

Barnfonden Annual Report 2023



A background photograph showing two young children sitting at a table outdoors, eating from white bowls. They are wearing dark blue t-shirts with a Spider-Man logo. The scene is set under a wooden structure with a white scalloped-edge roof. The photo is partially obscured by a green semi-transparent text box.

This is Barnfonden's annual report for 2023. Here you can get an overall picture of our work, as well as our financial details, in 2023. A work that aims to realize our vision of a sustainable world where children are listened to, cared for and respected. A world where every child can say: "I'm safe, I'm healthy, I'm happy, I have an education, I have a voice."

This is the English version of the Swedish, official audited report. Any minor differences are due to the translation of the report.

The annual report includes the impact report and tells you about us as an organisation, how we work, what we do and why we do it. We explain our theory of change, how we monitor and measure results, and we give examples of what we have done and achieved in 2023.

When we report on the important results that we achieved in 2023, we continuously refer to [our strategic plan 2021–2025](#). Please read this to learn more about the plans for Barnfonden's work in the short and long term.

Barnfonden is a member of Giva Sweden and Svensk Insamlingskontroll (the Swedish Fundraising Control), both of which require us to meet specific criteria and present both our finances and our work, as well as what we achieve, in order for us to receive the important quality stamps of Tryggt Givande and 90-konto respectively.

If you are looking for more detailed information, please feel free to contact us at info@barnfonden.se. If you have any problem that you would like to bring to our attention, you can find Barnfonden's Whistle Blower Policy and a description of how to proceed on our website: [Complaints](#).

We would like to thank everyone who has generously supported our work financially or otherwise during the past year. Private donors, companies, foundations, institutions and others.



This is Barnfonden

Barnfonden is a child rights organisation based in Malmö that works for children's rights in areas that are severely affected or at risk of being affected by climate change. Climate change contributes to droughts and floods, among other things, which directly affect children's ability to go to school, to have good health, future livelihoods and general security.

By giving children the opportunity to get an education, increasing knowledge about child rights in society and improving the social structures for children's rights to be upheld, we strengthen children's voices and opportunities to influence their own and their community's development.

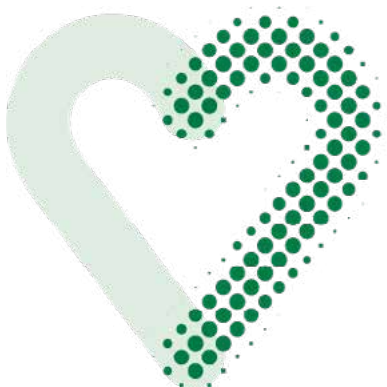
We work long-term to create resilience through innovative solutions and to improve the conditions for all children's right to safety, education, good health and a life free from violence. By working with local organisations and authorities, we create long-term change.

Our work is led by an unpaid board where all members are sponsors. We are politically and religiously independent.

Barnfonden Insamlingsstiftelse was founded in Sweden in 1991.

Barnfonden is a member of the ChildFund Alliance, a global network of eleven child-focused development and humanitarian organisations that support around 36 million children and their families in 70 countries around the world. The first ChildFund organisation, ChildFund International, started its operations in 1938, so within the alliance there is experience of development and child rights work that stretches back almost 100 years.

Barnfonden has Giva Sverige's quality stamp Tryggt Givande, which means that as a donor you can feel confident that the support you give is managed in the best way by the receiving organisation. We have a 90-account that is controlled by Svensk Insamlingskontroll and we are a member of the Core Humanitarian Standards (CHS) Alliance, a leading quality standard for organisations that work with humanitarian and development issues.



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Photo: Jake Lyell

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Barnfonden's vision

Barnfonden's vision is a sustainable world where children are listened to, cared for and respected. A world where every child can say:

–I'm safe! –I'm healthy! –I'm happy! –I have an education! –I have a voice!

Barnfonden's mission

Together with children, we create sustainable solutions that protect and advance their rights and well-being. We do this through partnerships, empowerment, and a holistic approach.

Barnfonden's values

We stand with children

As a child rights organisation, Barnfonden believes that the rights of the child should be protected and promoted in every area of their life. We are driven to achieve the best possible impact using all means possible, and we measure ourselves by how well we contribute to positive and sustainable development for children. Our commitment and loyalty are to children, and we will vigorously champion their best interests at home, school, within their community, as well as at national and global levels. With the child in focus, we choose to do what is right, and not what is easy.

Together we make a difference

Through partnerships, we draw on the strengths of others to reach further for realising child rights than each of us would on our own. Working together means being inclusive, not tolerating any form of discrimination, and showing respect in communication, conversations, meetings, programmes, and fundraising. We meet people where they are and realize the importance of different opinions and experiences.

We keep our promises

We assume responsibility to do what we say we will do, and are transparent with how we work, what we achieve as well as when we do not reach our goals. We expect to be held accountable by anyone who chooses to collaborate with us, from the individual child and family to authorities, sponsors, donors – and including our colleagues. We will earn the trust of others. We demonstrate trust to our colleagues in our daily work since that is how we can develop and do what is best for children.

We are biased toward action

We are curious to find better ways of working. We dare to see new opportunities in the same way we challenge old habits, always striving for improvement. We have the courage to act on opportunities and test new ways to operate and achieve sustainable impact as effectively, efficiently, and responsibly as possible. We can show respect to the children, communities, and supporters we work

2023 in short

Barnfonden supports development projects in 20 countries in Africa, Latin America, Asia and Europe.

Barnfonden's work reaches more than 645,000 children, young people and adults.

77.8 million SEK has been used to strengthen children's rights.

Barnfonden's 18,095 sponsors support 20,463 children around the world.

Barnfonden is a member of ChildFund Alliance which:



Consists of 11 child-focused development and humanitarian organisations



Reaches 36 million children, young people and adults



Works together to eradicate violence against children

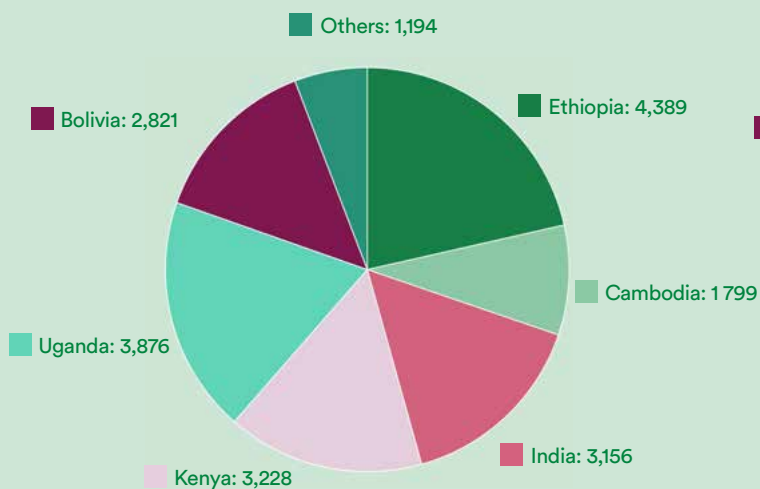


Is active in 70 countries around the world

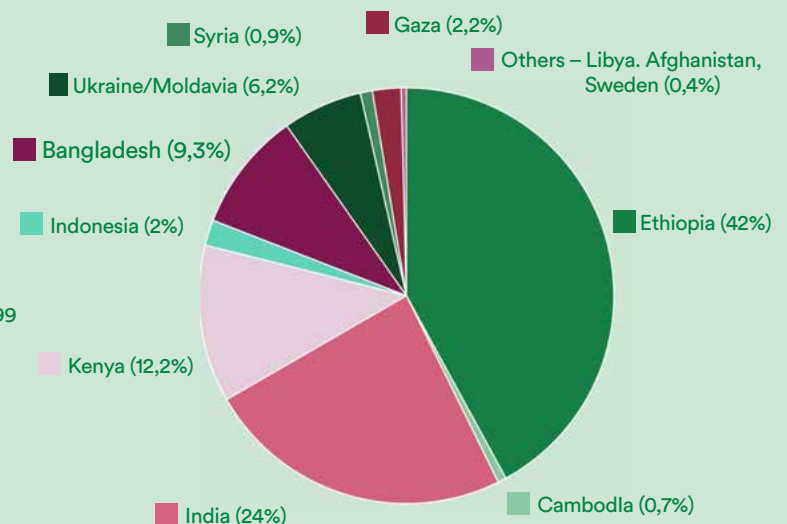
This is where Barnfonden's money come from:

- The general public: 83,100,000 SEK
- Companies: 1,160,000 SEK
- Foundations: 8,550,000 SEK
- Public grants: 4,670,000 SEK

SPONSORSHIPS PER COUNTRY



PROJECT FUNDS PER COUNTRY



We need to focus on both the present and the future

The year 2023 ended with a terrible catastrophe, when thousands of children were killed in military operations in Gaza and humanitarian aid to the crisis-stricken civilian population was cut off. And it's not over yet. The outside world is shaken again, but that does not stop the catastrophe from continuing and even intensifying. We look at the most intense famine since World War II, where children are the ones who are hit hardest – both today and through the physical and psychological trauma they will carry with them throughout their lives.

At the same time, democracy is receding. Women's rights are being restricted in many different places. The war in Ukraine and other armed conflicts around the world continue. The climate crisis is raging at a frightening speed. The world, and the children of the world, need us to do more, to do better, and that more of us do more.

Barnfonden works with and for children who are affected by climate change in various ways, and we see how it affects all parts of their lives, including their hope for the future. Everything that can be done to stop climate change must be done. Major efforts are needed to deal with today's disasters but also to adapt to what is to come when sea levels rise, water sources run dry, and the weather continues to be unpredictable. In 2023, we have worked intensively with our local partners to spread information about how children and their surrounding communities are affected now, in a few years, and further into the future, as well as how we need to work today to meet and reduce future threats. We are looking at innovative and environmentally friendly ways to have access to clean water, to sustainable farming and nutritious food.

An important part of Barnfonden's strategy is collaborations and partnerships. We are convinced that many combined forces, different types of expertise and experience are absolutely necessary to achieve our goals. In 2023, we have been able to develop exciting new collaboration models with companies for joint fundraising for Barnfonden's activities. We have developed products that will be launched in 2024, and that is something to look out for.

In 2023, we have also initiated collaboration with several ambassadors and in December, a group of women in the business community in Malmö organized a fundraising event for the benefit of Barnfonden's work. This is exactly what we believe in so much: to find new ways and new relationships so that all children can say I am safe! I have an education! I'm healthy! I'm happy! and I have a voice!

Finally, we would like to extend a big and warm thank you to everyone who supports Barnfonden and our work. Thanks to our loyal sponsors and monthly donors, we can stand firm when uncertain winds blow. In addition to the global crises we are currently facing, Swedish aid policy is undergoing a reform on a scale we have not seen before, and we do not know where it will land. So, thank you to all of you who are with us and who make our long-term support for children in crisis and children affected by climate change possible.

Yasemin Arhan Modéer
Chair of the Board, Barnfonden

Martina Hibell
Secretary General, Barnfonden



Photo: Barnfonden



Photo: Jake Lyell

Activities in 2023

Here we present some of the activities we carried out in 2023. We also want to take the opportunity to highlight our staff and our volunteers. Behind every good initiative is an active and committed team of employees and volunteers.

Climate & Environment Brief

Barnfonden has for a long time highlighted the need to address how the effects of climate change affect children. We have researched and learned a lot about this issue over the past few years in our work with local partners and with other ChildFund Alliance members. In 2023, Barnfonden, together with these ChildFund Alliance members, produced the [ChildFund Alliance Climate and Environment Action Brief](#), based on our common knowledge. Here we describe how children and young people, whose rights are affected by climate change and environmental degradation, can play an important role in the transition to a sustainable society. We emphasise that children and young people have the right to receive information and knowledge about these issues and to receive support in participating and acting to influence decisions that affect their future.

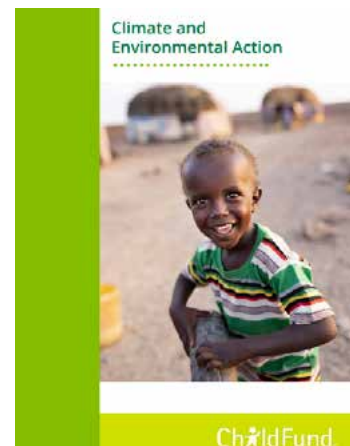


Photo: Barnfonden

Alliance meeting in Malmö

During the pandemic, we all learned to use digital tools to communicate online, but for really rewarding discussions, meeting in person is still a great advantage. In May 2023, over 60 programme, communication, fundraising, advocacy and emergency response personnel, as well as CEOs and board representatives from ChildFund Alliance's eleven organisations, met in Malmö to discuss our joint work.

Two important issues discussed were how we can strengthen support for children in humanitarian crises and in the wake of climate change, and how we work for children's safety online. We also continued to work on a common strategy for clearer community-led local development, i.e. that local partner organisations become more driven, self-determined and independent in our work.

New ambassadors

In 2023, Barnfonden began a collaboration with two new ambassadors who will help spread knowledge about our work and hopefully contribute to more individuals and companies wanting to support our programmes. We are pleased to have Jessie Sommarström – Chef of the Year 2022 and Woman of the Year in the Hospitality Industry 2023 – as well as Sandra Stojiljkovic – actress from Malmö and known, among other things, from the SVT series *Tunna Blå linjen* – with us in our work going forward.



Photo: Johan Rheborg

Sandra Stojiljkovic



Photo: Emil Fagander

Jessie Sommarström

Children's voices must be heard

ChildFund International's Africa Regional Director, Chege Ngugi, visited Barnfonden in Malmö in May, and participated in a panel discussion at the Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, together with Marthe Wandou, a Cameroonian human rights activist. Chege spoke of "multi-solving" – seeking solutions that address several interconnected problems simultaneously and working to integrate measures for health, education, protection, livelihoods and community mobilization. He also emphasized the importance of giving local people a stronger voice and about the urgent need to get more children involved in discussions and decision-making processes.

Later in 2023, ChildFund brought children's voices to the UN climate discussions during COP28. At the Children's Vision of a Resilient Future session, held in the Children and Youth Pavilion, children were clear in demanding a seat at the negotiating table when it comes to key decisions on climate action. Ernest, 13, who attended COP 28 as a representative of ChildFund, said he was looking for "a future free of pollution, a future where children are not threatened by the ruthless actions of humanity."

In December, Barnfonden also contributed to children's voices being heard at Musikhjälpen, through 12-year-old Patrick's fantastic paintings that illustrate how he experiences climate change in his home country Zambia. A clear voice that climate change is affecting children's lives here and now and that we need urgent action to stop emissions, and to build resilience and adaptation. The auction of his painting also managed to raise 10,000 SEK for Musikhjälpen and the fight to eradicate hunger.



Barnfonden's Secretary General Martina Hibell in SVT's Musikhjälpen. Photo: SVT

Advocacy

During the year, we have published several debate articles together with other organisations. In most cases, the focus has been on Sweden's climate, aid and development policy, where major changes are now being implemented – changes that Barnfonden and many other similar organisations have commented on.

Together with Action Aid and The Hunger Project, we wrote about how the [government pulls the rug out from under global climate and aid work](#), and together with 37 other civil society organisations, we asked the government [not to force a new aid line](#) without listening to those affected.

Debatt

104 biståndsorganisationer i upprop: Vi vill att regeringen tar vår oro på allvar

Här i ligger vårt kanske viktigaste meddelande till regeringen: ett effektivt bistånd kräver tillit och öppenhet. Det kräver företrädare för 104 biståndsorganisationer i ett upprop.



BUFF 2023

For the fifth year, Barnfonden presented the award for best comedy at the international children's and youth film festival BUFF in Malmö, which celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2023. A jury consisting of comedian and actress Charlotta Björck and children Selma Selimovic and Emil Elander, who were both in seventh grade at the time and like to watch films, voted the Norwegian film *Dancing Queen*, directed by Aurora Gossé, as the best comedy of the year.





Campaigns and #swishapyttelite

We had several campaigns in 2023 with the aim of spreading awareness about Barnfonden and recruiting more donors. In connection with the beginning of the school year, we focused on the right to education and later, during the Christmas campaign, we highlighted the problems of child marriage, child labour and the importance of education to prevent children from reaching crisis point.

We used the hashtag #swishapyttelite in several campaigns to emphasize that many small contributions together contribute to something big and give us the opportunity to create change for many children.

How are children really doing?

Our experiences in 2023 led to Barnfonden placing great emphasis on the link between climate change and young people's mental health in its plans for 2024. During a webinar for ChildFund Alliance in November 2023, Sonja, 25 years old and a master's student at Lund University, called for more knowledge about this connection:

“More findings and more solutions are needed on how we talk about climate change with children and young people, how it can affect mental health and what teachers and project managers should do ... to help young people and support them when they feel anxious or even depressed about what the future will look like because of climate change.”

Reny Haning, Child Protection and Advocacy Specialist at ChildFund Indonesia, was on a similar track when she talked about our Youth Voice Now project, which offered mentorship and peer support networks to young people:

“What we found is that it is important to provide a safe space for our youth to express their feelings and

Info system for tree growers in Kenya

An information system for tree growers has been developed and is now being used by one of Barnfonden's local partners in Kenya, EDCA. The system has been designed to capture details of the plantations as well as the geolocation, area and type of trees being grown, and has been tested by marking the location of the 33,768 trees planted in 2023 by 626 tree growers in Emali. This will help tree growers – and society at large – to coordinate their tree cultivation and to work towards better environmental management.

We talked about child rights

We participated in the Human Rights Days in Helsingborg in November and at the Human Rights Festival in Lund in December. We distributed information about Barnfonden and our work, talked to interested visitors and gave lectures on the link between climate change and child rights and access to education.



concerns, and to be able to receive guidance from our youth counsellors and mentors.”

Keeva Duffey, former employee at Barnfonden and now Senior Advisor, Climate Action at ChildFund International, in turn asked the question of what place children and young people from a child rights perspective, can and should take in major discussions about our future:

“Who makes sure that we don't expose [children] to more harm and exploitation by placing them in these spaces [in forums where children talk to adults about climate and children's rights issues]?”



Reny Haning.
Photo: Barnfonden

Cross-border knowledge exchange

Not infrequently, the best advice for managing and preparing for climate change comes not from researchers and academics based in the West/North, but from people in the affected area who are experimenting and dealing with issues that are relevant in the local context on a daily basis. In 2023, Barnfonden secured funding from ForumCiv for the project Pamoja: Collective Action on Climate Change. In the project, local organisations in Kenya and Ethiopia learn from each other about how to mobilize people around climate issues.

After a ten-day workshop in Kenya in April 2023, led by staff from Barnfonden, the 13 participants from the local organisations in Kenya and Ethiopia designed different types of advocacy projects that they will work with going forward. This happened after meetings with farmers, small businesses, women's groups, youth groups, community leaders and government agencies where participants learned about the issues and discussed ideas on how to promote change and bring advocates on board to help find solutions to climate-related problems.



From workshop in Kenya. Photo: ChildFund Kenya

Thriving knowledge

Over the past few years, Barnfonden has built up solid knowledge about how climate change affects children and their families. In 2023, our climate advisor Keeva Duffey left Barnfonden to become Senior Advisor, Climate Action at ChildFund International. This means that we can have a wider reach within ChildFund for the ideas on child-focused climate resilience that Barnfonden has spent the last few years developing.

In addition, Keeva will continue to collaborate with Barnfonden on new and interesting aspects of the complex climate issue. In connection with Keeva's departure, the recruitment of a replacement began, a position that will be based in Africa and thus will take us one step closer to being able to take part in and engage in local perspectives on the climate issue. This recruitment was completed in early 2024.



We are members of Världens barn

Barnfonden is a member of Världens Barn, a collaboration between Radiohjälpen and 13 Swedish child rights and development organisations. Together, we raised over 100 MSEK in 2023, money that will allow many more children in the world to have a safer upbringing and a better future. Our Secretary General Martina Hibell was on Swedish public television before the televised gala in early October and talked to host Farah Abadi about the many crises in the world right now and about the importance of not losing hope.

Award-winning inspiration

Barnfonden facilitated the signing of a three-year agreement between ChildFund International and the Swedish green tech company Spowdi to promote sustainable climate-smart agriculture among smallholder farmers in Africa. The aim for this collaboration is to enable tens of thousands of farmers to have access to on-site equipment and training on how to use smart irrigation technologies. Chege Ngugi, ChildFund International's Africa Regional Director, says:

“By using Spowdi's award-winning technology, our farmers will be able to grow more food with less water. In this way, families will have enough for their consumption and surplus for sale, as they work to build resilient livelihoods that can better cope with the effects of climate change.”



*Chege Ngugi,
ChildFund International's Africa
Regional Director.
Photo: Barnfonden*

Our Theory of Change

The mission of Barnfonden is to work with children to create sustainable solutions that protect and strengthen their rights and well-being. We do this through partnerships with local organisations where we find the best ways to both support and empower them and contribute to their important work. We work holistically, which means that we focus on several of the areas that affect a child's life (their education, health, safety and well-being). Over all our work lies an environmental and climate lens that we must constantly look through to understand how children's rights are affected, and in many cases violated, as a result of environmental degradation, climate change and biodiversity loss. We know that each individual operates within a specific context with specific traditions and social structures that affect them in different ways, therefore we also strive to change and influence these structures.

The big picture

We want to see children thrive. Many aspects contribute to a child's well-being: their health, education, whether they feel loved, cared for and safe, their opportunities to develop and dream, how they are viewed and respected in their homes and communities, how government policies affect them, and what society's safety net looks like. Our vision is a world where every child can say, "I'm safe, I'm healthy, I'm happy, I have an education, I have a voice." That is why our work must be holistic and multidimensional.

How change happens

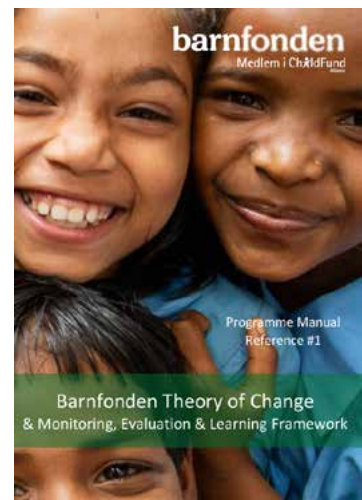
Change happens

- through strengthening children's capacity and resilience so that they understand and can assert their rights
- through building the resilience, capacity and assets of families
- through strengthened families, communities and civil society to uphold children's rights
- when states are encouraged to fulfill their obligations and are held accountable for their actions
- when there is a global understanding and prioritisation of children's rights and action concerning climate change.

All of this must take place in a healthy and conducive environment. In the section "The big picture" above, we describe our long-term vision, and on pages 18–45 we present the more direct results we are working to achieve, along with examples of our work.

How we fund the work

We receive funds from several different sources. The most significant contribution comes from sponsors, many of whom are connected to children and project areas in our six focus countries, as well as from our monthly donors. 77.8% of our funding this year has come from these donors together with contributions received through, for example, our gift shop, our appeals for emergency response, memorial gifts and general gifts to our work. The second largest contribution comes from institutions and foundations. Our largest financier in 2023 was Radiohjälpen, who supported six projects in three countries. Our second largest donor was ForumCiv, who supported two projects in three countries. We also thank the EU, the Swedish Institute and the Swedish Postcode Foundation for their respective contributions. A third and important source of funding is one-off donations from individuals and companies, which amount to 7.5 MSEK in 2023.



Read our Theory of Change at barnfonden.se/vert-arbete.





THE GLOBAL GOALS

For Sustainable Development

What do the global goals mean?

The global goals are 17 goals that were adopted by the UN member states in 2015. They set out a fifteen-year plan to end poverty and inequality, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy health, justice, and prosperity. Organisations like Barnfonden are working to achieve these goals and understand the need to act with more vigilance and coordination as the 2030 deadline approaches. All of Barnfonden's work contributes to achieving the global goals. When we create and develop projects, we refer to the sub-goals and indicators of the global goals.

We have identified nine of the 17 goals as our primary focus, with the first six forming the basis for each child's development. Our commitment to child safety in a changing climate supports the specific focus of SDG 13: Climate action, and SDG 16.2: Eliminate abuse, exploitation, trafficking in human beings and all forms of violence or torture against children. In addition, Goal 17: Implementation and Global Partnership represents our belief that partnership is the only way in which we can achieve sustainable development for children.

How we measure change

The work we do with these grants and donations follows our theory of change. It is this guidance document that we use in all our work, but it is also something we continuously and systematically develop as more data and evidence is collected. We created our theory of change based on research and evidence on "what works" related to a range of focus areas (health and wellbeing, education and life skills, protection and resilience, livelihoods, voice and agency).

Funds received through the sponsorships are pooled with other ChildFund Alliance grants so that significant change can be achieved in the programme areas. This work is regularly monitored, measured and evaluated by our ChildFund partners locally. The information we get from these surveys includes things like the percentage of children who go to school each year, the number of meals the children eat per day, and so on. The lead ChildFund Alliance partner takes responsibility for compiling and analyzing the information from the surveys. We have access to this data and keep up to date with their practices. We also receive annual reports from our programme areas. Despite this effective system for measuring change, we recognize that there are many variables and other development partners, such as other NGOs and government agencies, who may also be responsible for the changes achieved.

We use tools to measure our projects, which are funded either by donations from our monthly donors, by specific grants, or by both of these options. All our projects have clearly defined objectives and indicators so that we can assess whether the change we were aiming for has been achieved at the end of the project. This means that we need to collect data, which we do at the beginning and end of a project, and sometimes even in the middle. For the baseline and final surveys, a professional team (often outside of Barnfonden) comes in to critically analyze each project's performance against what we intended to do.

To assess the overall impact, Barnfonden's Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Advisor reviews and confirms the results of the combined work, documents evidence to show progress towards our theory of change and provides recommendations on lessons learned and improvements for the coming years along with highlighting best practices/achievements. We complement this with more in-depth investigations in areas where we need to deepen our understanding.

Our work in 2023



Barnfonden's mission, and the desire of those who support us, is positive change. Since Barnfonden was founded in 1991, we have, based on our own and our partners' work, learned a lot about how to achieve effective change.

Our work is evidence- and experience-based.

Five overarching themes

We focus on five key goals related to the issues that affect children's lives the most. These goals permeate Barnfonden's work to ensure that children and young people thrive. In line with our mission and vision, these areas – as outlined on pages 22-41 – include health and well-being, education and life skills, protection and resilience, sustainable livelihoods, and voice, participation and agency (the ability to set goals and take action, including being able to stand up for one's rights). In this annual report, we present each theme and provide examples taken from our programme work that has been carried out with 37 local partners in 2023. When we describe our efforts in 2023 below, we have clarified which of the UN's Global Goals our various efforts primarily contribute to fulfilling. If you are interested in knowing more about our overall focus themes and associated goals, please read [our theory of change](#).

Our multi-level approach: Supporting families and the wider community and encouraging advocacy

In this report, you will find descriptions of our work covering three different life stages for children and young people: 0-5 years, 6-14 years and 15-24 years. In addition to supporting the children and their families directly, our work also aims to improve the surrounding community and thus the conditions under which today's children and future generations grow up. We work with parents, schools, health centres, traditional leaders and local authorities. Quite simply, a multi-level strategy.

Our cross-cutting themes

There are certain questions we always ask ourselves and deliberate on when we start a new project. Examples of such questions are: Are children's rights appropriately considered? How do the gender dynamics work in the area and the project? Are we confident that the project promotes peace, community and the ownership and agency of the local population (especially the most vulnerable)? Does our work follow the principle of "do no harm" and does it promote children's safety and security? And how does the physical environment affect society and our work – and what can we do to improve the situation? We call these our cross-cutting themes. You can read more about these [on our website](#).

Climate change is changing the conditions

We are increasingly recognizing the immediate and longer-term risks posed by climate change. Local communities should be informed and have knowledge of, be able to identify, be prepared for and be able to deal with the growing threats to livelihoods and children's safety and security that climate change entails. Children and families should be involved as much as possible in the plans that are developed to tackle the threats. Read more about [our strategy for climate resilience with a focus on children](#).

Humanitarian action as early as possible

Sometimes the communities we work with are affected by natural disasters (often linked to climate change), conflicts or wars. When children are at risk and we have local partners on the ground who can provide the right support, we make a humanitarian appeal. Sometimes we can see these disasters coming before they happen, and more and more often we have the opportunity to start acting before the disaster occurs. We call it anticipatory action and we see how it saves money, suffering and lives. Read more about [ongoing and past humanitarian actions](#).

Our work through local partners

Barnfonden collaborates with local partners, and they are the ones who carry out various activities on site. All local partners are fully independent, but Barnfonden plays an important role in evaluating their financial, social and environmental policies and practices, and in reviewing internal and external reports to ensure that specific quality standards are met. This 2023 Annual Report has been compiled using information from face-to-face meetings with staff and participants (including children and their families), project visits, baseline surveys, half-year and audited annual reports, as well as mid- and/or final reports where changes are planned for and tracked.

Under 2023 we have collaborated with:

- 10 ChildFund Alliance partners.
- 37 local partners (see next page for whom).
- 647,094 families and children who in some way have been recipients of Barnfonden's support, but who are also crucial for the implementation, sustainability, and ownership of the activities.

Geographical scope

In 2023, Barnfonden supported work in 27 countries: Bolivia, Ethiopia, India, Cambodia, Kenya, Uganda, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Ukraine, Moldova, Brazil, Ecuador, the Philippines, Gambia, Guatemala, Honduras,

Mexico, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Zambia, Turkey, Palestine, Syria, Morocco, Afghanistan and Libya. Approximately 94 percent of our funds from sponsorships are directed to the first six countries mentioned above – and in these countries mainly to specific areas where we have concentrated our sponsorships. These are countries and areas that, in some cases, receive additional support through project funds to support their programmes. In the two countries mentioned next – Bangladesh and Indonesia – we have also had donor-funded projects of significant size. This report focuses mainly on the work in these eight countries. In the other countries mentioned, our funding is a small contribution to a much larger body of work.

Private donors enable institutional support

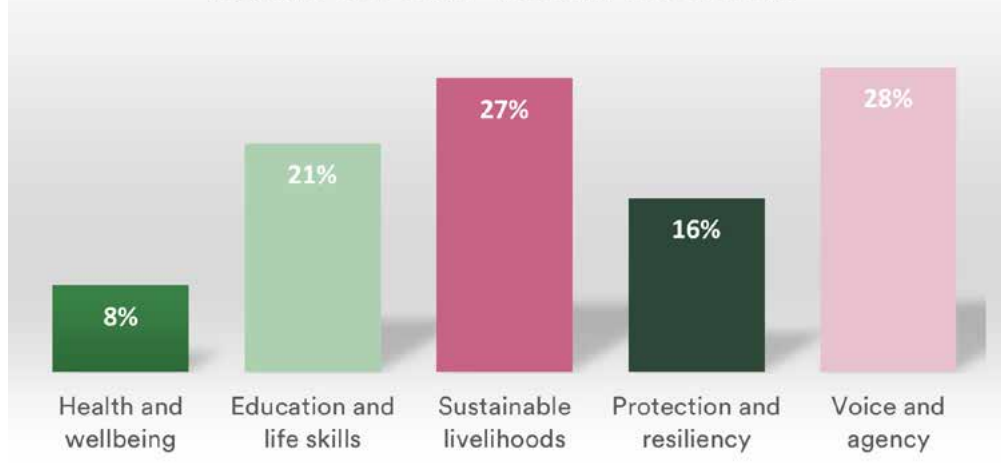
In this report, we mention specific donors. But it is also important to understand that the majority of funding from donors requires Barnfonden to contribute with match funding. We use the public funds we receive from, for example, our monthly donors, one-off donations, and sometimes also part of the sponsorship grants, to provide this self-financing. This structure strengthens our ability to do more with the funding we have. We would like to thank all the donors who give us the necessary funds we need to be able to reach all the children and families who need support to have the opportunity to create a better life for themselves.

Thematic scope

Thematic reach is measured as the percentage of efforts within a project that contribute to one of our five specific focus themes. Because some activities overlap with other activities in a different theme, it is difficult to calculate precisely. Therefore, please refer to these figures as a guide only. 90 percent of our projects in 2023 had a climate and environmental component.

How we work with our thematic areas is based on knowledge and experience from many years of work both within Barnfonden and within a number of international networks and organisations with whom we have close links. Here you will find evidence- and experience-based frameworks and guidelines on "how to get the best results" or "how to work best". Examples of such organisations or networks are: ChildFund Alliance, Joining Forces, Core Humanitarian Standard Alliance.

Share of project activities within each of our focal themes



Boundaries

The reporting in this document is as consistent as we can make it, given the large number of projects that we can have in a programme area at the same time. We record participation in an activity as one person, but that person may also be involved in another activity under the same theme, or an activity under a different theme (for example, they may participate in two health activities and one educational activity). Because of this, when we combine all the activities we do and the number we reach, we can assume that some of the numbers count twice (one person as two). Therefore, we prefer to look at thematic reach (reach in our thematic activities) in a different way than our overall reach.

Our largest grants are channeled to various ChildFund country offices overseen by ChildFund International. Due to a change of reporting system at ChildFund International and a difference between our reporting year and their reporting year, some information – such as global survey data – could not be retrieved from their database. Information on the work carried out within the sponsorship programmes has been taken from annual reports from country offices and local partners.

Local partners, financiers and strategic relations

In 2023, Barnfonden worked primarily with the following organisations:

India: ChildFund India, Jatan Sansthan, Gramin Punarnirman Sansthan, Gram Vikas Sewa Sansthan, Jan Shikshan Kendra, People's Action For Rural Advancement & Sustainability, Promotion Of Awareness, Social Action And Research, Siddhartha Bhartiya Gramin Vikas Sansthan, Sadbhawana Gramin Vikas Sansthan, Srishti Seva Sansthan, Tarun Chetna, Tarai Environment Awareness Samiti

Ethiopia: ChildFund Ethiopia, Dudga Children and Family Charitable Organisation, Aynage Child and Family Development Organisation

Kenya: ChildFund Kenya, Pioneer Child Development Agency, Emali Dedicated Children's Agency

Cambodia: ChildFund Cambodia, Khmer NGO for Education (KHEN), Cambodia Disabled People's Organisation (CDPO)

Bolivia: ChildFund Bolivia, Estrella del sur

Uganda: ChildFund Uganda, Acholi Child and Family Programme, Community Efforts for Child Empowerment, Masindi Child Development Federation

Bangladesh: EDUCO Bangladesh, Samaj Kalyan O Unnayan Shangstha (SKUS), Jagorani Chakra Foundation (JCF)

Indonesia: ChildFund Indonesia

Ukraine and Moldova: various local organisations through our partners ChildFund Germany and WeWorld.

Palestine/Gaza: WeWorld

Barnfonden also contributes to the work of 11 other country offices and their local partners through support to ChildFund International.

Our main donors:

European Union, Radiohjälpen (Världens Barn and Musikhjälpen), ForumCiv, Swedish Institute, Swedish Postcode Foundation, Water for All

Other strategic relationships we have fostered:

Solvatten, Emerging Cooking Solutions, Spowdi, Lund University

PROTECTION AND RESILIENCE

Children's right to safety and protection is a fundamental part of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and a central part of Barnfonden's work. Many children in the world are vulnerable to situations where violence in various forms is part of everyday life. This is despite the fact that the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which virtually all countries in the world have signed, states that children have the right to life, survival and development and that children must be protected against all forms of physical or psychological violence, injury or ill-treatment, neglect or negligent treatment, abuse or exploitation, including sexual abuse. The threat to children's safety, security and future is also increasing due to climate change.

We work to give children and young people in our programme areas more security and better protection against different types of risks and threats they or the community they live in face. Individuals and local communities must become more resilient, not least in relation to the negative consequences of climate change.

To stop violence and exploitation of children, we must work at all levels. In order to bring about change, children must know their rights and be part of the development themselves. We work to increase knowledge and awareness among children, young people, families and local communities about children's rights and about the importance of creating resilience in society, so that it can more easily handle different types of crises and disasters. We build capacity around these issues in the local community, with our local partners and protection officers in different contexts (schools, health and medical centres, and so on). At a higher level, we work to ensure that laws regarding children's rights and child protection are complied with and strengthened.

Together with children, young people and guardians, we increase knowledge about how to build positive, responsive and empathetic relationships. We strive for children and young people to feel valuable, needed and appreciated, and for their self-esteem and experience of life purpose to be as strong as possible.

We work to ensure that children and young people are protected from exploitation and abusive treatment in both the physical and digital world. It should be easier for them to get help from various agencies in the local community in matters related to child protection, and the general protection mechanisms against abuse and exploitation should be improved.

We support the development of Disaster Risk Reduction Plans (DRRs) to help individuals, families, and communities better anticipate, prepare for, and respond to different types of disasters and the adverse impacts of climate change. We are working to ensure that there are more forums for dialogue on children's rights and child protection linked to disaster risk reduction plans and climate change within various authorities and governing bodies. We advocate and support the development of policies that help reduce the negative impacts of climate change, with a particular focus on the vulnerability of children. We also contribute to facilitating the introduction of more climate-smart technology in society.

Contributes to UN Global Goals:





THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD ON THE PROTECTION AND SAFETY OF THE CHILD

Children have the right to life, survival and development.

Children must be protected from all forms of physical or psychological violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, ill-treatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse.

Children must be protected from all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse.



Photo: ChildFund Ethiopia

We reduce the incidence of child labour

Climate change can have a devastating impact on people's livelihoods. Places where farmers could historically count on surpluses of fruit and vegetables are now facing more frequent and prolonged droughts and severe flooding. This has an immediate effect on their income, but also puts pressure on families that leads them to make desperate decisions – such as taking their children from school and sending them to work. In societies where the average monthly income is between SEK 150-250 per month, all types of income loss hit families hard.

The Community Integrated Response to Child Labour in Ethiopia (CIRCLE) project in Dugda, Ethiopia, was launched to address this. In 2023, the project reported that it had educated 8,427 people about the negative effects of child labour. The project provided parents with advice, education and access to local safety nets to help them avoid the usual negative crisis measures that risk resulting in, for example, child labour.

When the positive results of the CIRCLE project began to become visible, the effort was expanded with a second project in Dugda. This project aimed

to reach 9,600 children and 15,000 adults. In 2023, locally-based groups that work to reduce child labour were started. Groups involved children and young people, community groups, local leaders, government agencies and the private sector. The role of these different actors is to control the prevalence of child labour and to promote grassroots cooperation so that cases of child labour are quickly detected and reported so that authorities can act. These committees worked closely with authorities in 2023 and identified 130 children who had been subjected to exploitative work in areas such as cattle farming, tomato production and various types of daily labor. The affected children and their families were reported to the authorities for proper management and received support with advice and referral to appropriate support functions.

A Children and Youth Parliament of 78 young people was formed and supported to strengthen its operational and thematic capacity in the field of child labour and strategies to end violence against children (based on the INSPIRE strategy paper developed by the World Health Organisation, as well as to increase the capacity of children and young people to advocate for and influence child protection systems.

Child-Friendly Spaces in Gogunda, India

In Gogunda, India, Barnfonden introduced the concept of child-friendly spaces in police stations within the framework of the project Protective, Enabling, Accountable and Child Friendly Environments (supported by ForumCiv). The intention of child-friendly spaces is to reduce the trauma that children experience when they are in contact with authorities, while also sending a clear message and an ever-present reminder that children's protection and rights are important to those who are responsible for them. As a result, the Gogunda State Administration set a target to establish 15 child-friendly places in 2023. They also issued an award for the best child-friendly space in a police station.

For a life free from violence in Bolivia

In August, a street march with the text "For a life free from violence" was organized in Oruro, Bolivia, with children, teachers, administrative staff, parents, and the Bolivian police participating. This was one of the activities Barnfonden's sponsorship funds supported, carried out within the framework of our local partner Estrella del Sur's Plan for Peaceful and Harmonious Coexistence programme, with the aim of creating safe environments for children and young people.



Photo: ChildFund Bolivia

Young people have their say in the UN

Children and young people from Ethiopia, Indonesia, Cambodia and Bolivia received support from Barnfonden to provide input to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child's General Comment No. 26, published in August 2023. The feedback from focus group discussions and surveys contributed to the UN's new guidance document, which reaffirms children's right to a clean and healthy environment.

The General Comment addresses the climate emergency, biodiversity collapse and pervasive pollution, and holds states responsible for environmental damage. It states that governments are responsible not only for protecting children from immediate harm, but also for foreseeable violations of their rights in the future due to action, or inaction, today.

In line with the messages that Barnfonden has put forward in recent years, countries that have ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child are urged to take immediate action, including decarbonisation, improving air quality, switching to renewable energy sources, ensuring access to clean water and protecting biodiversity. The guidance document also emphasises that children's views must be taken into account in environmental decision-making and the crucial role of environmental education.

Read [a child-friendly version of General comment No. 26](#).



Youth in Ethiopia discuss children's rights. Photo: ChildFund Ethiopia

For young people's safety and security online

While the online world has opened doors to many amazing opportunities and collaborations, engaging online carries risks for children – in addition to exposure to violence and pornography, also to sexual exploitation, grooming and bullying.

The global campaign Web Safe & Wise against the exploitation and victimisation of children online, to which Barnfonden contributes through the ChildFund Alliance, has achieved success in several countries in 2023. In Guatemala, Kenya and the Philippines, legislation has taken a step forward to protect children online. Through the documentation produced, the country offices have been able to conduct dialogue with their respective governments and thus help drive change.

In Cambodia, Barnfonden's sponsorship funds have supported the spread of a programme called Swipe Safe. The Swipe Safe training for young people is led by trained youth counsellors who guide the younger participants through a series of activities. Together, they practice things like enabling the safety features of popular apps and interacting with hypothetical stories about risks they might be exposed to. The project also targets teachers, authorities and parents because they, too, must understand online risks and recognise their responsibility to protect children, by both preventing risks and supporting the child should they become exposed. Through advocacy work by Barnfonden's partner ChildFund Cambodia, the programme has now been approved by the Cambodian government, ensuring that it can be rolled out across the country.



From Swipe Safe-work in Indonesia. Photo: ChildFund Indonesia

SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

In order for children to enjoy a secure upbringing and the opportunity for a better future, the family they grow up in, and indeed the entire surrounding community, should be assured of sustainable, reliable livelihood opportunities. By resilient livelihood, we mean the ability to cope with different types of shocks, disasters and other types of unforeseen, rapid changes.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child states that children have the right to development, social security, a reasonable standard of living – housing, clothing, food – and to be protected against economic exploitation and against work that is harmful. All of this is linked to the ability of families and communities to make a secure living.

Our work supports individuals, families and local communities to have better opportunities to secure the basic needs of life, such as food, water, shelter, medicine and clothing. In many communities, and especially in the areas where Barnfonden operates, access to these supplies and the basic building blocks for a secure life are limited and uncertain for the majority of people.

Natural disasters or other types of crisis and conflicts can have devastating effects on families who are already vulnerable, not least because many do not have savings. The consequences for children can be fatal – hunger, homelessness and an increased risk of being exposed to violence and abuse. In order for children, young people, families and local communities to have a greater understanding of the link between climate change and sustainable livelihoods, we work to build knowledge in this area. We have a strong focus on capacity and competence building for resilient and sustainable income-generating activities. For example, we work for better access to and knowledge of climate-smart farming and cultivation techniques.

We improve the opportunities for young people to earn a safe and secure living. We increase their knowledge of what rights they have in their working life and as employees. By strengthening young people's technical and professional skills and their understanding of livelihood in general, we contribute to them having better opportunities to find jobs where they are not exploited but instead have good working conditions. Other initiatives may involve strengthening the local community's capacity in employment services for young people and other support activities.

We strengthen opportunities for young people and families to build up their assets, for example through savings, so that they have a larger buffer when the unexpected happens. At a higher level, we work with advocacy, advocating for climate-focused, evidence-based policy change and showcasing project results and innovative methods to achieve sustainable and climate-related improvement of supply systems. We also shape support for climate action, climate justice and improved access to climate education at a global level and in Sweden.

Contributes to UN Global Goals:





THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD ON SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

Children have the right to social security and state support if their parents or other guardians lack sufficient resources.

Children have the right to a reasonable standard of living, such as housing, clothing and food.

Children have the right to be protected against economic exploitation and against work that is harmful or hinders the child's schooling.

SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

Empowering women farmers in India

The three-and-a-half-year project Strengthening Civil Society Organisations towards Fostering Women's Economic Empowerment Project in Uttar Pradesh, India (funded by the European Union and supported by Sida through ForumCiv) ended in 2023. The external evaluation of the Women's Empowerment project showed, among other things, that the project had successfully strengthened ten civil society organisations and economically and socially improved the prospects of 16,017 women farmers in 150 villages in ten districts in eastern Uttar Pradesh, India. This is an area where 70 percent of households in rural areas are mainly dependent on agriculture for their livelihood.



One of the highlights towards the end of the project was a webinar focusing on the exchange of experiences between the ten Indian organisations that participated in the project and a number of women-focused organisations in Kenya and Zambia. The aim was for these organisations to learn from each other, explore opportunities, and address common obstacles. After watching four informative videos about their work, the women participated in internal group discussions on a number of common issues. A key insight was the need for women to not only build their business knowledge, but to also learn how to navigate social issues – including how to handle patriarchal marital relationships.



Women in India have been supported to improve their opportunities through our EU-funded project in Uttar Pradesh. Photo: ChildFund India

Diversified and sustainable income builds resilience

Beritu, her husband (a casual worker) and their four children come from Dugda in Ethiopia. Beritu is one of the participants in the SECURE project (funded by Radiohjälp). Beritu had no assets or land but received training in financial management, entrepreneurship, livestock production/management, feed development, vegetable production, business management, natural resource management and the use of energy-saving stoves through the project. She was also encouraged to start saving as a member of a savings group in the community. The project then gave her two sheep, which in turn have produced three lambs. Soon she will sell some of the lambs to pay off her loan. She then plans to buy some chickens. She is now looking forward to a promising future with enough money to pay for her children's education.

Diversified incomes are more sustainable and resilient during, for example, periods of drought. Families in Dugda rely mainly on vegetable production, so by introducing cattle-breeding or similar, they are able to diversify their income, meaning increased security for the family. When women earn money, we often see greater investment in children's education.



Beritu can build a better future for herself and her family thanks to the support she has received through Barnfonden's SECURE project in Dugda. Photo: ChildFund Ethiopia

SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS



Climate-smart technologies, environmental clubs, safer schools

In school, young people in climate-affected areas can, in addition to traditional knowledge, also gain knowledge about climate-smart technologies for supporting themselves. In Kenya, Water for All is supporting a project in the Mount Kenya region that is seen as a "path to health and dignity". Here, children learn about rainwater collection and purification, drip irrigation, the importance of planting trees and how to make climate-smart multi-storey gardens. These are lessons that they will carry with them into their future lives. In 2023, work began in two out of six schools involving around 800 children and 20 teachers. In Ethiopia, 2000 children in our project area participate in environmental clubs in schools. 50 students have received training in "Safe from disasters" to make the school safer, and they have also carried out various types of safety exercises with their classmates. During the year, five project schools with 65 students (32 girls and 33 boys) were trained in the connection between waste management and environmental protection.



Photo: ChildFind Kenya



Photo: ChildFind Uganda



Farming as Business in Uganda

In Uganda, many households have very limited opportunities to increase their income and they are often dependent on poorly paid/precarious work and self-sufficiency. In the Acholi region of northern Uganda, Barnfonden's local partner, the Acholi Child and Family Programme, has supported ten groups of farmers (300 people) with income-generating activities to increase their incomes and strengthen their ability to cope with shocks. The groups were trained in Farming as Business and started their own businesses with, among other things, pig, goat and vegetable farming. The groups were taught good agricultural practices and how to run their businesses profitably.

Learnings:

Governments in many countries are designing support programmes to help farmers, women and young people access the different types of support on offer. Poor communication channels and limited literacy prevent information about this support from reaching those who need it most. Instead of copying the government's work where these support schemes already exist, our local partners are helping farmers, women and young people to learn about the opportunities and how to connect with those responsible for the support schemes. This is a more cost-effective solution and supports the government's role as experts in local development.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

The number of deaths among children under the age of five in the world has more than halved over the past 30 years. Yet, five million children still die each year, and the leading cause of death for children under the age of five is infectious diseases, including acute respiratory infections, diarrhea, and malaria, along with complications of premature birth.

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, an important starting point for the work of Barnfonden, states that children have the right to life, survival and development, as well as to the best possible health, access to health and medical care and to rehabilitation. Traditional practices that are harmful to children's health should be abolished. Children also have the right to play, rest and leisure – all important components of good mental health.

Barnfonden works to ensure that more children and young people have the opportunity for good physical and mental health.

We improve young people's knowledge about sexual and reproductive rights and health, as well as about maternal health. We are working to ensure that there is a greater focus on this area at youth clinics and in schools. It is also important that families and the local community at large have knowledge in this area and that they act as an important support for young people who are about to become adults.

We work for better access to quality, child-friendly healthcare and relevant health information for children, adolescents, expectant and new mothers. We educate families and communities about healthy and sustainable lifestyle habits and make efforts to promote that type of lifestyle.

Through efforts within WASH – water, sanitation and hygiene – we spread knowledge about the importance of good hygiene and ensure that the right infrastructure exists to bring clean water to schools and close to people's homes. We educate children, young people and families in nutrition and how to cook nutritious food. We have regular follow-up of children's growth curves and assist with extra efforts if children show signs of nutritional deficiencies and malnutrition.

Play, sports and culture contribute to better health and we work to spread knowledge about this and bring it into everyday life and into preschools and schools in our programme areas.

Contributes to UN Global Goals:





THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD ON HEALTH

Children have the right to life, survival and development.

Children must be protected from all forms of physical or psychological violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, ill-treatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse.

Children with disabilities have the right to a full and decent life and help to actively participate in society.

Children have the right to the best possible health, access to health care and rehabilitation. Traditional practices that are harmful to children's health should be abolished.

Children have the right to play, rest and leisure.



Loving Taking Care of Myself

In Oruro, Bolivia, 9,085 teenagers were trained in sexual health. The programme, called Loving Taking Care of Myself, reached health centers and primary and secondary schools in Oruro. A backpack with brochures and play materials was developed to teach people about sex education and to encourage young people to talk to each other about their rights and how to protect themselves. An online platform with pages about sexual rights was developed and promoted in schools. The platform attracted 1,592 users.



Young people who participated in Loving Taking Care of Myself. Photo: ChildFund Bolivia

What methods help with malnutrition?

Positive Deviance Plus is a community-based effort where local people identify successful positive practices that guardians use to eliminate malnutrition in the community. The idea is to see what works locally, because solutions used in one place are not always easily transferable to another. In India, 35 Positive Deviance sessions were held, enabling 1,000 children, pregnant women, and nursing mothers to discover successful local methods of eliminating malnutrition in children.



Photo: Jake Lyell

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Photo: ChildFund Kenya

Solvatten changes the lives of families in Kenya

Solvatten's solar-powered water purifiers were distributed to 433 families with children under the age of five in Kenya. (234 families in Nyeri County and 199 in Laikipia County). In addition to helping to reduce waterborne diseases, John Kingori of the Pioneer Child Development Agency, our local partner in this area, mentions several other reasons why these devices are so valuable to households. He says that they "... provide an alternative and environmentally friendly way to purify and conserve drinking water by using solar energy, which is abundant in this semi-arid area. They increase guardians' knowledge of safe purification and conservation of drinking water at household level, and they reduce fuel consumption and the dependence on boiling water to purify it, which in turn means reduced climate impact and reduced deforestation. Instead of spending time purifying water, families can spend more time on valuable chores like working in their gardens or yards, improving food security and economic empowerment." Barnfonden sees many benefit from this small product – and *Clean Water* is one of our donors' favorites in our gift shop.

Learnings

In 2023, Barnfonden commissioned an intern, Sonja Hammer from the Division of Risk Management and Societal Safety at Lund University, to look at how climate change affects children's mental health. In most countries in the Global South, awareness of mental health is low and more research in middle- and low-income countries needs to be done. A good idea would be to find synergies between indigenous knowledge and classical psychological treatments to find the most effective tools. This is an issue that Barnfonden will delve into in 2024.

Increased knowledge about maternal and child health in India

"Mentor mothers" and "Lead Mothers" are two programmes implemented by ChildFund India to build women's leadership skills in maternal and child health. The idea is that those who are trained will pass on the knowledge and educate others in subjects such as maternity care and maternal health. Between 2022 and 2023, ChildFund India, with support from Barnfonden, was able to reach over 1,900 mothers/mentor mothers who were trained in different states and who in turn was able to provide training to 7,699 mothers' groups.

EDUCATION AND LIFE SKILLS

Children's right to education is a central part of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and of Barnfonden's work. Education is key to breaking poverty, both at the individual and societal level. Education is an important remedy for child labour, child marriage and other harmful traditional practices.

A lot has happened in the world in recent decades when it comes to education. Many more children start and finish school and more learn to count and write. Not least, girls have been given greater opportunities to go to school. But there are still many who do not finish school but instead start working, are married off and become pregnant as children. And the last few years – with the pandemic and economic crisis in large parts of the world – have meant a decline in many areas, not least in education. Barnfonden's work contributes to more children getting an education.

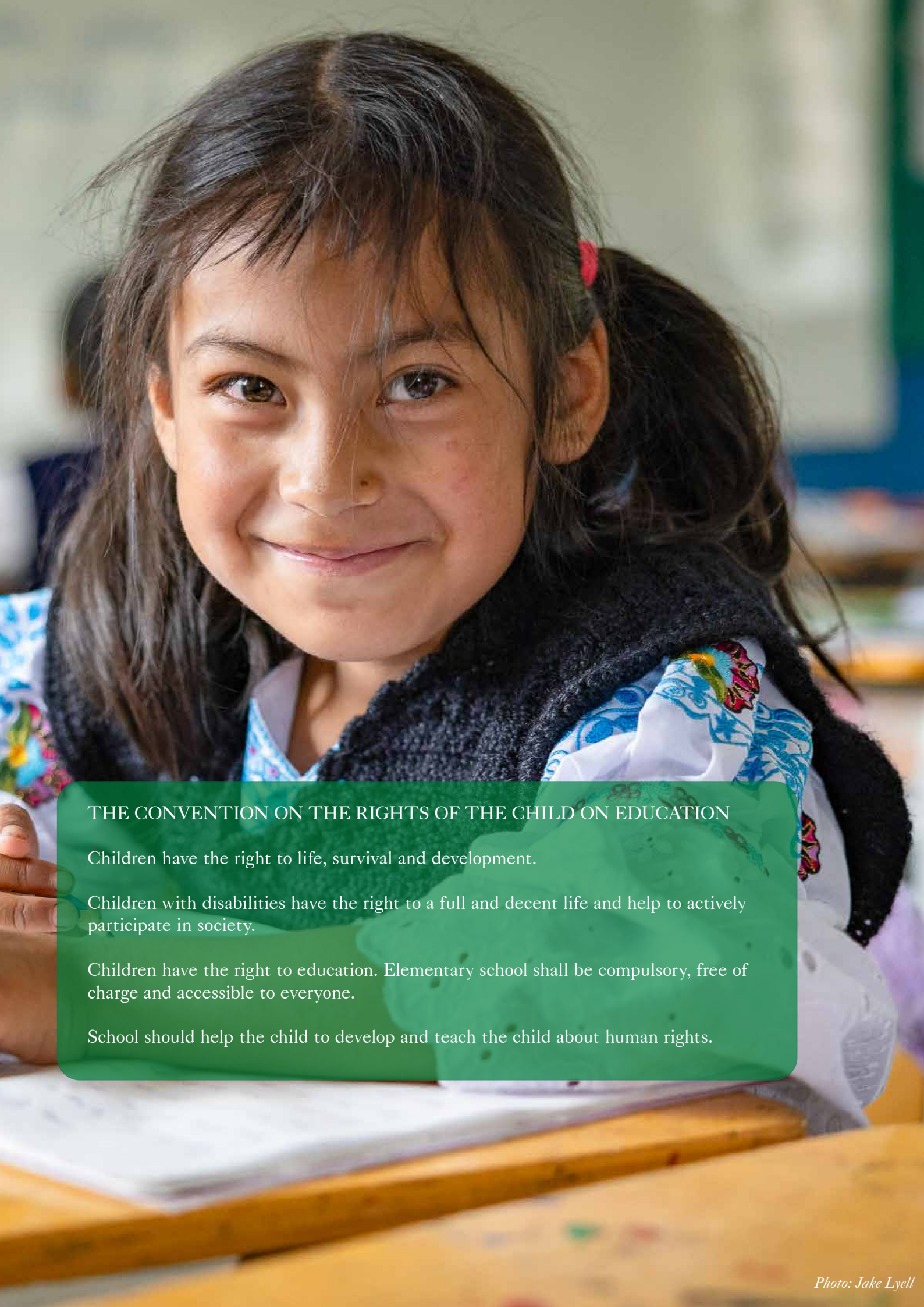
We strive to improve access to education – formal and informal – for children, youth and young adults. This includes preschool, primary school, secondary school and further education, as well as other types of informal education. It includes supporting not only reading, writing and arithmetic, but also what we call 'life skills'. In order to do well in life and be able to actively participate in shaping their society, individuals need to develop their problem-solving skills, critical thinking, effective communication, wise decision-making, creative thinking, relationship building, self-awareness, empathy and so on. The children who grow up in our programme areas should have the best possible conditions to cope with their continued life as adults, and for us, education is about more than improving one's chances of finding a job.

By increasing the knowledge and understanding of the importance of education among families and local populations, we increase the likelihood that children – both boys and girls – will have the opportunity to start school and complete their schooling. In order for children to thrive and feel safe at school – and thus have greater incentives to continue their schooling – we work to make schools inclusive and child-friendly, as well as to train teachers and other staff in child-friendly approaches and pedagogy.

We work to ensure that knowledge about climate change and how to build safe, secure, resilient schools and communities is given greater prominence in education. It is important that the environment in which children are educated is safe – especially when it is in an area where the risk of climate and other disasters is higher – and that there are clear, disaster preparedness plans to reduce risks. We support children to become effective actors in creating safer schools, by teaching skills such as first aid and by facilitating simulation exercises so that staff and students know how to cope with different types of disasters. Barnfonden uses the Comprehensive Safe Schools Framework to provide strategic guidance to leaders and partners on how to promote safe, equitable and continuous access to quality education for all.

Contributes to UN Global Goals:





THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD ON EDUCATION

Children have the right to life, survival and development.

Children with disabilities have the right to a full and decent life and help to actively participate in society.

Children have the right to education. Elementary school shall be compulsory, free of charge and accessible to everyone.

School should help the child to develop and teach the child about human rights.



Child-friendly and play-based learning

Learning by Playing in Bolivia. Photo: ChildFund Bolivia

Numeracy and literacy are the foundation of lifelong learning. These skills empower students to create meaning, think critically and creatively, and reach their full potential. Some of the funds that Barnfonden passes on from sponsors to our programme areas will always be used to develop these skills in children and young people. Using play-based tools is an effective way to build knowledge and skills while also making it fun for young children. In India, ChildFund India has organised training for 1,000 anganwadi workers and preschool teachers on how to use a play-based curriculum. And in Bolivia, ChildFund Bolivia and our local partner Estrella del Sur have partnered with 22 preschool teachers to increase interest in and knowledge of Learning by Playing. In Uganda, the Responsive and Protective Parenting Programme has worked with 40 local tutors who hold workshops with parents to encourage their participation in their children's learning. A total of 486 parents have been reached.

Safety in school for children in Amhara

Students spend a lot of time in schools, so it is important to have a good and safe school infrastructure along with clean and functioning toilets. In July 2023, the Protection and Education in Emergency and Recovery project was launched in the Amhara region of Ethiopia. Amhara was one of the areas affected by Ethiopia's political conflict – a conflict that still flares up – and many schools were in poor condition. In order for the children to be able to return to school, many classrooms needed to be renovated and equipped with desks, chairs and teaching materials. Ten schools in Raya Kobo Woreda have been scheduled to receive support through the PEER project, commencing during the last half of 2023. All schools were involved in a technical assessment, plans were developed, and contractors were hired to begin work in early 2024.



Photo: ChildFund Ethiopia

Safer and more resilient schools in Dugda

In the 2022 Annual Report, we talked about the Child-Friendly and Climate-Ready Schools project in India, where 2,641 children received training in what to do in the event of an emergency at school. What we learned through that project, we could use in 2023 in our work in Ethiopia, where we trained staff in ChildFund Ethiopia and Dugda Child and Family Charitable Organisation on school safety. These staff in turn worked with five schools and 50 students to help them make their schools safe from climate related disasters, as well as other disasters. Simulation exercises were conducted with 2,000 students to help prepare children for safe evacuation in the event of natural or other disasters. In this work, we were guided not only by the lessons learned from similar projects in India but also by GADRRRES's Comprehensive School Safety Framework.



Foto: WeWorld

Education and psychosocial support for children in Ukraine and Moldova

The war in Ukraine has had a negative impact on the education of many children in Ukraine, and in some areas, formal schooling has not been a viable option. In southern and eastern Ukraine, we support a project funded by Radiohjälpen that supports children's continued education through tutoring, remedial teaching and language courses aimed at filling knowledge gaps and improving children's academic performance.

In addition to education in core subjects – including some more unusual subjects such as “awareness and self-expression in the field of culture” and “environmental knowledge and healthy living” – students learn the ability to read and understand what has been read, formulate and express opinions verbally and in writing, critical thinking, the ability to logically justify a position, show initiative, create, the ability to solve problems, assess risks and make decisions, ability to constructively manage emotions, ability to apply emotional intelligence and collaborate in a team.

Teaching goes hand in hand with psychosocial support, to help children process their experiences during the war, including group exercises to reduce tension and anxiety, and how to use stress as a resource. 413 children have participated in such exercises.



Photo: Ina Gordceva

Learnings:

In Kotra, India – a place where many children have sponsors from Sweden – three free teaching centres have been established, which use the Protective, Effective N Context-based Initiation of Learning (PENCIL) model. A total of 160 children have been involved. These software models have been tried and tested for several years, in different locations. An important lesson is not to reinvent the wheel. Barnfondens alliance partner, ChildFund International, uses several such tested and evidence-based models in its programmes around the world.

VOICE, PARTICIPATION AND INFLUENCE

Today's children and young people will inherit the world left by today's generation. In many ways, it will be a better world than it was a few decades ago, but it will also be a world shaped by climate change—perhaps humanity's greatest challenge—and serious, deep-rooted conflicts. Our children will have to face the consequences of our failure to live sustainably and take timely action.

For Barnfonden, it is a matter of course that children and young people should have the right to express themselves and participate in discussions and decisions on issues that affect them and their future. Children's right to freedom of expression and to be listened to and respected is also written into the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which virtually all countries in the world have signed.

Barnfonden works to ensure that all children have the opportunity to actively participate when decisions are made in their communities, and that they should feel safe to express themselves, and voice their opinions. Our goal is for children and young people to be confident and involved.

We work to develop children's and young people's social and emotional skills. When their self-esteem and ability to interact with others – children and adults – are strengthened, they have a greater opportunity to voice their opinions, both in their own lives and in society at large. They can then also contribute to sustainable solutions to the climate issue, both in the local community and at a higher level. It is partly about learning and daring to express oneself, partly about having the ability and willingness to listen to others and respect different opinions and standpoints.

Strengthened self-esteem and active participation is a two-way process – they affect each other in both directions. Our efforts are also about influencing society so that it allows children and young people to take their place and understand the value of it. Our goal is for more people to actively participate in (or even lead) decision-making and change processes, whether at home, school or the local community at large. One way into this can be volunteering, being a mentor or participating in networks and events, as well as participating in various decision-making processes. We also work to improve access to various platforms for children and young people where they can express themselves, participate and be treated as important participants in society.

Contributes to UN Global Goals:





THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD ON CHILDREN'S VOICES

Children have the right to express their opinion and be heard in all matters concerning the child.

Children have the right to freedom of expression; to think, express themselves, and to voice their opinions, with respect for the rights of others.

Children with disabilities have the right to a full and decent life and help to actively participate in society.



Young people in Bangladesh change attitudes through advocacy campaigns

Children’s active participation in change can be the result of their formal involvement in advocacy, or more informal approaches, such as spreading “change messages” through sports and entertainment. When people begin to see certain activities – sometimes traditional activities – that they are used to as harmful (such as child labour and child marriage), demands begin to be made for changes in policies and laws.

In March 2023, a Radiohjälpen- and Barnfonden-funded project based in and around the refugee camps Kutupalong 8E, 8W, 17 in Bangladesh was completed. A total of 3,372 young people (1,449 boys and 1,923 girls) and 490 adults (260 men and 230 women) actively participated in eleven information campaigns. This gave young people a chance to influence traditional leaders and representatives of the Ministry of Education, Social Welfare and Camp Administration, who were present at the events. At the end of the project, all young people (in both camps and the surrounding community) stated that child marriage and child labour are not suitable for children. 98 percent of parents and guardians also saw child marriage as something negative.

Training sessions for project staff on how to implement the curriculum reached 24 members. These activities were made possible by the establishment of 68 youth clubs for children between the ages of 12 and 17. The clubs, which were established in each sub-block, played a role in reducing safety risks and creating a safer environment for children.

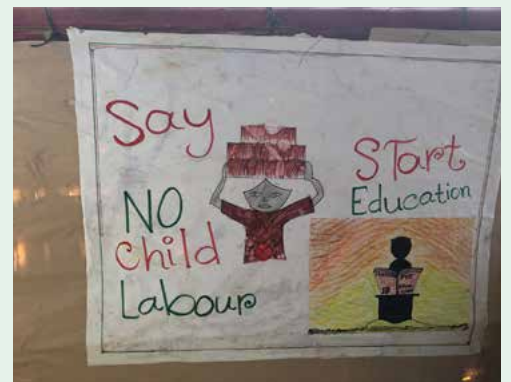


Photo this page: Barnfonden and Educo



”Everyday climate crisis activism”

Teens and youth represent a dynamic and untapped force that can drive transformative action for climate resilience. For children and young people, measures within their sphere of influence often involve making changes in everyday habits and participating in conversations with those close to them, such as family and friends. A concept that American academic Dr Carlie Trott called children’s ”everyday climate crisis activism”. Encouraging youth activism will be crucial to mobilizing both youth and their communities to address the escalating impacts of climate change, including the associated health challenges affecting youth.

In a research study in southern Bangladesh commissioned by Barnfonden and Educo Bangladesh in 2023, 81.8 percent of participants said that teens and adolescents have an important role to play in contributing to social well-being. This suggests that their climate action should have a positive impact on the overall well-being of communities. In addition, 79.2 percent of respondents said that young people have a role to play in reducing the number of early marriages and 79.5 percent said that they can influence the rate of students who drop out of school.



Photo: ChildFund Indonesia

Projects that raise young people’s voices in Indonesia

In July 2023, the 18-month project Youth Voice Now, led by ChildFund Indonesia together with the Flores Children’s Development Organisation on the island of Flores and in Sikka Regency, East Nusa Tenggara province and funded by Barnfonden and the Swedish Institute, came to an end. The project worked with 30 young people who in turn had to motivate 553 teenagers and young people (aged 15-24, including 368 girls and 185 boys) to reach duty bearers (local authorities, community organisations, teachers, parents and others).

A key finding was the great value of using research and analysis as the basis for a project and then engaging young people via social media to get their thoughts and results out there (with 31 video stories and 8 articles produced in 2022–23). Having an online space where you can meet, as well as events where you can physically gather around issues of common importance, building collective agency and a sense of shared purpose.

The post-project analysis concluded that it is important to celebrate successes in recognition of the achievements of the Youth Initiatives, no matter how small. This works wonders for boosting the self-confidence of young people.

Learnings

During the first half of 2023, Louise Carlsson, master’s student in International Development and Management at Lund University, conducted a study with participants involved in the Disability Empowerment and Education project, which was supported by ForumCiv and Barnfonden. The title of her thesis, ”They Are Ignored: Exploring the Rights and Challenges of Children with Disabilities in Cambodia in the Context of Climate Change,” sums up her conclusions quite well. She says that children with disabilities face more obstacles than other children when it comes to the effects of climate change and face more obstacles when it comes to making their voices heard on the issue. It has a lot to do with a lack of government support, resources, and knowledge. In addition, it is generally more difficult for this group to make themselves heard and their interests are not met to the extent they should in consultations and subsequent planning. It is important that society and government tear down the barriers that prevent them from participating in climate work.





Water distribution in Gaza autumn 2023. Photo: WeWorld

Humanitarian aid 2023

When disaster strikes, ChildFund Alliance joins forces and the value of a strong and trusting network is revealed. Together, we can respond faster, more broadly, stronger and better to both acute disasters and slow onset disasters, such as prolonged droughts. With a presence in 70 countries, reliable and competent local partners, and close cooperation with local communities and the UN cluster system, we have the capacity to reach children in need.

Children are the ones who are hardest hit by humanitarian crises. They are physically vulnerable in connection with war, drought, typhoons, floods, fires and other disasters, but they are also affected psychologically, which can have lifelong consequences. In 2023, Barnfonden contributed to supporting children and their families to cope with the effects and aftermath of droughts, earthquakes, floods, wars and conflicts in Kenya, Libya, Morocco, Afghanistan, Gaza, Syria and Ukraine.

Anticipatory action save money and lives

In September 2023, ChildFund Kenya asked for help in preparing the communities they work with for El Niño extreme weather events. El Niño was predicted to have a devastating impact on agriculture, rural livelihoods and food security. Their "anticipatory actions" focused on preparing people in advance to prevent damage to crops, livestock, productive land, water and infrastructure.

The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) claims that every dollar invested in anticipatory actions can save farming families more than \$7 compared to if the money is spent after the disaster has occurred. This saving includes, for example, crops that have not been lost, livestock that hasn't died, acute malnutrition that has been prevented in many people.



Drought in Kenya in connection to El Niño 2023.

Photo: ChildFund Kenya

Preparing for El Niño turned out to be the right decision. El Niño floods affected several areas in Kenya: 160 people died and around half a million people were temporarily forced to flee. In some areas, and with support from Barnfonden, families had taken preventive measures to protect themselves and their children.

Barnfonden also responded to the drought that hit Kajiado and Makueni counties in Kenya earlier in the year. Together with ChildFund New Zealand, Barnfonden ensured that 8,000 children received food at school and that 300 expectant and new mothers, 500 vulnerable households and 50 people with disabilities received immediate food support.

Catastrophic situation in Gaza

The humanitarian community in Sweden and the world is trying to provide support to many of the two million people living in Gaza under difficult conditions. The financial support from Barnfonden's donors has been channeled through our sister organisation WeWorld to meet the needs of the many children and families who are internally displaced in Gaza. An absolute majority of the population – around 85 percent – are displaced and the need for emergency aid is extremely great. Many refugees are in or near overcrowded UN-protected emergency shelters and in hospitals, churches and schools. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) reports that the vast majority of the 24,000 killed and 59,000 injured as of mid-January are women and children. WeWorld, which has been present in the occupied Palestinian territory (West Bank and Gaza) since 1992, is working hard to bring supplies to people, including water that almost the entire population, i.e. two million people, are in urgent need of.

Support for earthquake victims in Syria

Thanks to the support of our donors, Barnfonden was also able to support our sister organisation WeWorld's efforts in Syria after the earthquake in Syria/Turkey on February 6, 2023. WeWorld provided immediate relief efforts in the form of temporary shelter and distribution of supplies such as mattresses, blankets and hygiene kits. They also distributed drinking water in the areas where the water networks were damaged and repaired infrastructure related to water where possible.

Storm Daniel led to massive flooding in Libya

In September, Libya was hit by massive flooding after Tropical Storm Daniel – the heaviest to hit the Mediterranean Sea region since these measurements began – and Morocco was hit by an earthquake in the same month. In October, an earthquake with a magnitude of 6.3 on the Richter scale occurred in Afghanistan. In Libya and Morocco, our partner on the ground made an effort focusing on water and sanitation needs and general living conditions, while in Afghanistan the focus was on supporting women who are breadwinners, providing them with cash to cover their basic food needs.

Continued efforts in war-torn Ukraine

In 2023, the humanitarian effort continued in war-torn Ukraine and in Moldova, where many people fled Ukraine. The response is a broad, long-term effort, that covers such things as distribution of food, water, hygiene kits, blankets and mattresses, as well as cash support and psychosocial support. In the field of education, response efforts try to maintain as much normality as possible for children and ensure they fall behind as little as possible in their schooling. Barnfonden's support has been facilitated through our sister organisations WeWorld and ChildFund Germany, working in several different locations in Ukraine and Moldova.



Distribution of mattresses and clean water in Syria after the earthquake that hit Turkey and Syria in 2023. Photo: WeWorld

About our organisation

Barnfonden has a number of internal commitments that the management team measures every year. In addition to monitoring the impact of our work, we also look at, for example, how the staff are doing, how well we live up to being a climate-focused child rights organisation, how satisfied our donors are and how satisfied our local partners are with their collaboration with Barnfonden. Based on specific criteria, we measure how well we are achieving the objectives in our cross-cutting handbook. In 2023, we can see:

- Child protection: Child protection criteria were addressed in all 11 projects in 2023.
- Gender and inclusion: Gender and inclusion criteria were addressed in 11 projects in 2023.
- Environment and climate change: Environment and climate change criteria were addressed in 10 out of a total of 11 projects in 2023.
- Conflict sensitivity: Conflict sensitivity criteria were addressed in eight projects in 2023. The tool for conflict and development analysis is used in the project to understand power relations and do no harm.

In 2023, 51 of Barnfonden's partners were invited to respond to an anonymous online survey with eight questions about how they perceive the quality of Barnfonden's partnership. The requirements for being invited were partners who worked directly with Barnfonden's programme team at some point in 2023. Countries from which partners were invited included Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Kenya and India. A total of 35 partners responded to the survey (68 percent of those invited). Even though we aimed for a 100 percent response rate, the number of respondents gives 95 percent confidence that the answers are correct for the entire group of respondents.

Overall, our partners seem to be happy with us. 91 percent of respondents said that the projects we work on are inclusive. Approximately 86 percent value our climate work (compared to about 68 percent in 2022). Just over 97 percent of the respondents said that they feel that Barnfonden supports them if they ask for guidance. It seems that they find it easier to understand our reporting systems than was the case in 2022, but there are some who still struggle to fully understand our financial requirements. When asked how we could add more value as a partner, they identified three key areas where our support would be particularly valued: capacity building; knowledge of our climate change strategy and the development of general project competence. One respondent writes: "[Barnfonden is] helpful in many aspects, such as supporting the development of project ideas and project applications, providing information on best practices [and having] strong ties to our team".

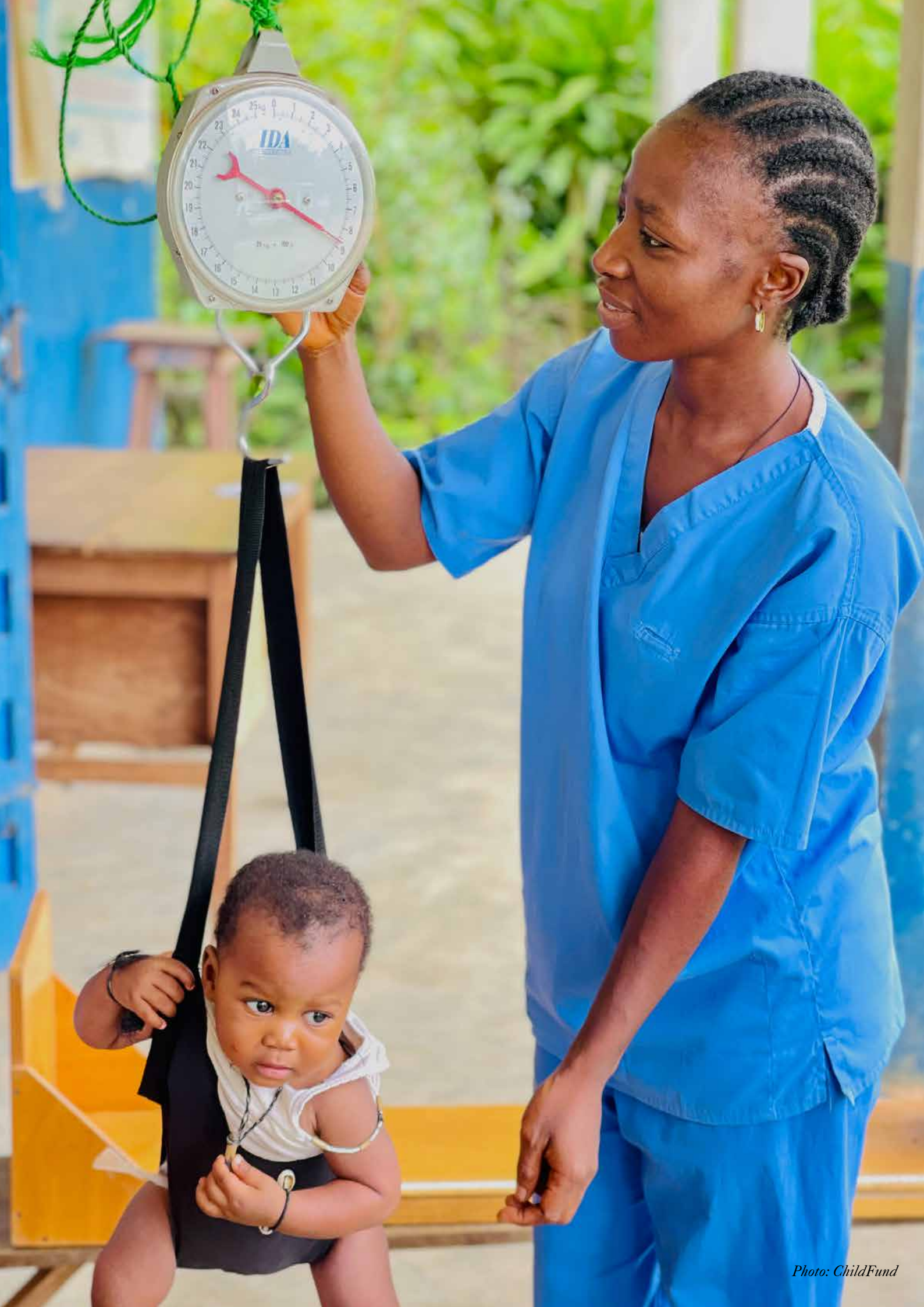


Photo: ChildFund



ADMINISTRATION REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Board and Secretary General of Barnfonden Insamlingsstiftelse, organisation no. 846003-9020, with registered office in Malmö, hereby submits the Annual Report for the financial year 2023-01-01 - 2023-12-31.

Photo: Jake Lyell

Administration report

Barnfonden is a non-profit foundation. Our income aims to contribute to our child-focused activities to the greatest extent possible. We apply a child rights perspective in all our work and consistently have a strong focus on gender equality, child protection, children's participation and environmental and climate issues. We continuously ask ourselves how we can become even better at raising these issues. Barnfonden works both preventively and to deal with the effects of the problems we want to solve in the long term.

In Barnfonden's annual report for 2023, we show how Barnfonden, through its work during the previous year, has addressed children's needs to ensure that they are healthy, safe, educated and involved at different stages of their lives.

Barnfonden has worked with the children themselves, their families and the surrounding community where they live to ensure that children's right to good health, education, protection, secure livelihood and inclusion is maintained and developed. Whether it is through funding from our 20,111 generous sponsors and monthly donors, via the 13,203,300 SEK we have received through grants from major donors for project funding, or through the partnerships that provide no funding but only important connections, Barnfonden has enabled a positive change possible in children's lives.

In the annual report, we mention several highlights from the work we have done in our five overall focus areas during the previous year together with the children, families, and staff on site, as well as with our donors. We emphasize that to achieve long-term and sustainable impact, we must have a broad focus where, in addition to working with the children and families, we also need to contribute knowledge and experience to build strong systems and structures throughout the local area. We must also work with and influence governments and authorities to ensure that they take the responsibility that is incumbent on them to uphold children's rights and the local area's opportunity to develop in a positive direction. Barnfonden does this advocacy work both in Sweden and, through our engagement in ChildFund Alliance, globally.

Development of the foundation's activities, results and position (SEK 000s)

	2023	2022	2021	2020
Costs for the purpose	-77,871	-76,980	-74,186	-68,182
Fundraising costs	-16,623	-18,442	-14,215	-13,291
Administrative costs	-2,942	-3,293	-4,193	-2,916
Total costs	-97,436	-98,716	-92,594	-84,389
Total income	101,780	101,357	94,210	86,681

Rising costs for the purpose (891,000 SEK) is partly explained by an increased programme operation through increased staff and higher costs that have been incurred in the projects. Another explanation for the increase is an investment in the recruitment of monthly donors. The new initiative was successful and the income from monthly donors increased in 2023, which provided an opportunity to provide increased support for ongoing projects, thus also increasing the cost.

The reduction in fundraising costs (-1,819,000) is mainly explained by the fact that the recruitment of sponsors via D2D has been somewhat slower than in 2022. But also, by lower marketing costs. Barnfonden's new Head of the Financing and Engagement department started in early spring 2023, and the department's focus has been to establish a new communication strategy, which meant that a number of planned marketing activities were postponed.

Significant events and examples of our impact in 2023

Significant events

Gaza

In October 2023, war broke out in Gaza with tens of thousands of civilian casualties, around half of whom were children. It was an event that shook the world and came with terrible violations of children's rights and safety. Through ChildFund Alliance, Barnfonden has been able to contribute to emergency efforts in Gaza and in December, external actors organized a fundraising event for the benefit of Barnfonden's work in Gaza.

Closure of the EU project in Indonesia

Our EU project in Indonesia was formally concluded in 2023 with reporting approved by all donors. The existing reserve to cover any costs in the event of non-approval of the project could thus be dissolved. This led to an increase in Other Income of 2.8 million SEK, which directly affects the financial outcome for the year.

Climate expert gives even more impact

Barnfonden is a leader in ChildFund Alliance when it comes to work with the environment and climate. In September, we supported our Climate Advisor in a move to ChildFund International as a Senior Climate Advisor. In this way, the expertise we have developed can reach further in the organisation responsible for the programmes funded by our sponsors. We could not have hoped for greater impact. When this vacancy arose, we decided that our next Climate Advisor would be locally employed and based closer to our local partners.

India

In 2023, the process of obtaining sponsorship grants and extra gifts for our partner in India was made more difficult. This led to us changing our procedures for transfers to India and tying more Indian local partners to us. This change comes as a result of the Indian government's increased requirements for localization and direct support to local organisations in the country.

Finance and Engagement – Looking Ahead

In February, a new head of the Financing and Engagement department started. With this, we have taken steps forward with a new and clear communication strategy, a greater focus on corporate collaborations and

networking, and we have two Barnfonden ambassadors in place. As ambassadors, Jessie Sommarström and Sandra Stojiljkovic quickly undertook their own initiatives to strengthen Barnfonden's work, made their own fundraisers and spread awareness of our work.

Work with major project grants

Barnfonden sees that we have many possible roles to play in different types of projects to contribute to positive effects on children's rights. In 2023, we initiated an investment in an additional programme officer with a focus on larger institutions and foundations. We also found collaborations where we only contribute with thematic expertise in children's rights and climate issues, but without being primarily responsible for the project. This affects how we work and what we have capacity to work with.

Examples of our impact

Community Integrated Response to Child Labour in Ethiopia (CIRCLE) project in Dugda, Ethiopia: In 2023, the project reported that 8,427 people had been educated about the negative effects of child labour. The project provided parents with home-based counseling, parenting education, and access to community safety nets to help them avoid adopting harmful survival strategies that could have resulted in child labour. Through this counseling, guardians were encouraged to play a greater role in their children's education.

In Ethiopia, we work with children through environmental clubs in schools. In 2023, five project schools with 65 students (32 women and 33 men) were trained in the relationship between waste management and environmental protection.

In 2023, the external evaluation of the Women's Empowerment project in Uttar Pradesh, India, showed that the project had successfully strengthened ten civil society organisations and economically and socially improved the prospects of 16,017 women farmers in 150 tribal villages in 10 blocks and 10 districts in eastern Uttar Pradesh – an area where 70 percent of rural households rely primarily on agriculture for their livelihoods.

”Mentor mothers” and ”Lead Mothers” are two programmes implemented by ChildFund India to build women’s leadership skills in maternal and child health. The idea is that those who are then trained will pass on the knowledge and educate others in subjects such as maternity care and maternal health. Between 2022 and 2023, ChildFund India, with the support from Barnfonden, was able to reach over 1,900 mothers/mentor mothers who were trained in different states and in turn was able to provide training to 7,699 mothers’ groups.

Solvatten’s solar-powered water purifiers were distributed to 433 families with children under the age of five. (234 families were in Nyeri County and 199 in Laikipia County).

When people begin to see certain activities – sometimes traditional activities – that they are used to as harmful (such as child labour and child marriage), this filters through to changes in policies and laws. In March 2023, a Radiohjälpen- and Barnfonden-funded project based in and around the refugee camps Kutupalong 8E, 8W, 17 in Bangladesh was completed. A total of 3,372 young people (1,449 boys and 1,923 girls) and 490 adults (260 men and 230 women) actively participated in eleven information campaigns. This gave young people a chance to influence traditional leaders and representatives of the Ministry of Education, Social Welfare and Camp Administration, who were present at the events. At the end of the project, all young people (in both camps and the surrounding community) stated that child marriage and child labour are not suitable for children. 98 percent of parents and guardians also saw child marriage as something negative.

Training sessions for project staff on how to implement the curriculum reached 24 members. These activities were made possible by the establishment of 68 youth clubs for children between the ages of 12 and 17. The clubs, which were established in each sub-block, played a role in reducing safety risks and creating a safer environment for children.



Expected future developments

We will have a couple of tough years ahead of us because of the economic situation in the world with rising prices and increased financial pressure on our donors. In addition, our partner ChildFund Australia has decided to completely stop sponsorship, which means that sponsorships in Cambodia will be phased out until 2026.

In 2024, a new strategy for aid through civil society is in design. It is expected that it will be in application from 2025. The system for how Sida distributes aid funds (currently through strategic partner organisations) will be reviewed in 2024, and the Government has indicated that more development actors will be considered as recipients, making the system more transparent. In addition, it is signalled that the match funding will increase from 10 to 15 percent. These adjustments open opportunities for Barnfonden – a strong and stable actor who has the capacity and ability to use funds effectively. At the same time, we are fortunate to have stable fundraising from private individuals, thus enabling us to meet the higher match funds.

We will continue to work to be able to generate more support for humanitarian efforts, without taking too much focus away from important and long-term development work with children and climate in focus.

In 2024, we will take a big step towards developing partnerships and collaborations that benefit our partners in more diverse ways. For example, it can be about technical solutions, advocacy work, funding, and campaigns. ChildFund Alliance is one of the world's largest child rights agencies, and Barnfonden is the only child rights organisation in Sweden with a clear climate focus. We are a knowledge base and door opener and see great opportunities to develop this further.

In 2024, we see that our project grants will decrease slightly compared to before. However, thanks to a dedicated grant acquisition programme manager, the thematic expertise we have built up and the collaborations we have begun to establish, we expect our grants will increase in the coming years.

Organisation and management

Barnfonden is led by an unpaid board and in 2023 four ordinary board meetings were held and three meetings were held per capsulam. All meetings are recorded.

Yasemin Arhan Modéer	Jan–Dec	Chair	(4+3 meet.)
Lena Svensson	Jan–Dec	Vice Chair	(4+3 meet.)
Johanna von Bahr	Jan–May	Vice Chair Jan–May	(2+1 meet.)
Maya Mbog Rosén	Jan–Dec	Vice Chair May–Dec	(3+3 meet.)
Anders Henriksson	Jan–Dec	Board member May–Dec	(3+3 meet.)
David Klose	Jan–Dec	Board member Maj–Dec	(4+3 meet.)
Helena Bruzaeus Graffner	Jan–Dec	Deputy Board Member	(4+2 meet.)
Ann Svensén	May–Dec	Deputy Board Member	(3+1 meet.)

The Nomination Committee has been chaired by Lennart Wiklund, who until May 2024 worked together with Karin Grauers and Petra Bergarp. The Nomination Committee has thus consisted entirely of external members.

Barnfonden's office is in Malmö. The Secretary General leads the work with the support of the Programme Director, the Finance and Administration Director and the Head of Financing and Engagement. In 2023, an average of 18 people worked in donor service, fundraising, communications, finance, and programmes. At Barnfonden's office, we also have two

volunteers: one who helps with simple administrative tasks such as packing materials and translating letters to the sponsored children, and one climate expert.

A valuable support to the office in 2023 has also been the five interns who were with us during the year, four in the communication group and one in the programme group. They have been a great asset and contributed through research, design and textual content.

Sustainability disclosures

Sustainability for Barnfonden is about us being able to provide the best possible long-term safety and security for children over time. We must ensure that the environment and climate do not create an even worse situation for those most vulnerable and we must meet the social sustainability that involves the daily work of meeting basic needs such as food, education, security, access to electricity and water.

Our mission is to build a long-term and inclusive society where basic human needs and rights are met and children's safety is put first.

We also look at supporting economic sustainability, ensuring families are self-sufficient and able to withstand the vagaries of climate change and political unrest. Ecological sustainability is often seen as a prerequisite for both social and economic sustainability. Social sustainability, in turn, is the basis for economic sustainability being possible.

We are continuously discussing with our partner organisations and through our partners in ChildFund Alliance how we can best work with all three dimensions in parallel. If one falls, all three fall.

Our working environment policy includes guidelines, procedures, goals, and activities to achieve efficiency and quality in our work with the working environment, gender equality and diversity. This work is a continuous process of constant improvement that is documented and revised regularly. The policy is reviewed and revised as necessary. Laws, regulations, and regulatory requirements constitute minimum requirements for the foundation.

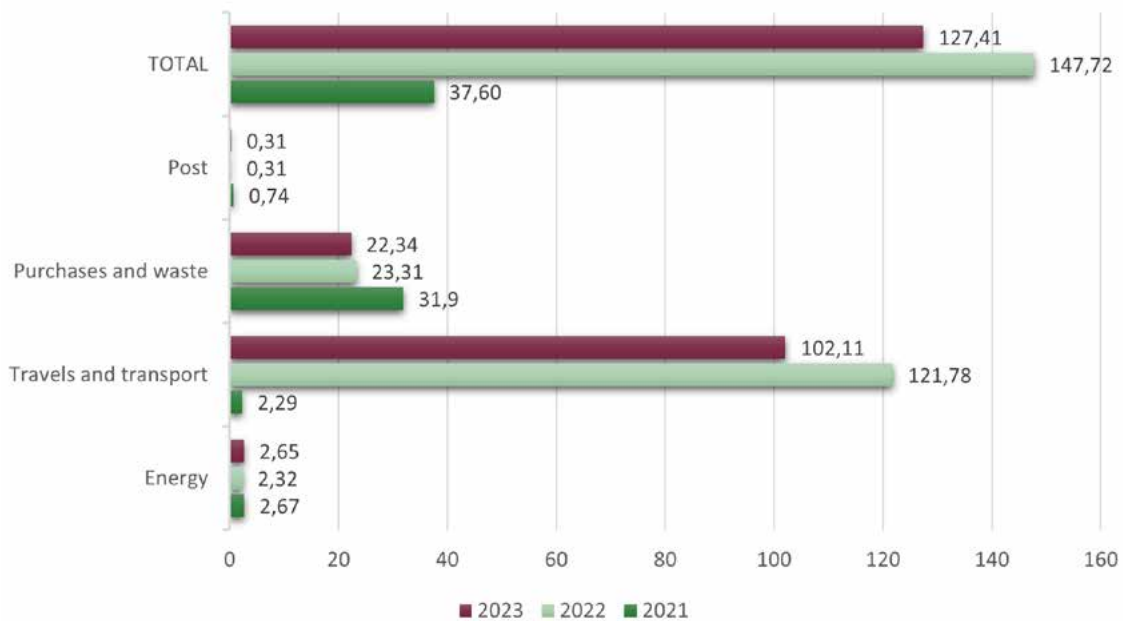
We work proactively and energetically for a workplace free from discrimination that promotes our employees' health, job satisfaction and efficiency. We do this through training, safety rounds, information, and dialogue in various forums for collaboration, as well as evaluation and, if necessary, preventive and active processes and routines.

2021 was the first year that Barnfonden, in line with our environmental policy, measured the climate footprint of the office's operations. The purpose of this is: monitoring and transparency, to learn how to be better, and to "compensate" for the emissions that we cannot avoid for operational reasons.

Barnfonden's total footprint is calculated using Vi-skogen's climate calculator and includes (2022 figures in brackets):

- Travel and transport (to and from work and business travel): 102.11 tonnes CO₂e (121.78)
- Energy (heating and electricity): 2.65 tonnes CO₂e (2.32)
- Purchases and waste (office paper, printed matter, computers, mobile phones, tablets): 22.34 tonnes CO₂e (23.31)
- Events (we have not had our own major physical event in 2023)
- In addition, postage is a large and important part of Barnfonden's activities, which is why we have chosen to add that item as well: 0.31 tonnes CO₂e (0.31).

Climate impact CO2 (tonnes)



In total, this lands at 128 tonnes of CO₂e for 2023, compared to 148 tonnes in 2022. We have a reduced footprint for travel, which is both because we are becoming increasingly careful in assessing when a trip is justified, and because we travelled more than usual in 2022 after the pandemic.

Heating and electricity have increased slightly. The premises are heated with district heating and all energy is renewable. In accordance with Barnfondens environmental policy, we buy organic, locally produced, and eco-labelled products as far as possible but have no separate follow-up on it as it is a smaller item. We offer vegetarian food, sort waste, buy used office furniture whenever possible, and buy restored mobile phones instead of new ones.

For our emissions in 2023, we are over compensating a bit and "rounding up" to 140 tonnes of CO₂e, which we have chosen to offset through Emerging Cooking Solutions (ECS) energy-saving stoves in Zambia. ECS is a Swedish innovation company that has been running a local pellet factory in Zambia for many years that takes forestry waste from plantations and replaces charcoal, which is traditionally used for cooking. By replacing traditional charcoal with pellets made from sawdust, branches and other residual waste, a pellet stove saves about three to four tonnes of carbon dioxide per year. The stoves are lent to users free of charge and the pellets are sold at about 40% lower price than charcoal. Most users are below the poverty line, so this solution also helps to improve their household finances. Since this is also a cleaner solution, health benefits are created for women and children in particular.

When Barnfondens compensates for our climate footprint, we always strive to do so through methods that have several benefits for children's rights and through the ECS we create lower climate impact (SDG 13), poverty reduction (SDG 1) and improved health (SDG 3).

Control and audit

For Barnfonden, the trust of our donors is one of the most important building blocks in our business. Barnfonden's financial and operational management is responsible for internal control and to ensure that activities are conducted appropriately, achieve set goals within the budget and that laws and regulations are followed.

Barnfonden's operations in Sweden and in our countries of operation are audited by external auditors in accordance with our statutes and donor requirements. Staff from Barnfonden and our partners also continuously review the work. Financial audits and studies of the impact of the initiatives are carried out to ensure that the work is conducted appropriately and achieves set goals.

Barnfonden is a member of Giva Sverige, the Swedish Fundraising Association that works for ethical and professional fundraising. As a member of Giva Sverige, Barnfonden is committed to following the quality code for Tryggt givande (Safe giving) that applies to all members. Barnfonden's Board approves the quality code, which is also reviewed by an auditor.

In addition, Barnfonden is a member organisation of the Svensk Insamlingskontroll, which checks that our fundraising is managed in a responsible way and that the money goes to the purpose without unreasonable costs. Barnfonden has two 90-account accounts approved by Svensk Insamlingskontroll: 901301-2 and 901302-0.

Financial risk management

Barnfonden Insamlingsstiftelse's investment policy stipulates that the foundation's financial assets may only be invested in bank accounts in SEK or in one of the currencies EUR or USD, as well as in sustainable fixed income funds and low-risk equity funds.

The organisation's policy is to immediately sell shares received as gifts and thereby not engage in investment activities in shares. A list of current investments can be found in Note 11.

Result and income

Barnfonden is a child rights organisation that works for children's rights in vulnerable areas in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Through contributions from private individuals and companies, through donations, and humanitarian appeals, as well as through allocated grants, Barnfonden works in 20 countries. The financial goal is to show a break-even result.

Income

Total income for 2023 amounted to 101.8 SEK (101.4) million, which is an increase of 0.4 percent compared to 2022. In 2023, Barnfonden's fundraising has continued to focus on retaining existing sponsors and monthly donors. An effort was made to recruit more monthly donors, which was successful. During the year, fundraising through humanitarian appeals also increased. Primarily in 2023, Barnfonden's humanitarian response has gone to Gaza and Syria. In 2023, the final reports from the EU and Sida regarding Barnfonden's EU projects in Indonesia for the years 2018–2021 were published. The project could thus be closed, and the last reserve dissolved. The reserve resulted in an increase in other income of 2.8 million SEK.

Donations 79.8 (79.5) MSEK +0.4 procent

Received donations increased marginally in 2023. The continued investment in recruiting monthly donors in particular continued during the year, which led to an increase in donations from the public. However, we lost some on corporate donations.

Grants 13.2 (14.3) MSEK -7.7 procent

Unlike Barnfonden's income from donations, the grants can be of more varied size from year to year. This is dependent on the reporting we receive from projects. Various events in the countries can delay the project work and the activities have to be postponed, which then also affects the reporting. In 2023, Barnfonden saw a reduced income from project grants, which was largely due to projects that started later in the year than planned and where a number of planned activities had to be moved to 2024.

Operating costs

Barnfonden's operating costs are divided into the following functions: costs for the purpose, fundraising costs, and administrative costs. The organisation has so-called joint costs, which are common for purpose, fundraising, and administration functions. Common joint costs are IT-related costs, the finance and management function, telephony and premises costs. Barnfonden operates a 90-account account, which means that Svensk Insamlingskontroll requires that costs for the purpose must constitute at least 75% of total income, unless special reasons exist.

Costs for the purpose 78 MSEK (77) +1.3%

Costs for the purpose are those costs that can be attributed to the organisation's mission according to its statutes. This includes costs for development work in the countries we support as well as programme costs in Sweden. For example, costs that arise as a direct result of an activity within the organisation's mission, such as planning, monitoring, and reporting. Costs for the purpose also include fees to Barnfonden's partners and the joint costs allocated to costs for the purpose. The increase is explained by increased programme activities in the form of increased personnel costs and higher project costs.

Fundraising costs 17 MSEK (19) -10.5%

Fundraising costs refer to costs that have been necessary to generate external income and to retain and recruit new sponsors. This includes costs for fundraising activities, advertisements, advertising, campaigns and mailings. Fundraising costs include both direct costs, such as salary costs for fundraising personnel, and the joint costs allocated to fundraising costs. The reduction in fundraising costs is exclusively due to planned marketing activities that did not take place in 2023 but have been postponed to the future. A new Head of Financing and Engagement has been appointed in 2023 and a new communication strategy with relevant activities has been adopted.

Administrative costs 3 MSEK (3) No change

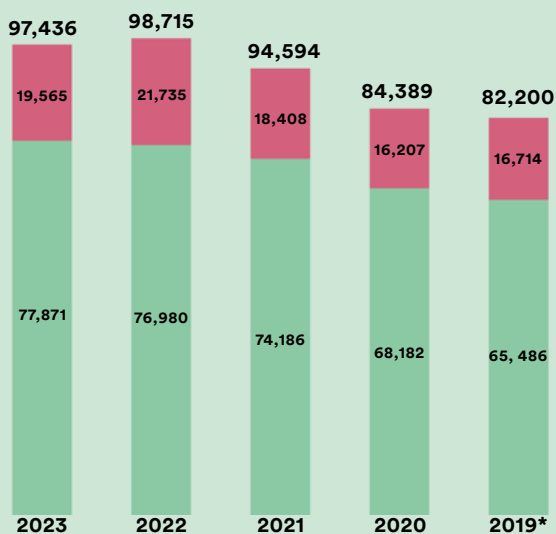
Administrative costs are the costs needed to administer and run the organisation. Administration is a guarantee of quality for the mission and for the donor. Examples of such costs are board meetings, accounting and annual report, management of salaries and social security contributions, auditing, administrative systems and costs that are not attributable to costs for the purpose or fundraising costs. This also includes the joint costs allocated to the administrative costs. No significant change in administrative costs in 2023.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total income*	101,780	101,357	94,210	86,681	83,502
Costs for the purpose	77,871	76,980	74,186	68,182	65,846
Fundraising and administrative costs	19,565	21,735	18,408	16,207	16,714
Share in relation to total operating income					
Cost for the purpose**	76.6%	76.3%	78.7%	78.7%	78.9%
Fundraising costs	16.3%	18.5%	15.1%	15.3%	15.6%
Administrative costs	2.9%	2.6%	4.5%	3.4%	4.4%

*Incl. fundraising grant of 4.3 MSEK.

**The fundraising grant affects the costs for the purpose. Excl. the grant it amounts to 80%.

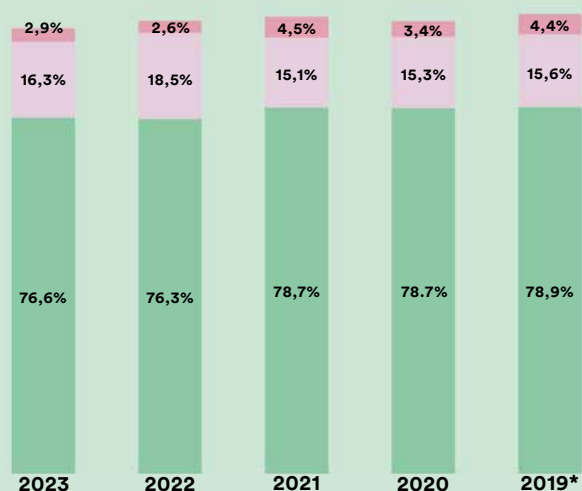
Operating income (TSEK)



Costs for the purpose
Fundraising and administrative costs

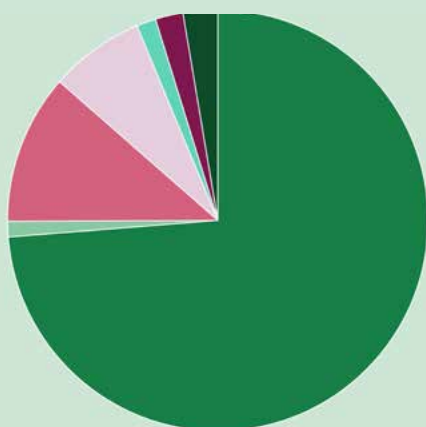
*2019 the accounting principles for purpose costs were changed

Costs compared to total income



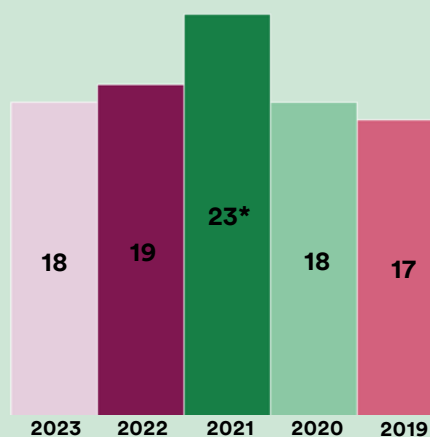
Costs for the purpose
Fundraising costs
Administrative costs

Where the money comes from (TSEK)



Donations from sponsors: 71,840
Donations from companies: 1,160
Donations from the general public: 11,215
External foundations and funds: Radiohjälpen: 7,094
External foundations and funds: Others: 1,454
Public grants – EU: 2,075
Public grants – ForumCiv: 2,590

Average no. of employees 2019 – 2023



*The higher number of employees was primarily due to the fact that in 2021 we had an internal sponsorship recruitment unit.

INCOME STATEMENT

Amount in SEK.	Note	20230101 -20231231	20220101 -20221231
Operating income			
Donations and grants	3	97,429,857	96,470,017
Other income		4,350,146	4,887,366
Total operating income		101,780,003	101,357,383
Operating costs			
Costs for the purpose	4, 5	-77,871,497	-76,979,656
Fundraising costs		-16,623,293	-18,441,851
Administrative costs		-2,941,990	-3,293,810
Total operating costs		-97,436,780	-98,715,317
Net operating result		4,343,223	2,642,066
Total profit/loss from financial items 6			
Interest incomes and currency gains		179,798	674,286
Interest expenses and currency losses		-767	-256
Profit after financial items		4,522,254	3,316,096
		4,522,254	3,316,096
Profit for the year		4,522,254	3,316,096

BALANCE SHEET

		20231231	20221231
Amount in SEK.	Note		
Assets			
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets			
Capitalised expenditure for computer software	7	1,559,372	2,144,136
		<u>1,559,372</u>	<u>2,144,136</u>
Tangible assets			
Equipment and computers	8	33,040	44,368
		<u>33,040</u>	<u>44,368</u>
Total fixed assets		<u>1,592,412</u>	<u>2,188,504</u>
Current assets			
Current receivables			
Accounts receivable		-	633,396
Current tax receivable		334,390	272,366
Other receivables	9	5,494,026	3,666,907
Prepaid expenses and accrued income	10	1,823,753	1,383,095
		<u>7,652,169</u>	<u>5,955,764</u>
Short-term investments			
Other short-term investments	11	9,801,250	8,804,694
		<u>9,801,250</u>	<u>8,804,694</u>
Cash and bank balances	14	<u>20,022,674</u>	<u>23,269,586</u>
Total current assets		<u>37,476,093</u>	<u>38,030,044</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>39,068,505</u>	<u>40,218,548</u>

BALANCE SHEET

		20231231	20221231
Amount in SEK.	Note		
Equity and liabilities			
Equity			
Restricted equity			
Equity in non-profit associations and foundations		36,000	36,000
		<u>36,000</u>	<u>36,000</u>
Non-restricted equity			
Funds restricted to the purpose		395,366	813,682
Profit or loss brought forward		15,883,837	12,149,425
Net profit for the year		4,522,254	3,316,096
		<u>20,801,457</u>	<u>16,279,203</u>
Total equity		20,837,457	16,315,203
Current liabilities			
Liabilities for unused grants	12	7,057,403	10,843,525
Sponsored donations and gifts		4,354,703	4,418,244
Accounts payable		1,480,965	1,772,343
Other liabilities		987,834	2,223,442
Accrued expenses and deferred income	13	4,350,143	4,645,791
		<u>18,231,049</u>	<u>23,903,345</u>
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		39,068,505	40,218,548

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Amount in SEK.	Note	20230101 -20231231	20220101 -20221231
Operating activities			
Result for the year		4,522,254	3,316,096
Depreciation		596,092	718,979
Tax		-	-116,673
Cash flow from current activities before changes in working capital		5,118,346	3,918,402
Cash flow from changes in working capital			
Increase(-)/decrease(+) in short-term investments		-996,559	-365,832
Increase(-)/decrease(+) in receivables		-1,664,803	1,066,449
Increase(-)/decrease(+) in current liabilities		-5,703,899	-2,609,421
Cash flow from current activities		-3,246,912	2,009,597
Investments			
Acquisition of tangible assets		-	-55,660
Cash flow from investments		-	-55,660
Cash flow for the year		-3,246,912	1,953,937
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		23,269,586	21,315,649
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		20,022,674	23,269,586

CHANGES IN EQUITY

	Foundation capital	Funds restricted for the purpose	Profit or loss brought fwd. incl. profit for the year	Total equity
Opening balance 2023-01-01	36,000	813,682	15,465,521	16,315,203
Profit for the year			4,522,254	4,522,254
Used funds restricted for the purpose from previous years			-418,316	418,316
Closing balance 2023-12-31	36,000	395,366	20,406,091	20,837,457

NOTES

Note 1 Accounting and valuation principles

Amounts in SEK unless otherwise stated.

General accounting principles

The annual report has been prepared in accordance with the Annual Accounts Act and the Swedish Accounting Standards Board's general advice, BFNAR 2012:1 (K3), and Giva Sveriges governing guidelines for annual reports and Svensk Insamlingskontroll.

The principles are unchanged compared with the previous year.

Income statement

Operating income

Only the inflow of economic benefits received or to be received by the organisation on its own account is recognised as income. Income is valued, unless specifically stated below, at the fair value of what has been received or will be obtained.

Donations and grants

A transaction in which the organisation receives an asset or service that has value without giving back the corresponding value in exchange is a donation or a grant received. If the asset or service is obtained because the organisation has fulfilled or will fulfil certain conditions and if the organisation has an obligation to refund to the other party if the conditions are not met, it is a grant received. If it is not a grant, it is a donation.

Donations

As a general rule, donations are recognized as income when they are received. A donation recognised as income is recognised as either an asset or an expense depending on whether the donation is used directly or not. As a general rule, donations are valued at fair value. In cases where the organisation has made a payment for receiving the gift, the value of the gift is reduced by the amount of the payment. Donations include gifts from the general public, companies, organisations, communities, private and non-profit funds and foundations, as well as sponsorship.

Donations from sponsors

Refers to the monthly amount provided by sponsors in support of the local development programmes in the programme countries of Barnfonden.

Grants

Grants are recognised as income when the conditions for receiving the grant have been met. Grants received are recognised as a liability until the conditions for receiving the grant are met. Income-recognised grants not received before the balance sheet date are recognised as receivables. Grants received to cover certain costs are reported in the same financial year as the cost the grant is intended to cover. Grants related to a fixed asset reduce cost. Grants received are measured at the fair value of the asset that the organisation received or will receive.

Other income

Other income is income that is not primary to the organisation. Other income refers to, among other things, employer support from the Swedish Public Employment Service and fundraising grants.

Operating costs

Operating costs are divided into the following functions; purpose, collection and administration costs. The organisation has costs, so-called joint costs, that are common to the purpose, fundraising, and administration functions. Common joint costs are IT-related costs, the finance and management function, telephony and premises.

NOTES

Costs for the purpose

Costs for the purpose are those costs that can be attributed to the organisation's mission according to its statutes. This includes costs for development work in the countries we support and costs for the purpose in Sweden. For example, costs that arise as a direct result of an activity within the purpose, such as planning, follow-up and reporting. Costs for the purpose also include fees to the partners of Barnfonden and the joint costs allocated to the costs for the purpose.

Fundraising costs

Fundraising costs refer to costs that have been necessary to generate external income and to retain and recruit new sponsors. This includes costs for fundraising activities, advertisements, advertising, campaigns and mailings. Fundraising costs include both direct costs, such as salary costs for fundraising personnel, and joint costs allocated to fundraising costs.

Administrative costs

Administrative costs are the costs needed to administer and run the organisation. Administration is a guarantee of quality for the purpose and for the donor. Examples of such costs are board meetings, accounting and annual accounts, management of salaries and social security contributions, auditing, administrative systems and costs that are not attributable to purpose costs or collection costs. This also includes the joint costs allocated to the administrative costs.

Leasing

All leases are reported as operating leases, which means that the lease fee is distributed linearly over the lease period.

Payments to employees

Regular payments to employees in the form of salaries, social security contributions and the like are expensed as the employees perform services. Since all pension obligations are classified as defined contributions, the cost is recognised in the year in which the pension is earned.

Balance sheet

Intangible assets – computer software

Intangible assets in the form of software acquired by the foundation are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Expenditure on internally generated work is recognised in the income statement as an expense when incurred.

Intangible fixed assets	Year
-------------------------	------

Acquired intangible assets	
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Computer software	7
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Tangible assets

Tangible assets relating to computers has until 2021-12-31 been reported at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment. In addition to the purchase price, the cost includes expenses directly attributable to the acquisition. Amortisation has occurred on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the asset.

Tangible assets	Year
-----------------	------

Fixtures and computers	3
------------------------	---

As of the financial year starting 2022-01-01, the acquisition cost of purchased computers is instead recognized as a direct cost. The reason for the change is the assessment of the short economic life of computers, which, with a direct deduction, provides more reliable information and a more accurate result.

NOTES

Financial assets and liabilities

At the date of acquisition, financial assets are measured at cost plus direct transaction costs.

After the first accounting occasion, short-term investments are measured according to the lowest value principle, i.e. at the lower of cost and net realisable value at the balance sheet date.

Trade receivables are valued individually at the amount they are estimated to accrue.

Short-term holdings of shares and participations are valued at fair value in accordance with Chapter 4, Section 14a of the Swedish Annual Accounts Act. The foundation's policy is to immediately sell shares that have been received as gifts and thus not engage in investment activities.

Receivables and liabilities denominated in foreign currency are valued at the closing rate.

Funds restricted to the purpose

The post Funds restricted to the purpose in equity include not yet spent donations and other funds restricted to the purpose. See also the Equity report.

Debt for received, but unused grants

In cases where Barnfonden has received grants, but has not yet fulfilled the conditions, these are reported as a liability.

Cash flow statement

The cash flow statement is prepared using the indirect method, i.e. it is based on the operating result of the organisation. The reported cash flow includes only transactions that involve cash receipts or cash outflows. In addition to bank balances, short-term financial investments are classified as cash and cash equivalents.

Note 2 Estimates and assessments

Barnfonden makes estimates and assessments about the future. The accounting estimates resulting from these will, by definition, rarely correspond to actual results.

NOTES

20230101
-20231231

20220101
-20221231

Note 3 Funds raised

Donations recognised in the income statement

Donations from sponsors	71,840,161	71,750,070
Donations from the general public	11,215,698	5,856,925
Donations from companies	1,160,305	1,904,154
Total	84,216,164	79,511,149

Donations from the general public include a recycled reserve of 2,800,000 SEK.

Donations not recognised in the income statement

Funds raised - estimated amounts

Donations that are not recognized in the income statement and where the value in SEK has not been produced consist of discounted IT equipment, advertising discounts, banking services, etc. In addition to the donations above, donations have been received where the value in SEK has been determined.

Rental discount: 200,000 SEK

Advertising: 110,540 SEK

Grants recognised in the income statement

External foundations and funds		
Radiohjälpen	7,094,268	7,494,144
Svenska Postkodstiftelsen	917,363	-
Svenska Institutet	322,658	377,342
Vatten åt alla	213,590	-
Public grants		
EU	2,075,173	2,630,419
ForumCiv	2,590,641	3,756,963
Total	13,213,693	14,258,868

Other income

Grants and allowances received for staff	-	1,623
Fundraising grants	4,337,555	4,770,232
Other	12,591	115,511
Total	4,350,146	4,887,366

NOTES

20230101
-20231231

20220101
-20221231

Note 4 Employees and personnel costs

Average number of employees

Average number of employees	18	19
Of which male	3	3
Board members	5	5
Of which male	2	1

Salaries, other allowances, and social insurance costs, incl. pension costs

Secretary General	833,692	802,193
Other employees	7,161,938	6,890,757
Total salaries and allowances	7,995,630	7,692,950
Social insurance costs (of which pension costs excl. payroll tax)	2,510,026 707,113	2,410,328 697,696

Note 5 Leasing

Expensed lease payments amount to	578,846	462,099
Future lease payments are calculated at:		
Within 1 year	594,548	39,324
Within 2 to 5 years	247,728	16,385
Total	1,421,122	517,808

The agreement on premises rental in Malmö extends until 2025-05-31.

NOTES

20231231 20221231

Note 6 Profit from financial items

Interest	141,519	25,082
Dividends	125,891	131,156
Capital gain on sale	-94,603	397,008
Other	6,224	120,784
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	179,031	674,030

Note 7 Intangible assets

Accumulated acquisition value		
-Opening balance	4,093,348	4,093,348
	<hr/>	<hr/>
-Closing balance	4,093,348	4,093,348
Accumulated depreciation		
-Opening balance	-1,949,212	-1,364,448
Depreciation of the year	-584,764	-584,764
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Closing balance	-2,533,976	-1,949,212
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Closing balance at the end of the year	1,559,372	2,144,136

Note 8 Tangible assets

Accumulated acquisition value		
-Opening balance	615,394	1,348,465
-Purchases	-	45,312
-Divestments and disposals	-	-778,383
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	615,394	615,394
Accumulated depreciation		
-Opening balance	-571,026	-1,225,542
-Reversal of depreciation and disposal	-	778,383
-Depreciation for the year	-11,328	-944
-Write-down	-	-122,923
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-582,354	-571,026
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Closing balance at the end of the year	33,040	44,368

NOTES

20231231

20221231

Note 9 Current receivables

Advance projects	5 493 393	3 666 607
Other	633	300
Total	5 494 026	3 666 907

Advance projects consists of disbursed project grants that have not yet been used up in our programme countries.

Note 10 Prepaid expenses and accrued income

Prepaid rents	133,467	125,713
Other items	1,690,286	1,257,382
Total	1,823,753	1,383,095

Note 11 Short-term investments

	Market value	Acq. value	Book value 2023	Book value 2022
Fixed income funds Swedbank	9,256,515	8,942,655	8,807,480	8,687,579
Capital investment Storebrand	1,012,977	962,000	962,000	71,705
Trine Mutual Fund	29,819	31,700	31,770	45,410
Total	10,299,311	9,936,355	9,801,250	8,804,694

Note 12 Debt received, unused grants

Public grants	1,354,657	4,475,760
Foundations, companies and organisations	5,702,746	6,367,765
Total	7,057,403	10,843,525

The debt consists of grants received for multi-year project activities in our partner countries.

NOTES

20231231

20221231

Note 13 Accrued expenses and deferred income

Accrued holiday wages	1,397,539	1,293,992
Accrued social security contributions	439,107	376,008
Other accrued expenses	2,110,540	2,596,811
Accrued payroll tax	341,654	362,490
Schools' or associations' share of funds raised	4,535	16,490
Other	56,768	-
Total	4,350,143	4,645,791

Note 14 Cash and cash equivalents

The following components are included in cash and cash equivalents

Bank deposits	20,022,674	23,269,586
Total	20,022,674	23,269,586

In accordance with the decision made in the autumn of 2023, as of February 2024, we have a climate advisor on site in Kenya who works in close collaboration with both ChildFund Kenya and Barnfonden's local partners in the region. This is a major and important step for Barnfonden, which strengthens both our climate work and our collaborations in the region.

In March 2024, Sida announced that all agreements with partners within the framework of the strategy for cooperation with civil society will end as of 31 December 2024. This affects an ongoing project funded by ForumCiv with a regular contract period of January 2023 to December 2025. This announcement, and other reform work in Swedish development assistance, will have an impact on Barnfonden in the future, but it is still unclear in what way, in addition to the specific project that is now affected.

Signatures of the board and the Secretary General

This is the English version of the Swedish, official audited report. Any minor differences are due to the translation of the report.

Malmö, the date stated in our electronic signatures

Yasemin Arhan Modéer
Chair

Lena Svensson
Vice Chair

Maya Mbog Rosén
Vice Chair

David Klose
Board member

Anders Henriksson
Board member

Martina Hibell
Secretary General Barnfonden

Our auditor's report has been submitted on the date stated in the electronic signature..

Öhrlings PricewaterhouseCoopers AB

Maria Danckler
Authorized Public Accountant



barnfonden

Member of ChildFund
Alliance

Kattsundsgatan 15, Box 4100, 203 12 Malmö

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