

# International Annual Report

2024



**SOS CHILDREN'S  
VILLAGES**



As a child, you need someone who truly sees you – who stands by you no matter what. But today, **1 in 10** children and young people are separated from their families, abandoned, neglected or forced to live in an abusive environment, growing up without the support they need to prepare themselves for their future.

It happens in every country, rich and poor – in every city and in every community. For the child, the effects often last a lifetime, which can create a harmful cycle that repeats itself from one generation to the next.

**We exist to change this.**

Truly  
**bonding**  
with a **child** has the  
**power**  
*to change the world.*

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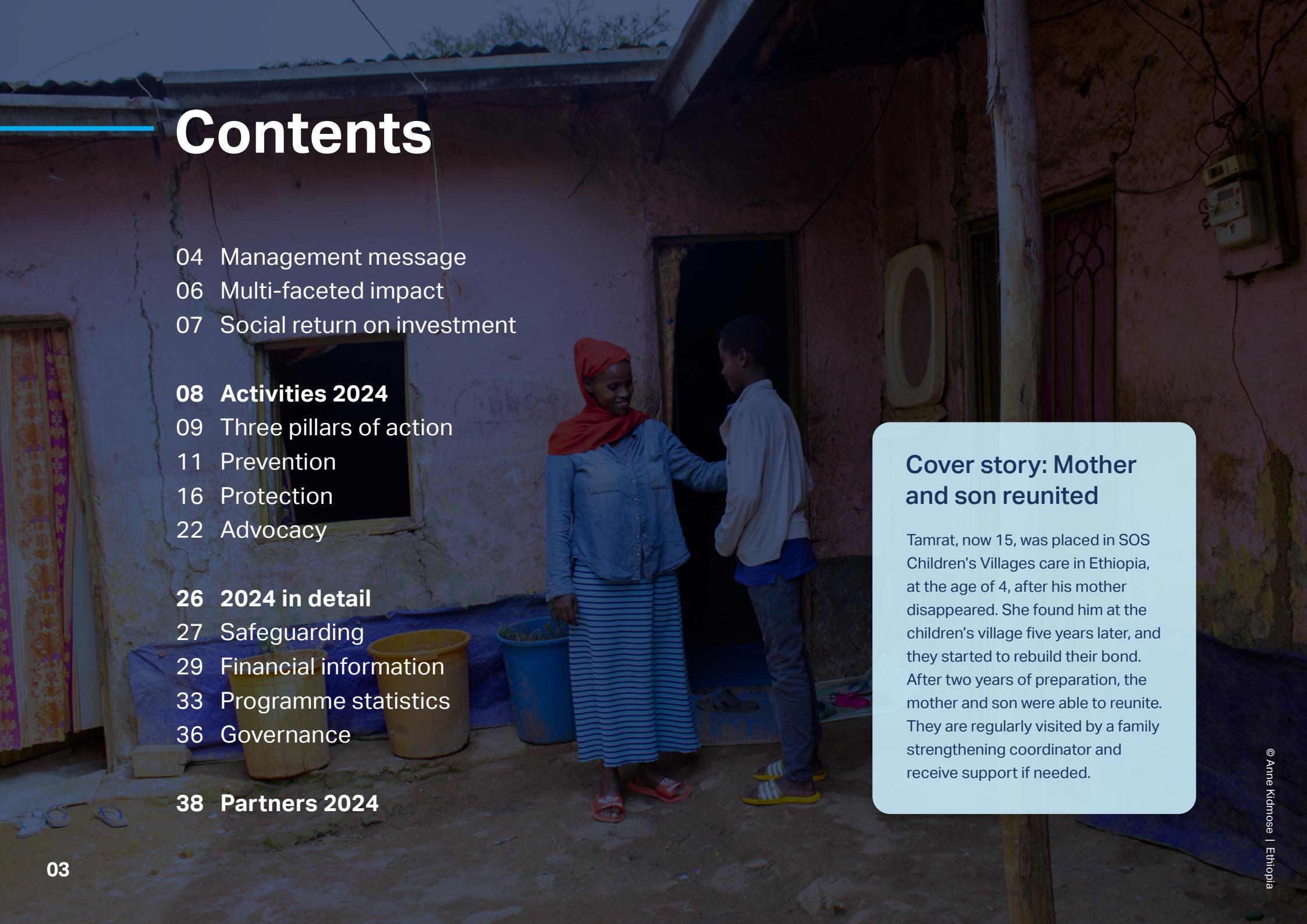
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### Cover story: Mother and son reunited

Tamrat, now 15, was placed in SOS Children's Villages care in Ethiopia, at the age of 4, after his mother disappeared. She found him at the children's village five years later, and they started to rebuild their bond. After two years of preparation, the mother and son were able to reunite. They are regularly visited by a family strengthening coordinator and receive support if needed.



# Management message



**Benoît Piot**  
Chief Executive Officer (interim)



**Biranchi Upadhyaya**  
Chief Operating Officer (interim)

"When there is a crisis, the children are the most affected." This is how 17-year-old youth advocate Yvonne summarized the situation of children living in a refugee camp whom she consulted before giving a speech at the European Humanitarian Forum. Last year, millions of children and young people experienced this reality first-hand – putting them at risk of being deprived of the safe and nurturing family environment they need to thrive.

Making sense of how a multitude of complex factors come together to cause children to lose the protective environment of their family was the focus of our multi-country study *Global Report on Children's Care and Protection*, which came out in October 2024. The report underscores that child–family separation typically occurs because parents or other caregivers lack access to resources that would help them cope with stressors, many of which are beyond their control. This means it is crucial to develop services and frameworks to support parents' – and thus children's – resilience. Our own experience implementing family and community strengthening projects shows the enormous benefits of this support, and it is our priority to continue working with local, national and international partners to make sure this support is available for more families.

Throughout 2024, we were pleased to see young people share their experiences with policymakers and call for the change they and their peers need to succeed. We had a lot to celebrate, including the first-ever Global Ministerial Conference on Ending Violence Against Children.

Internally, as a federation we continued to advance on a number of change projects intended to strengthen safeguarding practice, accountability and oversight, and to increase efficiencies in our collaboration. As part of an organizational transformation, a new operating model for our General Secretariat was approved in November 2024. Meanwhile, we wrapped up our 2021–2024 Safeguarding Action Plan, reaching most of plan's objectives. A new strategy guides our efforts moving forward to fully embed safeguarding across all facets of our work and achieve long-term change in our organizational culture.

In a crucial development, our General Assembly came together in December of 2024 to adopt a new governance structure, which came into effect earlier this year. This reform set in motion improvements recommended by the Independent Special Commission, which reviewed our policies and practices in 2021–2023. Among other things, these governance changes enable a more informed, balanced and swift decision-making process. We are confident that in the coming months and years we will continue to see tangible positive effects of this reform, shaped by the diverse voices of our members.

In 2024, with partners, the SOS Children's Villages federation reached more than 7.7 million people in services designed to improve the lives of children and youth without parental care or at risk of losing it. We say thank you to our donors, partners and dedicated staff for making this possible. Let us continue the work, alongside the people we serve, so that every child and young person can grow up with the safe and nurturing relationships and support they need to thrive.



B. Piot

**Benoît Piot**  
Chief Executive Officer (interim)



**Biranchi Upadhyaya**  
Chief Operating Officer (interim)

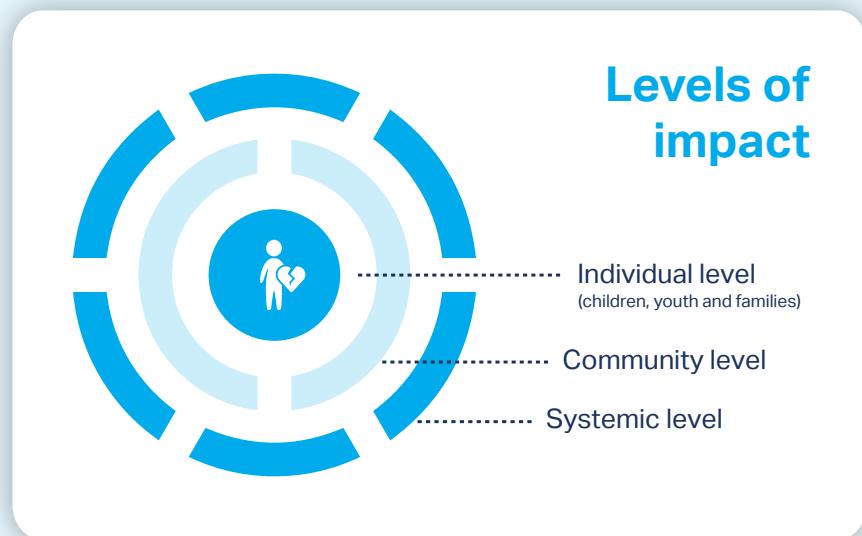
# Multi-faceted impact

*Children need nurturing relationships to grow and develop. A lack of positive interactions in early childhood can harm brain development, while neglect, abuse and child-family separation can have long-term consequences for physical and emotional well-being in adulthood.*

Preventing this harm requires a multi-faceted approach, one that addresses children's individual needs but also provides the frameworks and resources that strengthen their families and communities.

Since 1949, SOS Children's Villages has worked to ensure children grow up with the supportive relationships they need. As society and our understanding of child development evolved, so did our work. Our early decades focused on caring for children without parental support. In the 1970s, we expanded into prevention, helping families at risk stay together. By the early 2000s, we also began coordinated international advocacy to drive systemic policy change for children without parental care or at risk of losing it.

Today, we work along three main levels in order to maximize impact: individually with children and young people, working also with parents and extended family; the support systems of their communities; and the policy frameworks that affect their lives.





# Social return on investment

In April 2024, we released *75 Years of Impact*, featuring results at the individual, community and systemic levels, and with data from social impact assessments updated since our 2019 report. As part of these assessments, changes brought about by our programmes are quantified in financial terms by comparing the cost of a programme to the financial value of its expected benefits for individuals, the community and society. Data from 18 countries show that for every €1 invested into our programmes, society reaped an estimated €4.50 in benefits.



This estimated overall cost-benefit ratio is a weighted average of costs and benefits associated with providing family-like care and family strengthening services. Estimates by each service type and a breakdown of costs and benefits are shown below. (For more information, see page 42 of *75 Years of Impact*.)

## Family-like care

1 : 1.50



## Family strengthening

1:20



- Programme costs
- Overhead costs
- Caregiver income
- Individual income
- Next generation
- Impact of local expenditures
- Other



# 2024 Activities

*Children have the right to grow up in a supportive family environment. Everything we do is aimed at making this a reality.*

*The following section presents the challenges faced by the children and young people we work for, as well as activity highlights. Our work is guided by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children, and contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals.*



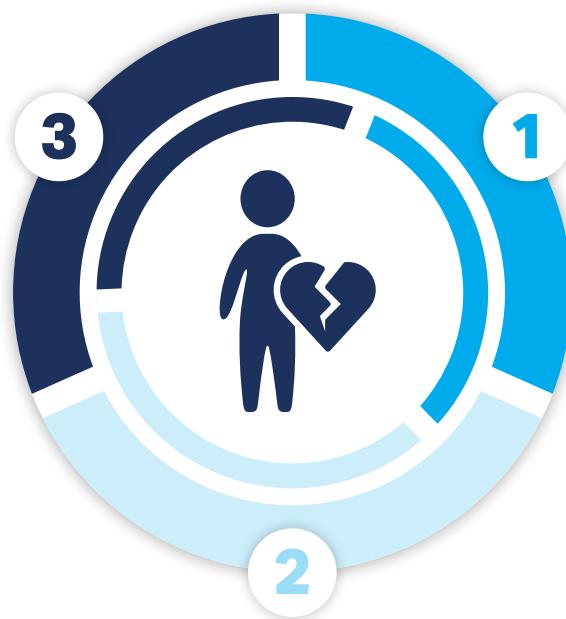
# Three pillars of action

SOS Children's Villages is dedicated to improving the lives of children and young people without parental care or at risk of losing it. Our work evolves in response to the specific issues this unique group faces, and as society and our understanding of child and youth development evolve. In recent years, for example, we have expanded our work to include "young people" (ages 15-24) because we have learned how important it is for this age group to have someone by their side as they transition into adulthood.

By "children and young people without parental care," we mean those who are temporarily or permanently growing up without the care of their families: children in residential care, in foster care, and those who are living on the street. By "those at risk of losing parental care," we mean children and young people in families that are struggling to stay together and where parents are having difficulty providing the care, stability and connection their children need.

We are passionate about ensuring that children and young people have the support they need to become

their strongest selves. We were founded as a practitioner organization in 1949. Today, we leverage our experience for the greatest possible impact. Our efforts are geared toward working directly with individuals, partnering with others to extend our reach and working to change things for the future. We follow three main pillars of action.



# 1

## Prevention

Keeping families together and preventing child-family separation

If possible, the best place for children to grow up is within their family. Our activities range from working directly with families and communities, to research on the reasons for family breakdown, to developing and sharing training materials related to parenting and mental health.



# 2

## Protection

Ensuring care and protection when there is no family or it is not in a child or young person's **best interest to stay in the family**

Our activities include directly caring for children and young people, also in emergencies; working with partners to train foster parents and with governments to implement care standards; supporting young people to become self-reliant; and much more.



# 3

## Advocacy

Changing policy and practice to improve the situation of children and young people without parental care or at risk of losing it

This pillar of action focuses on systemic change. Among other activities, we work with partners to create platforms for children and young people to bring the issues they face into discussions at the local, national and global level.



# Prevention

## Introduction

For the vast majority of children and youth who are placed in alternative care, one or both parents are living. By investing in strengthening families before they break down, the number of children in need of alternative care can be significantly reduced and families better prepared to support children through childhood and as they transition into adulthood. Preventing family breakdown and child-family separation also decreases costs for governments and minimizes strain on public services, ultimately creating an enormous return on investment and stronger society for the future.

Understanding the root causes for child-family separation is crucial for developing solutions that keep families together. What we are learning is that the reasons are complex and often interlinked. They vary from country to country and from family to family, and are often a combination of factors.

The reasons for child-family separation include:



## Prevention highlights 2024

If possible, the best place for a child to grow up is in their own family, or extended family where the bonds are strong and when this is in their best interest. We work at the individual, community and systemic level to ensure families have the support they need to stay together, and that children and young people are cared for and protected.

In our direct work with families and extended families, we offer a range of services, such as parenting workshops, livelihood support, counselling and support in accessing social services. The aim is always to foster the family's own resilience. Parenting workshops are tailored to local needs and include topics such as preventing violence in the family, improving communication with children, and positive discipline. Some parents who have gone through difficult experiences themselves also take advantage of mental health support. Livelihood support may include entrepreneurship and vocational training; seed funding or equipment; and direct financial, food or housing support.

**526,400**

people reached  
through family  
strengthening

**3,651,100**

people reached  
through community  
strengthening

**2,268,600**

people reached in emergency response

**99,100**



families supported to  
stay together

# Prevention highlights 2024

Additionally, we work with communities to strengthen existing social networks and structures, so that they can recognize and support families at risk of breaking down. In emergencies, our humanitarian action projects work to keep families together, or retrace families when they have been separated. Our overarching goal is to raise awareness about the need for family support services in every country so that child-family separation can be prevented, and we partner with local and national governments to achieve this.

In 2024, global conflict, political instability and climate change continued to increase pressures on families already struggling to stay afloat. Our family and community strengthening services directly or indirectly reached almost 4.2 million people, and we responded to 38 humanitarian crises in 33 countries. To contribute to global understanding of what drives child-family separation and support the development of effective strategies to prevent it, we released the findings of our two-year study on children's care and protection (see next page).



## Reunification for children living on the street

In Tanzania, we have been working with government authorities to address the situation of children living and working on the street. In 2024, 336 children and young people were able to reunite with their families and communities.

## Providing safety in crisis

The One Stop centre in Vilnius, Lithuania, is a safe haven for families in crisis, providing comprehensive support to children and their parents, including temporary housing and individual counselling. In 2024, it provided support to 105 families.

## Promoting gender equality

The new Grow Equal project aims to strengthen communities by transforming gender norms in Uganda and Ethiopia. It promotes equal rights, participation in decision-making and access to sustainable job opportunities for women and girls.

## Championing equal parenting

As part of a maternal and child health project in Togo, members of Fathers' Circles led parenting-focused discussion groups with 327 parents, encouraging the involvement of fathers in household chores and prenatal consultations.

# *Global Report on Children's Care and Protection*

Millions of children experience separation from their families. Often, it can be prevented.

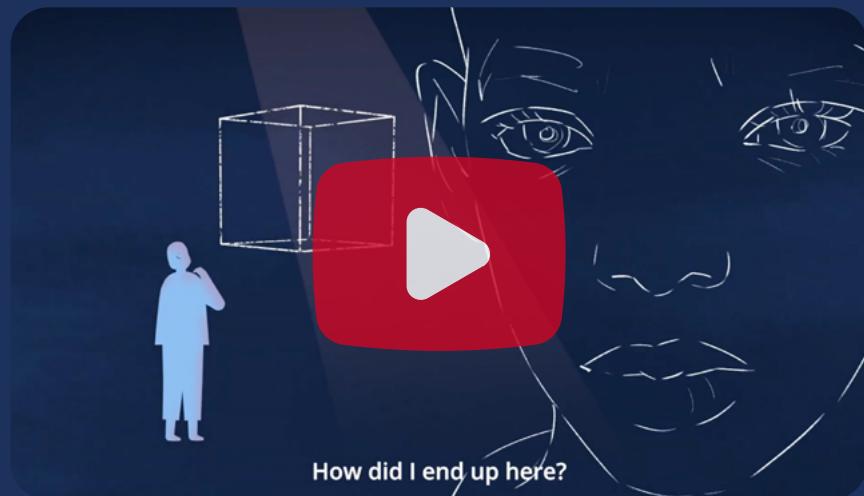
Our 2024 publication *Global Report on Children's Care and Protection* investigates the factors driving child-family separation across high-, middle- and low-income countries – Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Indonesia, El Salvador, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon and Uruguay – and provides actionable recommendations to address them.

It is the product of collaboration between SOS Children's Villages, researchers from academic institutions, and 1,179 research participants including children and young people, adult family members and professionals. A total of 517 children and young people contributed to the design of the global research methodology and participated in qualitative research workshops to share their voices and lived experiences.

The study found that systemic shortcomings such as under-resourcing or poor coordination exacerbate

the impact of family stressors, leading to preventable separations. The evidence shows that child protection authorities, for example, are not always equipped to make decisions in the best interests of children, sometimes opting for separation when it is unnecessary.

Watch the video: <https://youtu.be/kf37bGVJLC4>



# *Global Report on Children's Care and Protection*

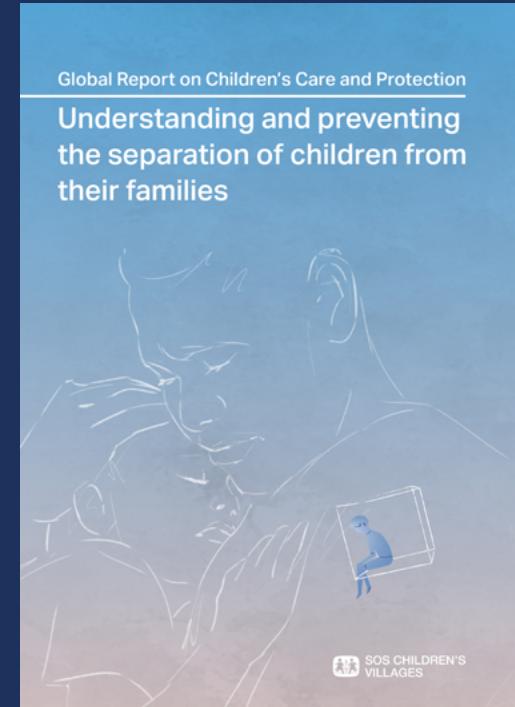
As a follow-up to the *Global Report on Children's Care and Protection*, on 30–31 October 2024 we were thrilled to host the Strengthening Families, Protecting Children virtual conference. This event brought together governments, researchers, policymakers and practitioners from Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Middle East with the common goal of empowering families and preventing child-family separation.

Over 1,000 people from 72 countries registered to take part in the conference, which provided a platform for exchanging strategies, research findings, policies and best practices to address the root causes of family breakdown.

Learn more about promising practices shared in the conference [here](#).

*"It helped us all when my father went to therapy."*

Child aged 13–15 in Denmark



Find the publication [here](#).

# Protection | Alternative care

All children have the right to care and protection, even when their own family cannot care for them. Our concern is to make sure this care is of the highest possible quality, and to ensure that all children and young people grow up with supportive relationships, a sense of security and belonging, and the same access to opportunities as their peers.

Crucial to high-quality care are services that are tailored to the needs of each individual, and that take a trauma-informed approach. Children and youth should have a say in the decisions that affect their lives. The rights of those in care should be championed, and legal protections and support should be in place for young people after they officially "age out" of care. We support children and young people in advocating for their own rights and those of their peers and involve them in shaping our programmes through national and local youth councils.

**65,300**

children and young people cared for in a range of care options

**89**

national youth councils helped shape our programme work

**100**

countries included mental health actions in their annual planning



**38**

emergencies responded to with child protection activities: tackling abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence against children

# Protection | Alternative care highlights 2024

We care for children directly through a range of programmes, also developing materials and trainings to help others improve their care services and conducting research to inform policymakers. Each child and young person who is placed in our care programmes has an individual development plan, and we make sure biological siblings are kept together unless it is not in their best interest. We continuously assess the child's situation, always with an eye toward reintegration with the child's family. Even when there are no living relatives, we work towards family- and community-based approaches to ensure children and young people grow up with meaningful, enduring connections and supportive networks.

We also provide temporary care for children while we work with parents to strengthen their capacities – or, in the case of humanitarian emergencies, until families can be reunified. In 2024, we responded to 38 emergencies around the world, including in Palestine, Somalia, Sudan and Ukraine.



## Digitalization for improved care

Rafiki, our artificial intelligence virtual assistant for care practitioners, expanded to 12 countries in Africa. A version providing guidance and support to young people has now been developed in three languages and is being implemented across 10 countries.

## Preventing violence against children in Europe

As part of the Side by Side project co-funded by the EU, SOS Children's Villages Italy led workshops for practitioners, where it presented the [Applying Safe Behaviours](#) methodology for preventing peer-on-peer violence.

## Making mental health a priority

Our global programme expert group on mental health has been expanding its training sessions since 2022. So far, activities have reached 867 staff members and 7,200 children and young people.

## Survey on sexual and reproductive health

396 children and young people from our programmes were interviewed as part of our global survey on sexual and reproductive health and rights. The findings have been used to develop technical guidance for good practices across the federation.

# Gaza: Protecting children in emergencies

In Gaza, the ongoing war has separated thousands of children from their families and destroyed their sense of safety and stability. As the situation deteriorated, more and more families started struggling to care for their children.

SOS Children's Villages has been working in the area to provide humanitarian aid and care for unaccompanied and separated children. In March 2024, we were able to evacuate 68 children who had been in our care in Rafah, with caregivers and staff, to Bethlehem, in the West Bank.

In May, our programme had to relocate to a camp in Khan Younis, where it provided care for 94 unaccompanied and separated children, 61 of whom were able to reunite with their families despite extremely difficult circumstances; engaged 750 children in remedial learning programmes; and supported 105 families of kinship caregivers. We will continue to work with partners to support those affected by the conflict.

*"When we succeed to reunify a child with their relatives, when we provide assistance to a vulnerable family, this keeps us motivated and recharges our energy."*

**Reem Alreqeb**

Interim Programme Director of SOS Children's Villages in the Gaza Strip



# Protection | Self-reliance

The transition to adulthood can be a daunting process for any young person. Becoming self-reliant means adapting to the loss of support networks and structures provided by school, learning how to cope with everyday challenges alone, entering the world of work and becoming financially independent. This can be particularly challenging for those leaving alternative care (at age 18 or even earlier) and for those in families struggling to stay together, who lack adequate support at home.

We work directly with youth to prepare them for this transition, offering mental health and psychosocial support, and vocational and soft skills training; with partners to set up employability and entrepreneurship initiatives; and with governments worldwide to improve aftercare provisions. We also focus on digital access and learning for young people, helping them to stay connected, build skills for employability and entrepreneurship purposes, and navigate the internet responsibly.

**100**

member organizations implement YouthCan! or other employability initiative

**113**

youth-led initiatives made possible through Youth Power since 2021

**24**

member organizations implement Never Walk Alone! Project to strengthen care leaver networks

**142,100**

young people and adults in YouthCan! or other employment and entrepreneurship training

# Protection | Self-reliance highlights 2024

Most importantly, we connect young people with mentors, peers and wider support networks to guide them on their unique path. Across all our programmes and initiatives, we promote the meaningful participation of young people – in the decisions that affect their lives, in shaping our work to support them and in advocating for change.

In 2020–2024, we implemented the Leaving Care – Never Walk Alone! project to strengthen care leaver networks in 24 countries across Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. Based on an evaluation in ten African countries, the project helped establish six and strengthen another two networks of young people with experiences of care, which collectively supported over 12,000 young people. In Uganda, the national network's advocacy resulted in changes to the citizen registration form that made it easier for people without known relatives to register as citizens.



## United Nations High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development

At this high-level forum, we co-hosted an event with DHL Group, the International Labour Organization and the Permanent Mission of Germany at the UN. It focused on YouthCan!, youth participation and multi-stakeholder collaboration.

## Creating brighter futures

In Canada, we launched the YouthRISE project with Scotiabank's ScotiaRISE. The aim of the three-year project is to provide up to 800 young people in Jamaica and Mexico with employment, entrepreneurship and educational opportunities.

## Supporting young activists

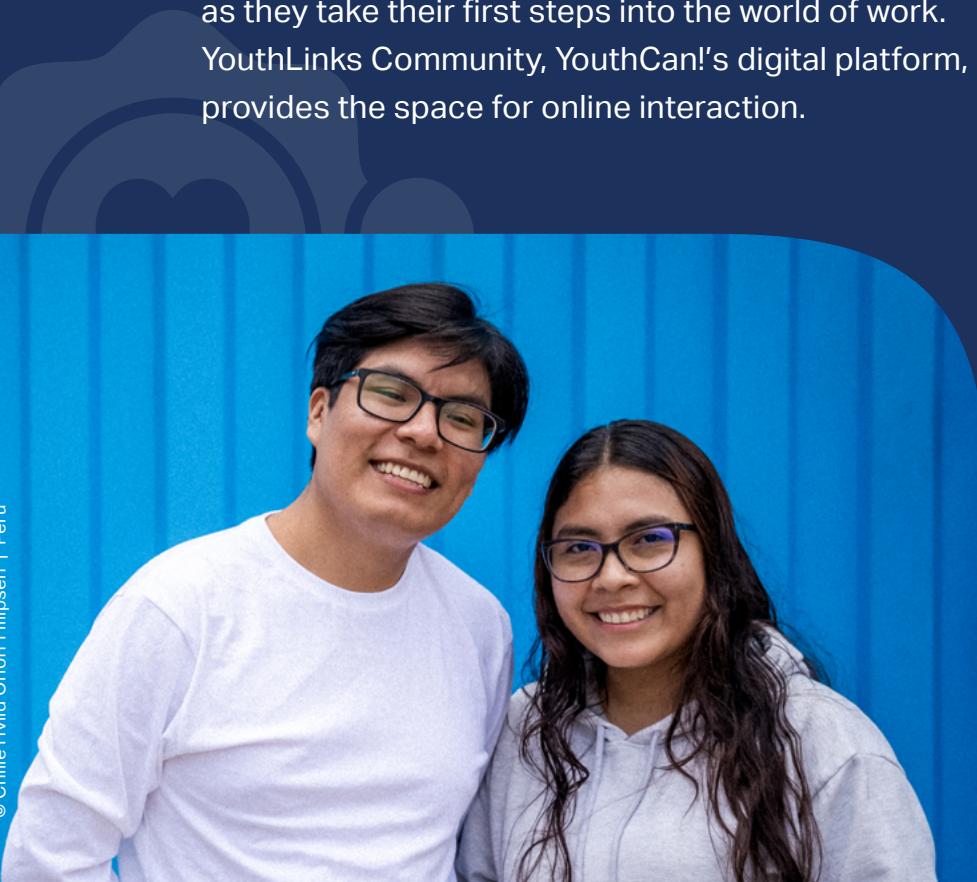
The Youth Power programme empowers young people to create change in their communities, with a particular focus on contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals. Over the last four years, Youth Power activities have benefited over 32,000 people in more than 110 communities.

## Turning climate solutions into action

The EcoChampions programme, launched in 2024, is supporting 25 young activists to turn their climate solutions into action by providing training, mentoring, seed funding and access to global advocacy spaces.

# Bridging the gap between school and work | YouthCan! partnership

YouthCan! is our global programme for youth employability and entrepreneurship. We work together with public and private sector partners to provide individualized support to young people preparing to enter the labour market. Employees of our private sector partners offer training, mentorship and support for young people, online or in person, as they take their first steps into the world of work. YouthLinks Community, YouthCan!'s digital platform, provides the space for online interaction.



YouthCan! reach 2024\*

**23,020**

young people

**1,941**

volunteers

**48**

countries

**4,821**

members on YouthLinks Community

\* For more information, see [YouthCan! Facts and Figures 2024](#).

# Advocacy

All children have equal rights to care and protection, including the right to grow up in a safe and supportive family environment that fosters their well-being and full development. Along with partners, we defend and promote these rights on a global, regional, national and community level. Our work is designed to change policy and practice to improve national child and social protection systems, including provisions for those who have been displaced from their country of origin.

One of our main objectives is to help decision makers understand that investing in strengthening families can prevent unnecessary separation of children from their parents, other forms of harm and additional alternative care placements. When it is not possible or in a child's best interest to stay in their family, we advocate for a range of high-quality alternative care options and sufficient support to young people as they age out of care. In 2024, we worked alongside partners to advocate for children, young people and parents in 100 countries.



## National policy change

In Bolivia, SOS Children's Villages contributed to the creation of three new child protection laws at the local and national level, working with government bodies, community networks and other child-focused organizations.

The first law aims to guarantee the right of every child to grow up in a family. An amendment to the current national legislation on children, it ensures increased focus on preventing child abandonment, developing family care alternatives and offering support to young people until they become independent. It has the potential to affect 900,000 children and adolescents. The second, a municipal law, promotes the establishment of child protection mechanisms within existing community structures in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, where we have been working to strengthen communities for the last ten years. The third law – specific to the municipality of Cochabamba – focuses on preventing child abandonment and mandates action to strengthen families.

# Advocacy highlights 2024

To bring about sustainable and large-scale change in policies and services, we raise awareness about children and young people without parental care or at risk of losing it and ensure their needs are reflected in high-level conversations. We speak up at national and international political forums and events; contribute to research and reports; generate and share knowledge; and provide technical guidance and recommendations to governments and policymakers to promote child-centred and rights-based approaches. We base our work on evidence, expertise and people's lived experiences.

Because collaboration and partnership with children and young people are fundamental to ensuring our advocacy efforts are inclusive, responsive and meaningful, we work alongside them, listening to their perspectives, and involving them in the design and implementation of advocacy activities to voice their opinion towards governments and key changemakers.



## **Ending violence against children**

In November 2024, SOS Children's Villages joined over 120 nations and non-governmental organizations at the first-ever Global Ministerial Conference on Ending Violence Against Children, held in Colombia. The historic event provided an unprecedented space for experts to share best practices, advance child protection policies and forge global, actionable solutions. Twelve young representatives – including one supported by our programmes – participated in the discussions, and SOS Children's Villages hosted a special event on how to create safer environments for children.

## **Ensuring child rights on EU policy agenda**

As co-chair of the coalition Child Rights Action Group in 2024, we worked with partner civil society organizations to advocate for the re-establishment of the European Parliament Intergroup on Children's Rights for the 2024–2029 legislative term. The intergroup's successful re-establishment helps ensure that children's rights continue to be protected and prioritized by EU institutions.

# Speaking up for children's rights

Seventeen-year-old Yvonne from Chad is a member of a club named Education for All and a passionate believer in children's right to education. Yvonne and other club members work with families to promote children's rights and raise awareness of the importance of education for adolescent mothers. According to the World Food Programme, as many as 68% of Chadian girls are married before the age of 18. When they have a child, Yvonne explains, they stop going to school, and their dreams are shattered.

In March 2024, Yvonne spoke at the European Humanitarian Forum in Brussels – an event convened by the European Union and dedicated to emergency aid. Speaking on behalf of her peers in Chad, she advocated for the need to respect children's rights, provide them with learning opportunities and include them in the decisions that affect their lives. She was joined by other children and representatives from the EU, the UN and civil society organizations.

*"In Chad, it seems as if education is a right for boys and a favour for girls. That has to change, and that is why I am taking action."*

Yvonne, Chad



## Stomping for Peace

Worsening conflicts around the world leave millions of children living in a state of fear and uncertainty. According to UNICEF, 49 million children have been displaced by conflict; many of them enslaved, trafficked, abused and exploited. Some have never known a life without war.

In November 2024, on the eve of World Children's Day, children and young people around the globe came together in a powerful demonstration for peace. Organized by SOS Children's Villages, the Stomping for Peace campaign gave children a platform to express their anger, frustration and hope for a better future –

*"War affects all of us. We are all sad, scared and angry."*

Emiel  
14, Belgium

by literally stomping on the ground. Starting in Belgium, it brought together 125,000 children from 38 countries.

The campaign was presented at the United Nations in New York, where panellists discussed the long-term impact of war on children and how the international community can do better to protect them and prevent conflict. In pre-recorded video messages, children demanded urgent action from world leaders.



Watch the video: <https://youtu.be/szeyxxYefrY>



# 2024 in detail

*This section gives further insight into how we work in practice, including an overview of financial results and programme statistics, as well as the partnerships that make our work possible.*

## 137

countries and territories  
where we worked



# Safeguarding



*Everything we do is guided by our commitment to provide a safe, secure and empowering environment for everyone who interacts with our organization. This includes the children, young people and adults we work for and their communities but also our staff and partners.*

In 2024, we concluded our [Safeguarding Action Plan 2021–2024](#), which we put in place to strengthen our safeguarding systems, achieving most of the plan's objectives. This includes bringing our safeguarding and anti-corruption policies and procedures together into an integrated framework; establishing an independent global Ombuds Office to provide an additional layer of accountability; and increasing awareness of safeguarding standards and values-based conduct across the organization. These and other changes provide a foundation for continuous improvement in the future.

In implementing the Safeguarding Action Plan, we have shifted to a holistic approach to safeguarding and anti-corruption, which recognizes that both preventing and addressing harm requires cross-functional effort.

This holistic understanding is now at the core of the [Safeguarding Strategy](#) for the General Secretariat, introduced in 2024, and our updated global Strategy 2030, adopted in June 2025. Both these strategic frameworks aim to ensure that safeguarding is firmly embedded in all facets of our work, including our leadership and our approach to programme design and delivery.

Applying a holistic approach to safeguarding and anti-corruption requires standardized incident management procedures. Cross-functional incident management teams, which ensure expert-led responses to reports of misconduct, are in place in 114 national organizations, and we are working to ensure such teams are fully in place in all SOS Children's Villages organizations.

In October 2025, we learned of deeply troubling cases of abuse by SOS Children's Villages founder Hermann Gmeiner (1919–1986), highlighting organizational weaknesses, such as gaps in oversight and cultures that limited reporting. As we reckon with this part of our organizational history, we are firmly committed to learning from our past to reinforce standards and

oversight but also to cultivating an organizational culture of openness, transparency and accountability. Our new governance structure, which has been in place since mid-2025, will be instrumental to support continuous improvements of our safeguarding systems.

For more information, including our yearly safeguarding and anti-corruption reports and details on independent reviews, please visit our [Safeguarding Info Hub](#).



# Financial information

*Our federation's financial information, detailed on this page, is based on the global, combined total of reports provided by our member organizations and by our umbrella organization SOS Children's Villages International. These reports are audited annually by independent auditors according to internationally accepted and/or legally required national accounting standards.*

*All amounts in EUR 1,000. Due to rounding, total numbers may not add up exactly.*

## Revenue

	2022 final, audited	2023 final, audited	2024 preliminary <sup>1</sup>	% change 2023–2024
Sporadic donations & legacies	429,196	380,651	416,312	<b>9%</b>
Sponsorship / committed giving	356,722	347,815	340,225	<b>-2%</b>
Major donors	38,403	27,019	25,877	<b>-4%</b>
Foundation partners	46,568	48,314	60,307	<b>25%</b>
Corporate donors	89,562	76,461	67,804	<b>-11%</b>
Governmental subsidies for domestic programmes	525,896	566,653	607,675	<b>7%</b>
Institutional funding	53,153	53,231	55,017 <sup>2</sup>	<b>3%</b>
Other income <sup>3</sup>	140,018	195,077	149,913	<b>-23%</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>1,679,518</b>	<b>1,695,222</b>	<b>1,723,129</b>	<b>2%</b>

All amounts in EUR 1,000. Due to rounding, total numbers may not add up exactly.

## Expenditures

	2022 final, audited	2023 final, audited	2024 preliminary <sup>1</sup>	% change 2023–2024
<b>Programme</b>				
Alternative care	757,939	751,309	749,680	0%
Family strengthening	184,440	180,792	196,167	9%
Education	184,128	181,117	188,396	4%
Other activities <sup>4</sup>	56,654	51,128	54,340	6%
Humanitarian action	41,282	45,503	40,747	-10%
Health services	16,332	22,118	22,104	0%
<b>Fund development</b>	198,369	213,994	207,493	-3%
<b>Overheads<sup>5</sup></b>	191,062	193,271	190,612	-1%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	1,630,205	1,639,232	1,649,539	1%

1 These figures, captured on 17 November 2025, are considered preliminary, as audited figures are still pending for 40 of 135 member organizations or their affiliates.

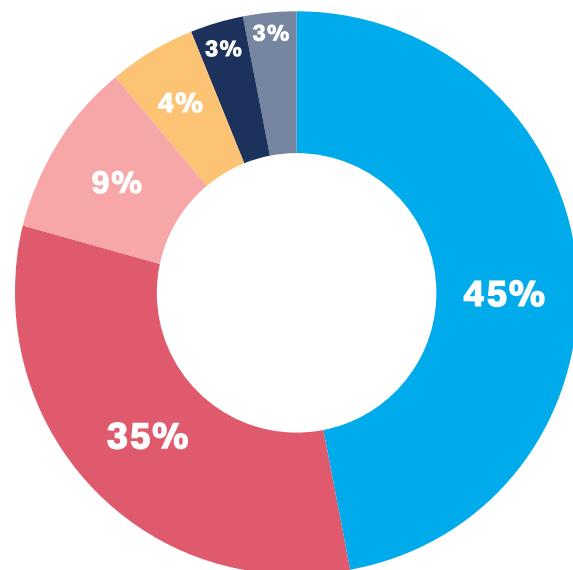
2 This figure represents the grant amount effectively transferred and earmarked for operations; in 2024, members of SOS Children's Villages International managed a total IPD project volume of €120 million.

3 Includes operational income from schools, kindergartens, health and other facilities, events, or merchandising as well as financial income such as interest.

4 Includes support such as community outreach, education on children's rights, holiday camps and play buses.

5 Includes all costs not directly attributable to programmes or fund development, such as management, HR administration, IT systems, office rentals and governance.

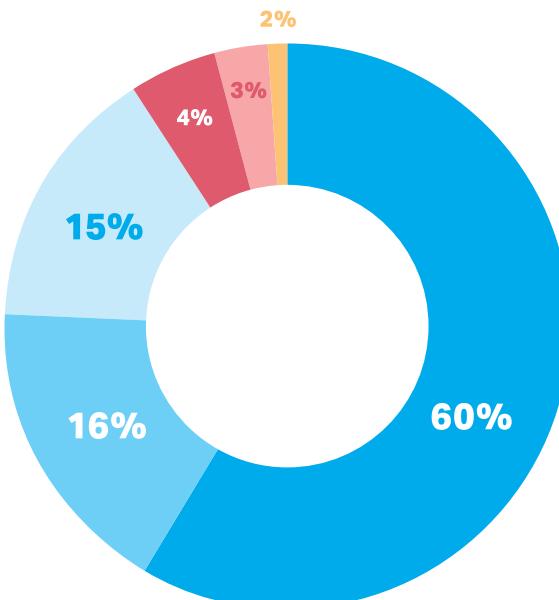
### Total revenue by type<sup>1</sup>



- Individual giving
  - Sporadic donations & legacies (24%)
  - Sponsorship/committed giving (20%)
  - Major donors (2%)
- Governmental subsidies for domestic programmes
- Other income
- Corporate donors
- Foundation partners
- Institutional funding

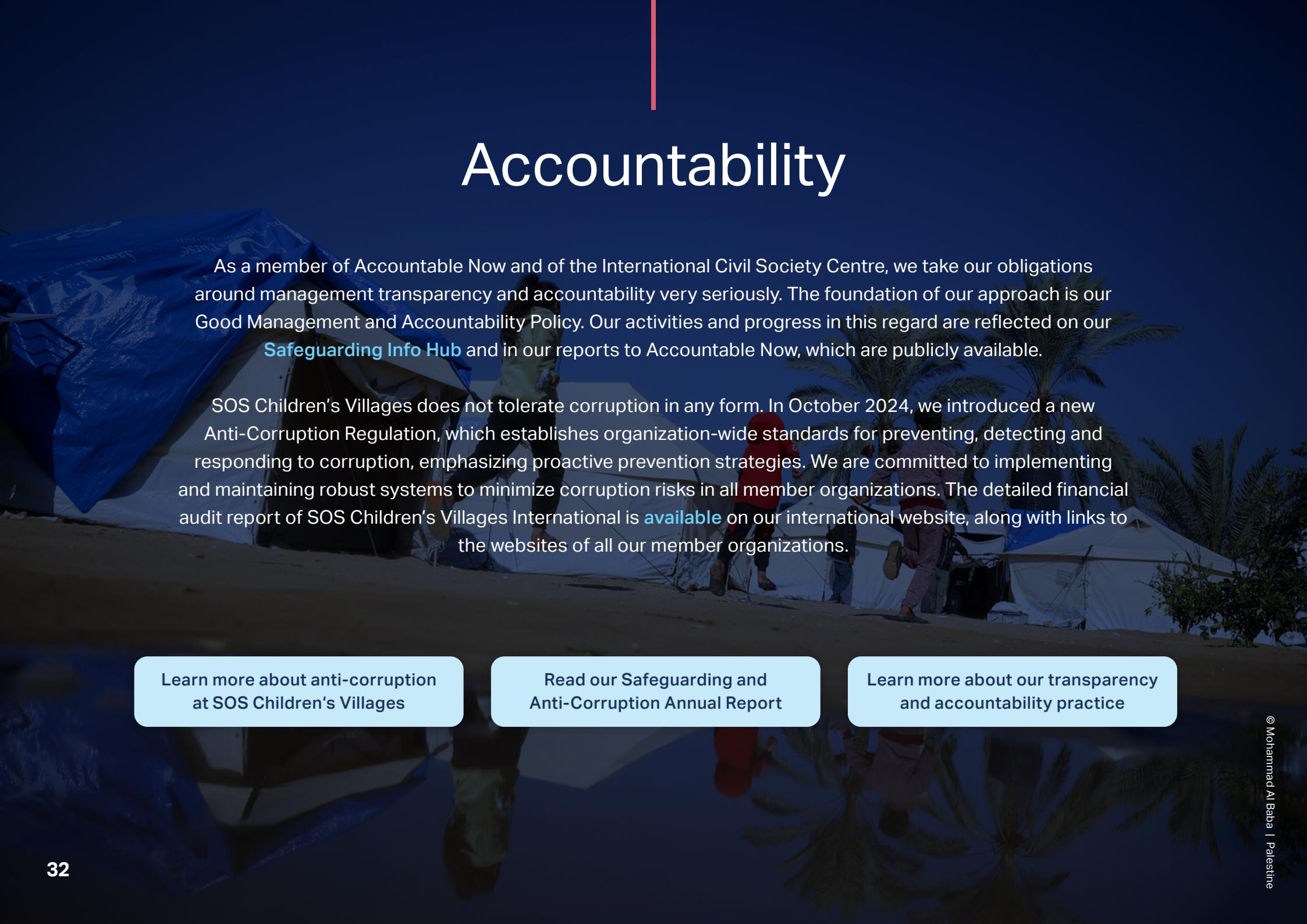
<sup>1</sup> Due to rounding, total numbers may not add up exactly.

### Total programme expenditures by type



- Alternative care
- Prevention
- Education
- Other activities
- Humanitarian action
- Health

# Accountability



As a member of Accountable Now and of the International Civil Society Centre, we take our obligations around management transparency and accountability very seriously. The foundation of our approach is our Good Management and Accountability Policy. Our activities and progress in this regard are reflected on our [Safeguarding Info Hub](#) and in our reports to Accountable Now, which are publicly available.

SOS Children's Villages does not tolerate corruption in any form. In October 2024, we introduced a new Anti-Corruption Regulation, which establishes organization-wide standards for preventing, detecting and responding to corruption, emphasizing proactive prevention strategies. We are committed to implementing and maintaining robust systems to minimize corruption risks in all member organizations. The detailed financial audit report of SOS Children's Villages International is [available](#) on our international website, along with links to the websites of all our member organizations.

[Learn more about anti-corruption  
at SOS Children's Villages](#)

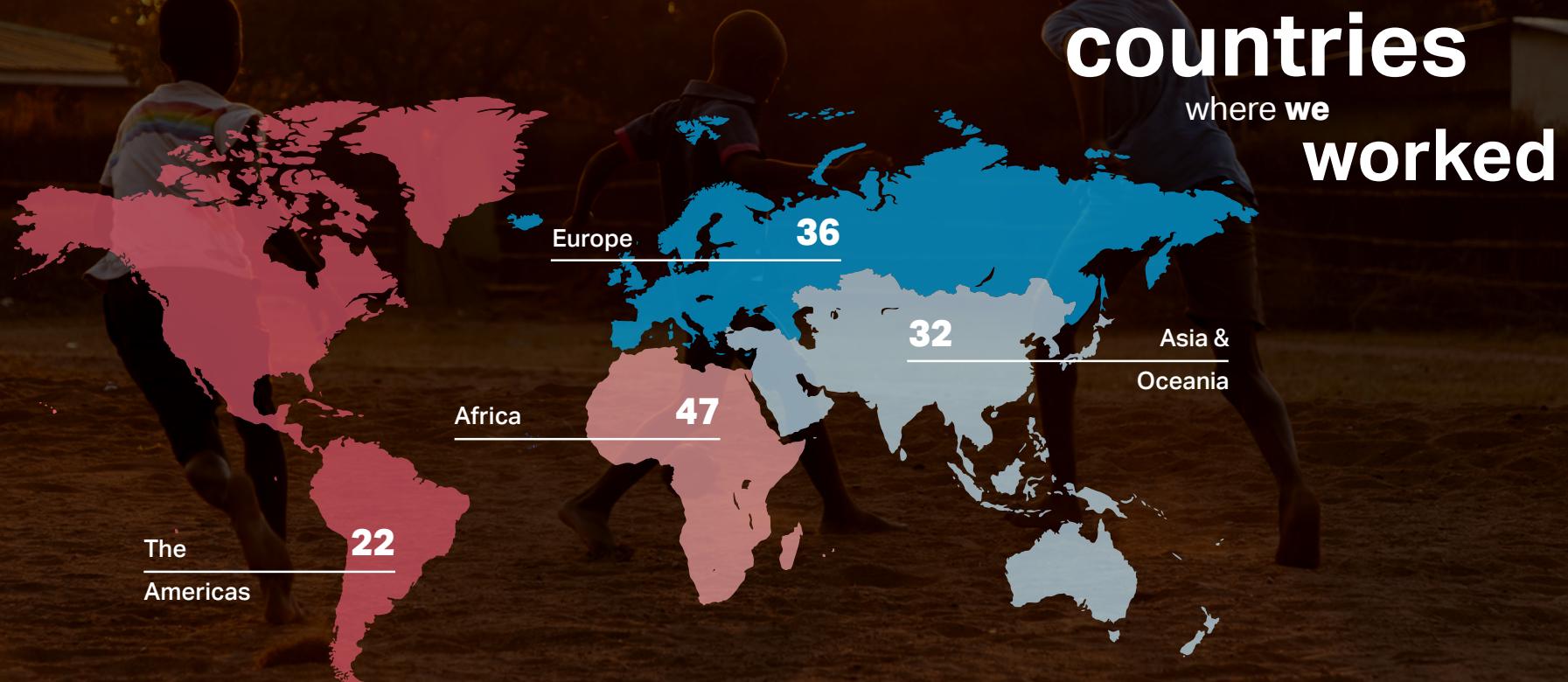
[Read our Safeguarding and  
Anti-Corruption Annual Report](#)

[Learn more about our transparency  
and accountability practice](#)

# Programme statistics

*Our programmatic services, tailored to the unique needs of a community, are designed to support children and youth without parental care or at risk of losing it and prevent family breakdown. Starting in 2024, our programme statistics also include the number of people we reach indirectly through community strengthening and education.*

*For more on our counting methodology introduced in 2024, please see [our website](#).*



Due to rounding, some totals may not add up.

## People we reached

	AFRICA	THE AMERICAS	ASIA & OCEANIA	EUROPE	TOTAL
<b>ALTERNATIVE CARE</b>					
Children & young people					
Family-like care	11,900	4,100	12,100	3,100	<b>31,100</b>
Supervised independent living	5,200	2,300	6,600	2,100	<b>16,200</b>
Foster family care	2,100	700	100	5,700	<b>8,600</b>
Small group homes	500	300	2,300	2,400	<b>5,500</b>
Other alternative care <sup>1</sup>	3,300	200	0	400	<b>3,900</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23,000</b>	<b>7,500</b>	<b>21,100</b>	<b>13,700</b>	<b>65,300</b>
<b>PREVENTION</b>					
Children, young people & adults					
Family strengthening	221,800	22,900	139,100	142,600	<b>526,400</b>
Community strengthening	3,520,000	67,800	56,300	7,000	<b>3,651,100</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,741,700</b>	<b>90,700</b>	<b>195,400</b>	<b>149,600</b>	<b>4,177,500</b>
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
Children, young people & adults					
Early childhood care & development	68,800	41,600	25,100	7,300	<b>142,900</b>
Primary & secondary education	389,400	31,300	202,400	142,200	<b>765,300</b>
Employment & entrepreneurship training	101,000	13,400	20,500	7,200	<b>142,100</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>559,200</b>	<b>86,400</b>	<b>248,100</b>	<b>156,700</b>	<b>1,050,300</b>
<b>OTHER ACTIVITIES<sup>2</sup></b>					
Children, young people & adults	43,800	14,000	400	3,500	<b>61,700</b>
<b>HEALTH</b>					
Children, young people & adults					
Health promotion & prevention	59,800	–	–	300	<b>60,100</b>
Medical care	50,000	–	–	3,000	<b>53,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>109,800</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>3,200</b>	<b>113,100</b>
<b>HUMANITARIAN ACTION</b>					
Children, young people & adults	2,071,600 <sup>3</sup>	12,400	125,900	58,700	<b>2,268,600</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>6,549,100</b>	<b>210,900</b>	<b>591,000</b>	<b>385,500</b>	<b>7,736,500</b>

1 Includes care in transitional settings for unaccompanied minor refugees awaiting legal decision and support to other service providers to improve the quality of their care.

2 Includes holiday camps and play buses.

3 Includes around 633,400 people reached through an ECHO-funded project in Somalia. The figure was reported under medical care as "Mother & Child Hospital" in previous years.

**Our staff** (full-time equivalents)

	AFRICA	THE AMERICAS	ASIA & OCEANIA	EUROPE	TOTAL
STAFF TYPE					
Caregivers, caregiver trainees and family assistants	2,370	1,600	2,500	1,520	<b>7,990</b>
Social workers, psychologists, teachers, and medical, humanitarian action and advocacy staff	5,160	2,540	4,790	7,000	<b>19,490</b>
Administrative staff including maintenance and general service	3,170	2,140	3,560	3,330	<b>12,200</b>
International coordination	120	60	40	300	<b>520</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>10,820</b>	<b>6,340</b>	<b>10,890</b>	<b>12,150</b>	<b>40,200</b>

# Governance



*With a presence in more than 130 countries and territories, SOS Children's Villages is structured as a federation of independent, locally led and self-governed national member organizations, united by a shared mission and committed to shared standards. SOS Children's Villages International is the umbrella organization of the federation.*

At the end of 2024, the General Assembly of SOS Children's Villages International voted in favour of major governance changes, adopting a new constitutional document. Developed by a member-led Governance Reform Group during 2024, the revisions serve to make a clearer separation between supervisory and executive roles and provide for decision-making processes that are more balanced and more inclusive.

The new governance structure has replaced the International Senate with a new International Board and introduced three General Assembly committees, whose task is to support the assembly in making informed decisions on matters with federation-wide impact. The changes formally came into force in July 2025. For more information, please visit [www.sos-childrensvillages.org/governance](http://www.sos-childrensvillages.org/governance).

## International Senate members 2024



**Dereje Wordofa Gidda**  
President

**Beáta Juvancz**  
Vice-President

**Aishah Ahmad**  
Nigeria

**Doris Albisser**  
Switzerland

**Daniel Barroy**  
France

**Pedro Paulo Campos**  
Brazil

**Kārlis Danēvičs**  
Latvia

**Michael Wandy Karlsson**  
Sweden

**Andreas Kovar**  
Austria

**Rakesh Jinsi**  
India

**Maria Grazia Lanzani**  
Italy

**Luis Roberto Martins Urquizo**  
Bolivia

**Gabi Nahum**  
Israel

**Gordon Nzalo**  
South Africa

**Maria Raharinarivonirina**  
Madagascar

**Mel Senen Sarmiento**  
Philippines

**Mette Thygesen**  
Denmark\*

**Philip Willem van Verschuer**  
Netherlands

\*Lars Henrik Munch until May 2024

**Vacant seats:**  
Africa Region  
Germany  
(SOS-Kinderdorf e.V.)

Germany  
(SOS-Kinderdörfer  
weltweit e.V.)  
Norway

## Executive Board 2024

**Chief Executive Officer**  
Ingrid Maria Johansen (*until March 2024*)  
Angela Maria Rosales R. (*interim, as of April 2024*)

**Chief Programme Officer**  
Angela Maria Rosales R. (*until August 2025*)

**Chief Operating Officer**  
Anna Ernestam (*interim, until July 2024*)  
Tjipke Bergsma (*interim, July 2024 – June 2025*)



# 2024 Partners

# 2024

*We are grateful to have so many supporters and partners around the world who are committed to genuine social change for children and young people. We say thank you to those listed on the following pages as well as to the many thousands of others.*

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS  


# Thank you all

Our partnerships take shape in a variety of ways, and we value the expertise, energy and new ideas our partners bring.

Our work would not be possible without our partnerships with governments, corporations and institutions worldwide. Much of our financial support comes from individuals, who also donate their time. We partner with universities to conduct research and with other child-focused organizations to advocate for improvements in policy and practice.

Most importantly, we partner with the children, young people and families we work with – not only on the programmatic level, but also through advocacy and by supporting their ideas for change.

**Together, we will build a world where every child can become their strongest self.**



© Jakob Furi | Colombia



## Children's Living Places

Transformative partnership for better care of children in Ukraine

In 2024, SOS Children's Villages Ukraine and SOS Children's Villages Denmark launched Children's Living Places – a project designed to respond to an urgent care crisis exacerbated by the war by promoting family- and community-based alternatives to children's institutions. The project is being implemented with a coalition of partners including European companies, philanthropic foundations, and Ukrainian local authorities and communities.

The initiative envisions clusters consisting of homes for foster families and social centres in three communities, built based on the Living Places concept developed by VELUX Group, Artelia and EFFEKT in consultation with local architects. The main objectives are to provide safe environments for children in care, develop social supports for families under stress so that more children and young people can stay with their parents or family members, and advocate for systemic reform, helping Ukraine transition away from institutions towards family-based care.

## 2024 Partner list

### INTERGOVERNMENTAL & GOVERNMENTAL PARTNERS

#### African Union

African Committee of Experts on the  
Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC)

#### Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

#### European Commission

Direktorate-General for European  
Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid  
Operations

Direktorate-General for European  
Neighbourhood Policy and  
Enlargement Negotiations

Direktorate-General for International  
Partnerships

Direktorate-General for Justice and  
Consumers

Direktorate-General for Migration and  
Home Affairs

#### Government of Austria

Austrian Development Agency (ADA)  
Federal Ministry for Agriculture and For-  
estry, Climate and Environmental Pro-  
tection, Regions and Water Management

Federal Ministry for Labour, Social Affairs,  
Health, Care and Consumer Protection

State Government of Vorarlberg

#### Government of Belgium

Brussels International  
City of Brussels  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade  
and Development Cooperation (DGD)

#### Government of Canada

Global Affairs Canada (GAC)

#### Government of Denmark

Danish International Development  
Agency (DANIDA)

#### Government of Finland

Funding Centre for Social Welfare and  
Health Organisations

Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Ministry for Social Affairs and Health

#### Government of France

French Development Agency (AFD)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

#### Government of Germany

Federal Ministry for Economic  
Cooperation and Development (BMZ)  
German Agency for International  
Cooperation (GIZ)

German Federal Foreign Office (AA)

#### Government of Iceland

Ministry for Foreign Affairs

#### Government of Luxembourg

Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs

#### Government of Monaco

Department of International Cooperation  
(DCI)

#### Government of Morocco

#### Government of the Netherlands

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

#### Government of Norway

Ministry of Health and Care Services  
Norwegian Agency for Development  
Cooperation (NORAD)

#### Government of Spain

Ministry of Social Rights and Agenda  
2030

Regional Government of Canary Islands

Regional Government of Madrid

#### Government of Sweden

Asylum Migration and Integration Fund  
(AMIF)

European Social Fund (ESF)

#### Government of Switzerland

Swiss Agency for Development

Cooperation (SDC)

#### Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)

#### South Asia Initiative to End Violence Against Children (SAIEVAC)

#### United Nations

International Labour Organization (ILO)  
International Organization for Migration  
(IOM)

United Nations Development Programme  
(UNDP)

United Nations Global Compact

United Nations High Commissioner for  
Refugees (UNHCR)

United Nations International Children's  
Emergency Fund (UNICEF)

United Nations Office for the Coordination  
of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

UN Women

World Food Programme (WFP)

### FOUNDATION PARTNERS

Against Malaria Foundation

Akelius Foundation

Alembic Foundation  
Balder Foundation  
Bechgaard Foundation  
Big Heart Foundation  
Bitten og Mads Clausens Fond  
Canada-Ukraine Foundation & Ukrainian Canadian Congress  
Captain Vassilis & Carmen Constantakopoulos Foundation  
Cariplo Foundation  
CMGP / Amane Foundation  
Costas M. Lemos Foundation  
Danaher India  
Edith og Godtfred Kirk Christiansens Fond  
Erling Persson Foundation  
Fondation de France  
Fondation de Luxembourg  
Fondation Perier d'leteren  
Fondation Roi Baudouin  
Fondation Société Générale  
Fonds Inkermann  
ForumCiv  
Fundación Sus Buenos Vecinos  
Fundacja Drzewo i Jutro  
Grieg Foundation

Grundfos Foundation  
GS Stiftelsen  
Halyk Foundation  
Harry Hole Foundation  
Hempel Foundation  
Institute Circle  
Intesa Foundation Philanthropic Organization  
Janusz A. Subczynski Foundation  
KfW Stiftung  
Maestro Cares Foundation  
MAPFRE Foundation  
National Lottery Community Fund  
Nostos Foundation  
Novo Nordisk Foundation  
Nurlan Smagulov Foundation  
OAK Foundation  
OK Foundation  
Orange Foundation  
PDFoundation  
Privatstiftung Kärtner Sparkasse  
Ptarmigan Charitable Foundation  
S&P Global Foundation  
Stavros Niarchos Foundation  
Stiftelsen Education Actions  
Stiftelsen GS

Stiftelsen Radiohjälpen  
Stiftelsen Rättvis Fördelning  
Stiftelsen Signe Marie  
Stiftung Kinderhilfe  
Stiftung zur Unterstützung der SOS Kinderdörfer-Liechtenstein  
SWISS Children's Foundation  
Swiss Solidarity  
Swissair Staff Foundation for Children  
in Need  
TGW Future Wings  
The Don and Shirley Green Family  
Charitable Foundation  
The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley  
Charitable Trust  
The SOL Foundation  
The Steele Family Foundation  
Viessmann Foundation  
Villum Foundation  
World Diabetes Foundation  
**LEADING LONG-TERM CORPORATE PARTNERS**  
A&O Shearman  
Action

Aegean Airlines  
Akademibokhandeln  
Aktiv Eiendomsmegling  
ALDI SÜD Dienstleistungs-SE & Co. oHG  
Amazon  
Apotea  
Applied Materials  
Avolta AG  
Bata Group  
Beiersdorf  
BorgWarner Turbo Systems  
CEWE Stiftung & Co. KGaA  
Clarins  
Crédit Coopératif  
Deutsche Postcode Lotterie  
DHL Group  
Dr. August Oetker KG  
Dr. August Oetker Nahrungsmittel KG  
Dutch Postcode Lottery  
EIH Limited  
E.ON  
Espira  
Fagforbundet  
Fastighetsbyrå  
Franklin Templeton Asset Management  
(India) Private Limited

Gekås Ullared  
Generali - The Human Safety Net  
GodEl / GoodCause  
Heimstaden  
Hemköpksedjan  
HOFER  
Indus Towers Limited  
Interquell GmbH (Happy Dog)  
INTERSPAR  
Jerónimo Martins  
Kaufland  
KFC Social Responsibility Trust Fund  
Kröswang GmbH  
MAN Truck & Bus SE  
MAX Burgers  
Nationale-Nederlanden (NN Group)  
Nikon India Private Limited  
Norsk Postkodelotteriet  
OBOS  
OTP Group / DSK Bank  
Oy Karl Fazer Ab  
Pepco  
Radisson Hotel Group  
SaintGobain  
Schmidt Groupe  
Scotiabank

Siegwerk Druckfarben AG & Co. KGaA  
Sony Pictures (Culver Max)  
Spinneys  
Standard Chartered Foundation  
Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation  
Svenska Postkodlotteriet  
Swedbank Robur  
Swiss International Air Lines  
Swisscom (Schweiz) AG  
TK Elevator GmbH  
Transat A.T.  
UniCredit Bank Austria AG  
Vaillant GmbH  
Vodafone Greece  
Zain Jordan

**OTHER PARTNERSHIPS**

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Accountable Now  
Ashoka  
Child Frontiers  
Child Rights Coalition Asia  
Child Rights Connect  
CHS Alliance  
Comillas Pontifical University  
CONCORD

Convergence. Blending Social Finance  
CYC-Net  
Decent Jobs for Youth Initiative  
Dutch Relief Alliance (DRA)  
European Council on Refugees and  
Exiles (ECRE)  
European Social Network  
Generation Unlimited  
iGravity  
International Civil Society Centre (ICSC)  
International Fundraising Leadership  
Forum (IFL Forum)  
Joining Forces for Children in the SDGs  
NetHope  
Roots of Impact  
Save the Children Europe  
Social Platform  
The Civil Society Forum to End Violence  
Against Children (CSO Forum)  
The Global Alliance for Care  
Voluntary Organisations in Cooperation  
in Emergencies (VOICE)

Learn more about our  
national corporate  
partnerships

Join us!



[www.sos-childrensvillages.org](http://www.sos-childrensvillages.org)

# SOS Children's Villages worked for children and young people in 137 countries and territories in 2024.

*Countries and territories in which we responded to a humanitarian crisis in 2024 are shown in **bold**.*

## Africa

Angola  
**Benin**  
Botswana  
**Burkina Faso**  
Burundi  
Cabo Verde  
Cameroon  
**Central African Republic**  
**Chad**  
Côte d'Ivoire  
Democratic Republic of the Congo  
**Djibouti**  
Egypt  
Equatorial Guinea  
Eswatini  
**Ethiopia**  
Ghana  
Guinea  
Guinea-Bissau  
Kenya

Lesotho  
Liberia  
Madagascar  
**Malawi**  
Mali  
Mauritius  
**Morocco**  
Mozambique  
Namibia  
**Niger**  
**Nigeria**  
Rwanda  
Senegal  
Sierra Leone  
**Somalia**  
**Somaliland**  
South Africa  
**South Sudan**  
**Sudan**  
Tanzania  
The Gambia  
**Togo**  
Tunisia

Uganda  
**Zambia**  
Zanzibar  
Zimbabwe

## The Americas

Argentina  
Bolivia  
**Brazil**  
Canada  
Chile  
**Colombia**  
Costa Rica  
Dominican Republic  
Ecuador  
El Salvador  
Guatemala  
**Haiti**  
Honduras  
Jamaica  
Mexico  
Nicaragua  
Panama  
Paraguay  
Peru  
Uruguay  
USA  
Venezuela

## Asia & Oceania

Armenia  
Australia  
Azerbaijan  
Canada  
Cambodia  
China  
French Polynesia  
Dominican Republic  
Georgia  
Hong Kong, SAR of China  
Ecuador  
El Salvador  
Guatemala  
Haiti  
Honduras  
Jamaica  
Mexico  
Nicaragua  
Panama  
Paraguay  
Peru  
Uruguay  
USA  
Venezuela

**Palestine**  
Philippines  
South Korea  
**Bangladesh**  
Syria  
Taiwan, China  
Thailand  
United Arab Emirates  
United Arab Emirates  
Uzbekistan  
**Vietnam**

## Europe

Albania  
Austria  
Belarus  
Belgium  
**Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
**Bulgaria**  
Croatia  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Estonia  
Finland  
France  
Germany  
**Greece**  
Hungary  
Iceland  
**Italy**  
Kosovo  
Latvia  
Liechtenstein  
Lithuania  
Luxembourg

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