amsterdam, 20 mei 2022

Dubois & Co. Registeraccountants

G. Visser RA