

# FINN CHURCH AID GLOBAL PROGRAMME

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



**FCA**

Finn Church Aid

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Finn Church Aid used 91,5 per cent, a total of EUR 62,1 million, of its operating expenses in 2022 for international aid operations.



 = Finn Church Aid’s country office

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p. 29, 40, 36, 37, 48, 50 Mohamed Abdihakim Ali	p. 44 Melany Markham	p. 60 Royn Ry
p. 71 Ahmad al-Bazz	p. 84 Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs of Oman	p. 6, 39, 54, 55, 56, 91 Hugh Rutherford
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p. 31 Achuothe Deng	p. 34, 49 Ruth Oweb	p. 5, 11, 13, 19, 21, 28, 35, 45–47, 69, 75–77, 80, 85, 88, 90 Antti Yrjönen
Cover, p. 14, 20, 25, 64, 67, 79 Monika Depaula		
p. 87 Albin Hiller		





## FOREWORD

# There is hope

**DURING RECENT YEARS**, the combined effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, environmental crises, political fragility, and conflicts have increased the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance. In 2022, several crises affected people in different regions in the world. Following the Russian full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, FCA promptly started shipping food and hygiene kits to refugee centres in western and central Ukraine. By April, FCA had established a permanent presence in the country. During 2022, our activities included provision of material aid, rehabilitation of schools, teacher training, and organizing summer camps for children, reaching 18,400 children and adults.

The situation in Ukraine has also had repercussions elsewhere. The war stopped grain shipments from Ukraine, causing an acute food crisis in the Horn of Africa, already suffering from various challenges, including severe drought. In Myanmar, stability and long-term development continued to be jeopardized by the ruling military junta, while the earthquake in Turkey and Syria caused loss of life, and destroyed homes, schools, and hospitals.

In many of FCA's operating contexts, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) continued to provide essential services and support to local communities. During 2022, almost 800 CSOs and community-based groups in 11 countries benefitted from diverse support by FCA. This contributed to more active and inclusive participation in local development and decision-making, enhanced organizational and operational capacity and achieved important advocacy outcomes.

In many countries, lack of access to quality education confines the growth potential of individuals and local communities and affects their overall wellbeing. During 2022, FCA increased its efforts to promote enhanced access to quality education in both development and humanitarian contexts. We supported over 489,300 learners with access to quality education.

Enhancing local communities' resilience to climate change-related impacts included promoting green, clean, and healthy environments in schools, creation of environmental clubs, and sustainable farming practices. In Syria, a new project using solar energy provided reliable access to water in 15 schools. In Uganda, a project used mobile devices to provide farmers with advice and information services to manage their farms, and to proactively adapt in case of climate or environmental challenges.

FCA also actively promoted women's and girls' rights. This included ensuring girls' equal and continued access to schooling. Our work also increased women's roles in decision-making

**“With our partners, FCA responded to humanitarian crises and pressing development challenges in 15 countries in Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia, supporting 1 million people.”**

bodies and peacebuilding. Women's economic empowerment was supported through new initiatives such as a project in Nepal that trains and equips women to start converting organic waste into protein-rich animal feed and fertilizer by farming Black Soldier Fly Larvae (BSFL). In Kenya, also with Women's Bank funding, FCA partnered with a waste-management company to create decent employment for women in the waste value chain, at the same time reducing the dumping of recyclable plastics.

FCA Global Strategy was also revised in 2022. The FCA Global Strategy (2022) reconfirmed FCA's three strategic themes, Right to Quality Education (R2QE), Right to Peace (R2P) and Right to Livelihood (R2L), as central to sustainable change. Our commitment to climate action and environmental sustainability, as well as to gender equality and social inclusion remains strong, including improved disability inclusion in all our work.

In 2022, our long-standing Executive Director Jouni Hemberg, also retired.

Despite all the challenges during 2022, our work achieved strong results. With our partners, FCA responded to humanitarian crises and pressing development challenges in 15 countries in Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia, supporting 1 million people.

Once again, we wish to express our gratitude to all our donors and the general public for your continued trust in us, enabling us to carry on with this vital work.



**Tomi Järvinen**  
Executive Director



# PART 1 FCA GLOBAL STRATEGY 2017 ONWARDS

## FINN CHURCH AID'S STRATEGY AND PRIORITIES

FCA's vision of a world comprising resilient and just societies is the foundation of our work. Together with our partners, we support people in fragile contexts to act for positive and sustainable change.

**FINN CHURCH AID (FCA)** is the largest Finnish development aid cooperation organization, and an important provider of humanitarian assistance. FCA is a faith-based civil society actor founded by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland with a mandate to carry out its international diaconal work to help those most in need globally.

FCA contributes to positive change by supporting people in the most vulnerable situations in fragile and disaster-affected areas. We believe that the reduction of poverty requires achieving peace and the realisation of human rights, and that local communities have the most sustainable solutions to the challenges in their own contexts. FCA specialises in three thematic priority areas: Right to Peace (R2P), Right to Livelihood (R2L) and Right to Quality Education (R2QE).

FCA programmes' main objectives are in line with the Finnish development policy guidelines and are closely connected to Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). National poverty reduction strategies and other relevant context-related frameworks, policies and standards also guide our work.

### Identity

FCA is a rights-based and faith-based organisation. The Christian tradition of compassion and social justice guides us to reach out to the poorest, promote peace, and ignite civil society advocacy. We value the different backgrounds and beliefs of our staff and partners. FCA is a member of ACT Alliance and is committed to working with its ecumenical and faith-based partners.

### FCA is a rights-based actor

Rights-Based Approach (RBA) is the foundation of all FCA's actions, guided by international human rights standards and principles. The normative framework provides a strong platform to protect and promote human rights, and, to obligate states to fulfil the legally binding commitments of UN HR Treaties they are a party to. It provides the rights-holders the tools to claim the realization of human rights and to hold duty-bearers accountable.

In 2022, FCA continued to anchor all its actions to the Human Rights (HR) framework, namely, to Right to Quality Education, Right to Livelihood and Right to Peace. These have been anchored to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESC) and the International Covenant on Civil

and Political Rights (ICCPR). Most FCA country programmes (CPs) include concrete linkages to a number of other key HR Treaties as well such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), and to the International Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD).

Overall, the PANEL principles – Participation, Accountability, Non-discrimination and equality, Empowerment, and Legality, and their link to the HR framework – have provided a solid foundation for rights-based work in all FCA modalities. FCA continued to strengthen its role as an enabler and mediator between rights-holders and duty-bearers through different capacity building and dialogue processes. This contributed to monitoring and reporting of shrinking civil society space and identifying threats to international human-rights regimes. FCA's work also supported Finland's Human Rights Council membership through programme countries' situation reports, and via dialogues with the MFA and other stakeholders. The support for UPR processes and follow up continued as part of Lutheran World Federation (LWF) projects. These were the RBA Local to Global East and Horn of Africa (South Sudan) project and RBA to women's social and economic rights (Jordan). In Uganda, in early 2022, FCA continued its role as a Co-Chair of the Uganda Refugee Cluster of the UPR review. UPR has become an important instrument to follow up and monitor country-specific human rights situations in many CPs. UPR also offers dialogue platforms at different levels on discussions about critical human rights situations in several countries and the international arena.

In Finland, FCA participated actively in a working group established by Finnish Development Policy Committee (DPC) and provided an analysis of Human Rights-Based Approach to Finnish Development Policy, commissioned by the Finnish DPC.

**The reduction of poverty requires achieving peace and the realisation of human rights. The local communities have the most sustainable solutions to the challenges in their own contexts.**



# WORKING FOR JUST AND RESILIENT SOCIETIES

FCA strives to support people in making a positive, sustainable change that enables resilient and just societies where basic human rights are fulfilled. FCA's three thematic focus areas are associated with sets of rights: people have the right to live in peace, acquire quality education and sustainable livelihoods.

## FCA's strategic themes in 2022

### Right to Livelihood (R2L)

While FCA continued pursuing equality of opportunity and participation in economic development for all in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, the world was faced with an influx of new and largely unexpected challenges. The cascading crises of the pandemic and climate change were exacerbated by the war in Ukraine with its global repercussions. Price shocks in food, energy and fertilizer markets, and soaring inflation slowed down the global economy and affected post-pandemic recovery.

In 2022, FCA stepped up its readiness to respond in a timely manner with livelihood assistance in deepening economic or food crises, prioritising cash-based interventions. On top of the global challenges, many of our already fragile contexts faced more local complexities that threatened people's livelihoods, food security and indeed lives, such as the extreme drought in the Horn of Africa. The drought led to a joint response by FCA's country offices in Somalia and Kenya, where pastoralist communities dependent on their livestock for livelihoods had lost their sources of income. Monthly, lifesaving cash assistance was delivered to the affected communities to meet their basic needs, including drinking water and food. For Kenya, this was the first time it implemented cash assistance, and the joint response gave them an opportunity to benefit from Somalia's experience gained through previous successful cash interventions. Given the efficient mobile phone base systems for money transfers in Kenya, cash payments were delivered without setbacks in remote areas.

The Ukraine war started on February 24th, 2022, and within weeks FCA was in the country conducting a needs assessment. As a first response, emergency food was delivered in cooperation with a Hungarian partner already based in the country; later FCA established itself in Ukraine and concentrated on Education in Emergencies activities. Besides emergency response, cash was used to support education and livelihood programming in countries like South Sudan, Somalia and Myanmar.

The evident benefit of cash in livelihood contexts is its power to sustain and strengthen the functioning of local markets while providing an opportunity for households to acquire the sustenance

and assets they need the most. In the volatile circumstances following the Myanmar military coup, for instance, cash assistance was the most efficient and sometimes the only way for affected communities to access support in 2022.

Already during the pandemic, it became evident that – in addition to meeting immediate needs – the alleviation of multifaceted poverty required structural changes to be sustainable. Several country offices adopted more systemic approaches in their livelihood-related work. Activities were extended from individual and community levels to wider market systems. This improved inclusive pro-poor access to value chains as well as to public and private sector services and networks. Cooperatives and producer organizations have proven their critical role in this work. In addition to providing access to financial and business development services, these collectives strengthen the social and even political status of their members – over 80% of them women – and act as channels for advocating members' interests towards duty-bearers. In 2022 the key advocacy issues included access to public services, local development funds and education, including for women, refugees and PwDs, and security-related concerns such as action against increased gender-based violence.

The programmatic development processes that had started in 2021 continued, focusing on climate and environment as factors affecting livelihoods, population movements and conflicts; the role of business development services in boosting entrepreneurship; and mainstreaming of digitalization in R2L programming. Increased business, working life and market systems orientation also challenged FCA to seek new ways of engaging and partnering with the private sector.

FCA promotes employment through a twin-track approach, striving for enhanced employability of individuals through its Linking Learning to Earning (LL2E) approach, and by improved capacity of existing companies and cooperatives to expand and create income-earning opportunities across value chains.

The Linking Learning to Earning (LL2E) approach specifically addresses the transition of youth from education to employment. After a temporary stagnation during the COVID-19 crisis due to school and market lockdowns, LL2E programming picked up again in 2022. Eight out of thirteen country programmes successfully scaled up or kick-started related activities. Depending on the context, a variety of LL2E services were offered, proven to improve the chances for direct entry into working life. Career guidance and counselling was the most common mechanism, supplemented by other contextually applicable services ranging from business coaching and start-up support to job placements and other employment services.

In Uganda, FCA's Business Track service package helped youth to validate their business ideas for self-employment, introducing complementary pathways to increase otherwise scarce employment opportunities for refugees. In South Sudan, the LL2E



approach not only led to employment and contributed to increasing household incomes, but also discouraged young people from negative coping mechanisms and risky behaviours that are known to breed insecurity and intercommunal tensions. During a pilot in 2020-21, Somalia adopted a very holistic approach to LL2E, effectively engaging with both government and the private sector for improved training and employment services as well as jobs. Disability inclusion also advanced with e.g. Cambodia launching FCA's first LL2E programme specifically supporting the employment of PwDs.

In 2022, FCA undertook to systematize its work on addressing climate and environmental challenges. Varied interventions that directly combined job and business creation in the environmental sector abounded, in a bid to deliver long-lasting benefits to vulnerable communities and their key livelihood assets, at the same time promoting more sustainable production and consumption patterns. These initiatives ranged from piloting commercial farming of Black Soldier Fly Larvae that feed on organic waste (Nepal) to job creation in solid waste management (Kenya). In rural areas, more sustainable farming practices were

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introduced such as organic fertilizers and pest management; climate change adaptation was introduced into local development plans (Nepal); and pastoralist youth groups were supported in diversifying their incomes through honey and derivatives production (Kenya). Tests were started in Myanmar for farming of local bees in backyard hives instead of destroying wild forest colonies during harvesting. Honey is an example of a product that not only provides additional income but also improves the natural environment by increasing pollinators that are crucial for crops. Such initiatives also strengthen community commitment to conserving vital water and forestry resources.

In Jordan, FCA's business development project focused on tools and services, including digital solutions, that assist farmers in increasing the shelf-life of agricultural produce, reducing organic waste and greenhouse gas emissions, and conserving water. In general, provision of basic digital skills was seen to support entrepreneurial activities. Digital jobs with low barriers to entry, such as digital marketing, are an opportunity piloted e.g. in Somalia, where the first coding and digital marketing programme was offered to young women.

FCA's Creative Industries (CI) programme is aimed at tapping employment opportunities in this fast-growing global industry. CI development continued in Kenya, systematically harvesting good practices and lessons for eventual up-scaling. The accelerating pace of change that has occurred with digital work requires

**In livelihood-related work the activities were extended from individual and community levels to wider market systems. This improved inclusive poor access to value chains, public and private sector services and networks.**



a shift from traditional models of skilling still dominant in FCA's contexts to a more innovative approach centered around experiential learning and development of soft skills such as communication, entrepreneurial thinking and critical thinking along with more technical skills. Internships, mentors to aid in building professional networks, supporting infrastructural needs such as devices and connectivity are among the required LL2E elements to ensure access to jobs. Engaging with the private sector is key, both to align the programme with the labour market needs and for the jobs to comply with principles of decent work.

## Right to Quality Education (R2QE)

In 2022, the world was shocked by Russia's full-scale attack on Ukraine. FCA responded to the humanitarian crises by supporting a partner already present in the country, Hungarian Inter-church Aid (HIA) until FCA was able to establish its own presence in Ukraine. Since June 2022, FCA has been implementing EiE projects in Ukraine, focusing on Chernihiv region, one of the areas attacked by Russia at the beginning of the war. FCA secured a €14 million grant from ECHO for the EiE consortium which FCA is leading. The consortium focuses on rehabilitation of education spaces, providing psychosocial support, teacher-training, and supporting continuation of learning digitally and in-person, where the security situation allows. FCA has been actively part of the Education Cluster coordination both on a national level as well as sub-national level, by leading the Kyiv sub-region education cluster. The war in Ukraine has also had a widespread impact on food security globally as well as rising costs of living. For example, in East Africa food insecurity has had a negative effect on girls' school attendance. Girls have been increasingly forced to marry young to provide for their basic needs, leading to dropping out of school.

In 2022, 488,130 learners were reached with FCA's R2QE programming, resulting in increased access to quality education. The number of learners reached has nearly doubled from 2021, when FCA supported 288,157 children and youth, 316,317 being primary-age learners. Having access to quality education has a holistic impact on the lives of individuals and communities. In South Sudan, TVET training courses have led to employment and contributed to increasing household incomes, but youth have also been discouraged from using negative coping mechanisms and engaging in risky behaviours. In addition, the training opportunities have attracted some youth to return home from the refugee settlements in neighbouring countries. The Kenya Country Office (CO) strengthened its creative industries initiative, allowing young people to acquire skills in web design, animation, game development and graphic design. In Somalia, the utilisation of technologies was leveraged through coding and software development programmes.

FCA was seen to continue with a strong emphasis on and investment in capacity-building of teachers in 2022. Training was provided for teachers from ECD to TVET, including Career Guidance and Counselling (CGC). In total, 5,200 teachers were trained, compared to the target of 3,200 set for 2022. In addition to teachers, guardians and parents of learners participated in capacity-building activities. They took an active role in their communities to support children and youth's access and retention in school as well as overall wellbeing. For example, in Uganda, FCA has selected and trained 'Model Parents' who support fellow parents and guardians in the community and are a safe adult for the children and youth to approach with questions and



concerns. Additionally, School Management Committees (SMC), Parent-Teacher Associations (PTA), and different Ministry and District-level education personnel's capacity was grown. Across the levels of education supported, topics of workshops, training and capacity-building sessions covered for example child protection, psychosocial support, inclusive and learner-centred methods, TVET pedagogy and content, and CGC. Implementation of skills and knowledge acquired through training has been supported for example through coaching, mentoring and peer support groups in primary education as well as amongst Career Guidance Counsellors.

FCA's R2QE team started developing an FCA Teacher-Training package, covering the most crucial pedagogical and cross-cutting issues necessary for quality education programming focusing on primary and lower secondary teachers. The goal is to provide harmonised guidance to all country programmes on the topics. However, contextualisation of the contents will be necessary, but this also allows the adaptation of the training material to different education levels. The training package will cover inclusive education, mental health and psychosocial support, teacher wellbeing, distance and digital pedagogy and learning through play and active learning methods. The work continues in 2023.

Holistic programming is growing through projects which combined R2L, R2P, R2QE and cross-cutting issues such as gender equality, disability inclusion and climate action. An online pilot on Education for Sustainable Development training was conducted in Kenya with a Finnish organisation EduGEMS. Fourteen headteachers from FCA-supported schools participated in the pilot and provided feedback; there is a need to further contextualise and also include in-person sessions, for the training to have a desired impact. FCA continued to further develop and strengthen the work between R2P and R2QE thematic areas, by working with Teachers Without Borders (TWB) Education Specialists, partner organisation Uganda Muslim Youth Development Forum and FCA Uganda country office, to create, pilot and publish a FCA Peace Education manual for secondary education.

**Having access to quality education has a holistic impact on the lives of individuals and communities. The number of learners reached during 2022 nearly doubled from 2021.**

Peace education work was also undertaken in Kenya country office for primary education peace clubs as well as in South Sudan for lower secondary.

Collaboration with the TWB network has been crucial throughout 2022 for developing training content as well as for providing continuous professional development opportunities for teachers and even ministry officials. Throughout 2022, the TWB network continued supporting FCA's country programmes remotely, creating training and support materials, facilitating training and mobile mentoring. This collaboration is an invaluable resource, giving access to Finnish Education expertise.

Significant milestones were reached in supporting education sector development in terms of TVET, CGC, and supporting education sector reforms. In Myanmar, advancement of CGC in state schools was interrupted by the Military Coup in early 2021, so a more comprehensive Theory of Change was required to scale up the development with non-state education actors in 2022. As a result, ethnic education providers started integrating components from the CGC curriculum into their teacher-training diploma program, and implementation of CGC services was expanded to monastic schools. Curricula for CGC training for secondary school teachers and pedagogical training for TVET teachers were locally designed in South Sudan, bringing the education authorities, university representatives, teachers, and school directors together. A National TVET apprenticeship guideline was also finalized in South Sudan. The guidelines have



enabled the Ministry of Education to streamline the delivery of apprenticeships in line with the newly developed National TVET qualification framework. In Cambodia, research led by the Vocational Orientation Department of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport was initiated to support the finalization of the National CGC Master Plan, which is to be rolled out by the end of 2023. In close collaboration with the Ministry and two leading teacher education colleges, a 2-credit introductory CGC training course has been integrated into in-service and pre-service training programmes of the teachers.

In Uganda, FCA and the Ministry of Education and Sports signed an MoU. As part of the MoU, a Ministerial level visit to Finland was organised in November 2022. FCA hosted nine members of the Education Policy Reform Commission in Helsinki for a nine-day visit. As a result of the visit, MFA Finland and FinCEED offered to recruit and second a Finnish education expert to support the Commission's work. The recruitment process began in late 2022 and will be finalised in 2023. FCA will second a TWB expert to continue the work of the FinCEED expert. In addition, FCA in Uganda continued to co-lead the national level EIE Sector Working Group for the fifth year, together with UNHCR and MoES.

In 2022, the impact of COVID-19 was still apparent, especially in the lives of girls and women. Girls who had become pregnant during 2021 and 2022, gave birth and struggled to find ways to return to education. The stigma of being pregnant and a child mother strongly and negatively affects girls' school attendance. Due to cultural norms in some contexts, the husband of the young mothers denied them access to education. At times, the young mothers were heads of households and also responsible for finding livelihood, thus decreasing their school attendance. FCA provided psychosocial support services to young mothers, engaged in sensitisation activities at community and individual family level, to support girls' access back to education. Many young mothers opted for the Accelerated Education option, as it allows them to catch-up on lost learning time and to transition back to formal education.

Child and youth protection activities have been mainstreamed into R2QE to ensure each person receives the supported they need and to be protected from harm. FCA continued to provide lessons on life skills, menstrual health management and sexual reproductive health rights (MHMS) for students and teachers. Boys also received information on sexual reproductive health rights, separate or together with girls, as appropriate in the cultural and religious context. When possible, boys attended the MHMS sessions. Boys and men are important advocates for women's rights in communities, and thus factual information is needed.

In addition to focused support for girls and young women, FCA continued to increase interventions on inclusion of Persons with Disabilities. FCA continued to work with disability-specialised partners, included a stronger emphasis on increased investments in disability inclusion as part of the global strategy

**Throughout 2022, the Teachers Without Borders (TWB) network continued supporting FCA's country programmes. This collaboration is an invaluable resource, giving access to Finnish education expertise.**



review, and worked to find new concrete ways to reach children and youth with disabilities in the education programmes. Multiple country programmes, such as Syria, Kenya, Uganda, and Somalia, have been able to provide assistive devices to children with disabilities (CwDs), having a direct impact on their access to education. Kenya has piloted direct support to parents of CwDs in the form of training and peer support circles.

### Right to Peace (R2P)

During 2022, FCA continued to support formal and informal peace processes with a focus on women, youth, people on the move and religious and traditional actors. FCA's peace building engagements are centred around inclusivity; we support and strengthen the meaningful participation and decision-making of peace actors at the grassroots, national and international levels. Threats to peace and security remain a challenge globally. Armed conflicts, violence, religious violent extremism, and ethnic conflicts cause or worsen humanitarian crisis situations and a lack of protection of populations affected by conflicts. The effects of climate change, which remain a threat to international peace and security, exacerbate conflict situations and lead to increased instability. The economic crisis experienced globally aggravates the situation of populations already affected by armed conflicts and climate change. In response, in 2022 FCA's peace work aimed at strengthening and supporting local peace actors in conflict prevention and resolution processes, national reconciliation and local governance, linking peace with livelihood and education, ensuring integration of climate adaptation into peace work, and focusing on women and youth as important target groups.

One of FCA's focus areas is the youth, peace, and security agenda, which formalizes attention to youth as positive contributors to peace-building. FCA works with youth groups and strengthens their capacity to participate in peace and security processes. In Somalia, FCA engaged youth in community consultations to review conflict mapping. The district council formation process of Adado saw the election of 13 youth, strengthening their participation in local governance and reconciliation. In Uganda, Kenya, Cambodia and CAR, youth actively participated in dialogue sessions strengthening their representation in peace processes. Furthermore, FCA continued to enhance linkages between peace and livelihood thematic areas by supporting youth through livelihood initiatives. In Kenya, Uganda and Cambodia,



youth groups were supported with small grants, peace dividend projects, and skills training through TVET to provide alternative sources of livelihood. In South Sudan, linkages between youth, women and heads of churches were strengthened through dialogue forums to bridge intergenerational gaps in leadership and to enhance inclusivity of peace processes.

The linkages between peace and education thematic areas were further strengthened in Uganda, South Sudan, CAR and Kenya. For instance, in Uganda, FCA, Teachers without Borders and FCA's local partner Uganda Muslim Youth and Development Forum codeveloped and launched a peace education manual.

FCA continued to adopt a gender perspective in peace-building processes in line with UNSCR 1325. Integration of gender perspective in conflict prevention and resolution, governance and reconciliation, and climate adaptation strategies is key to FCA's peace programming. In Somalia, FCA continued to enhance meaningful participation of women in reconciliation, local governance and decision-making. The district council formation process of Adado saw the election of three women. Women's views were incorporated in conflict mapping in Baidoa and they played an active role in peace committees. In Kenya and Somalia, women networks were supported through capacity-building and linking them to larger networks. Women-led networks strengthen the voices, advocacy engagement and participation of women in peace processes. Women peace builders were trained on mediation, early warning and response, Alternative Dispute Resolution, and climate adaptation strategies in Cambodia, Kenya, South Sudan, and in Nepal. FCA continued to use the media to foster women's participation in reconciliation, local governance and in peace processes in South Sudan, Somalia, Kenya and in CAR. Civic engagements including talk shows via radio to enhance political participation of women were carried out in Somalia and CAR. In Kenya, FCA continued to support women talking circles to engender peace-building processes. Women actively participate in conflict prevention and resolution. Altogether eight women talking circles were provided with income-generating activities to enhance their livelihoods. In Nepal, FCA continued to uphold women's rights through campaigns to create awareness of gender-based violence, strengthened referral pathways and enhanced coordination between gender-based violence committees and local judicial committees to ensure gender justice is realized.

Religious and traditional leaders play a vital role in bridging the justice gap, preventing, and resolving conflicts, and are at

the forefront of reconciliation processes. In South Sudan, FCA supported the review of the South Sudan Council of Churches Action Plan for Peace. Religious leaders participated in six consultations and dialogue forums to address emerging conflict situations. Capacity-building sessions on mediation, conflict-sensitive trauma healing and on customary justice systems were conducted for traditional leaders. In Somalia, traditional leaders played an imperative role in inclusion of women in district council formation.

In Kenya, the integration of climate action-related considerations in peace work included continued work with the natural resource management committees that spearhead dialogue, resource management and mediation processes at the local level.

FCA continued to ensure inclusive peace processes by linking formal and informal peace structures. This was done by strengthening and formalizing the peace-building processes leading to inclusivity. In Somalia, FCA has been supporting state building and inclusive local governance in line with the Wadajir National Framework and National Reconciliation Framework with the Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers. In Kenya, FCA supported the County government of Elgeyo Marakwet to roll out and strengthen the early warning and early response systems by setting up a directorate of peace which coordinates conflict prevention. Dialogue sessions aimed at awareness creation and prevention of electoral violence were conducted in Kenya and CAR. Conflict-sensitive reporting training for journalists to ensure positive reporting in the pre- and post-election period was organized in Kenya. In CAR, women developed a mechanism of monitoring and prevention of violence against women during the local election period. In Uganda, FCA strengthened relations between security agents and community leaders through dialogue and addressing issues of religious violent extremism.

FCA continued to engage in global advocacy on Right to Peace in 2022. An Executive Representative for the African Union was appointed, with the objective of setting up the infrastructure for the AU representation and identification of key networks and advocacy platforms. FCA strengthened collaboration with the Network for Traditional and Religious Peacemakers. We also enhanced learning sessions on climate and environmental crises linkages to conflict dynamics and peace-building, where case studies on Mozambique and Kenya were presented.



PART 2

FCA'S PROGRAMME  
OVERVIEW AND  
WORK IN 2022

ANALYSIS OF 2022  
KEY RESULTS

FCA's Global Programme works towards our impact goal of a world where economically and socially empowered people in fragile contexts will contribute to a positive and sustainable change in creating resilient and just societies.

FCA's Global Programme results framework 2018-2023 includes an impact level goal, three main objectives (MO1- MO3) and eight sub-objectives. They are directly linked with FCA Global Strategy and its programmatic and organisational goals. The sub-objectives have indicators that are monitored globally annually. 2022 Country Programme annual summaries focus on the objectives the respective country programme promoted in 2022 as well as some of the key results.

IMPACT GOAL

People in fragile contexts are empowered to act for positive and sustainable change in creating resilient and just societies

People and Private  
Sector

**Main Objective 1**  
People can claim and enjoy their right to inclusive and sustainable economic growth for poverty eradication.

1.1. Youth and young adults in vulnerable situations become economically self-reliant and contribute positively to social cohesion

1.2. People in vulnerable situations engage in and benefit from inclusive and sustainable economic growth

People and  
Governance

**Main Objective 2**  
People can claim and enjoy their right to improved and inclusive governance and services.

2.1. Policies and processes promote a positive change and are transparent, responsive and participatory

2.2. Children and youth have equal and uninterrupted access to inclusive quality education/learning

2.3. Disaster affected people have access to essential life-saving assistance

People and  
Civil Society

**Main Objective 3**  
People fulfill their legitimate and active role for positive change.

3.1. Local communities and their members play an active and leading role in the societal development, contributing to enhanced social cohesion.

3.2. Civil society partnerships and networks are strengthened and promote participation, open dialogue and positive social change.

3.3. Disaster prone communities have enhanced capacity to save lives, alleviate human suffering [and bounce back] during and after disasters



Impact Goal and the Main Objectives

All FCA’s work promotes the impact goal: People in fragile contexts are empowered to act for positive and sustainable change in creating resilient and just societies.

FCA’s work contributed to the achievement of the below Global Programme main objectives through specific partnerships, approaches and actions.

Main Objective 1

People and Private Sector: People can claim and enjoy their right to inclusive and sustainable economic growth for poverty eradication

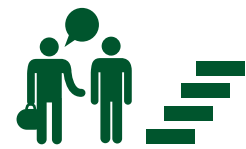
Under this objective, FCA focuses on the relation between people and private sector in the promotion of wellbeing and social stability for all. People, particularly those in vulnerable situations, need to be able to increasingly benefit from economic growth that is sustainable and enables people to lift themselves from poverty. When people can claim and enjoy their right to economic growth and develop their livelihoods, they will also be better equipped and empowered to participate as active citizens – rights-holders – in the social, economic, and political development of their societies.

FCA places people at the centre of development, recognizing both the central role of the private sector as a provider of sustainable and innovative economic opportunity, and the government’s responsibility to inclusively endorse the rights of all to work, have education and a sufficient standard of living. In 2022 FCA continued to strive for fair and equitable access to economic development and improved opportunities for work that delivers a decent living to the people we serve, most notably youth, women, and people on the move.

Collaboration with the private sector in its varied roles gained weight in FCA’s work in 2022. In addition to supporting the entry of new actors in the private sector, FCA increasingly also engaged with the private sector as partners in programme design and implementation both in employment and business-oriented programming. This engagement helped FCA to obtain up-to-date market information and direct contacts that facilitated job placements for individuals and access to markets and value chains for businesses.

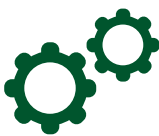
SO 1.1 Youth and young adults in vulnerable situations become economically self-reliant and contribute positively to social cohesion

FCA’s Linking Learning to Earning approach (LL2E) is designed to ensure that youth are not only trained in technical and vocational skills (TVET) but can also earn a living out of that skill after completion of training. Thus, LL2E contains various market-oriented support services and mechanisms to smoothen the transition of youth to the world of work either as employees or through self-employment or entrepreneurship. LL2E activities were carried out in eight countries: Cambodia, Central African Republic, Jordan, Kenya, Nepal, Somalia, South Sudan, and Uganda. In addition, discussions with potential partner organizations were



over 4,500

youth and young adults benefitted from different Linking Learning to Earning (LL2E) linkages, including Career Guidance and Counselling, entrepreneurship training and on-the-job-placements.



36,535

individuals and enterprises were supported through different business support services, such as entrepreneurship and management skilling, advisory services, access to financing and start-up grants.

held in Syria, preparing to engage in LL2E. In Myanmar, career guidance and counselling services focused on general education, but new vistas to expand CGC to vocational and skills training in multisectoral collaboration were opened and will be kickstarted in 2023.

Given FCA’s fragile operational contexts, needs for obtaining employment and earning a living through reskilling and upskilling are great. A total of 4,526 youth (2,356 female) benefitted from a combination of LL2E services and mechanisms, well exceeding the targeted 2,800 individuals. The services included, for instance, career guidance and counselling (CGC), job-seeking services, entrepreneurship training, and direct business start-up support in the form of toolkits or grants. Industrial training and job placements were generally part of the service package. The share of female LL2E beneficiaries was 52%, which fell slightly short of the targeted 60/40 ratio for females and males but was nevertheless higher than in 2021.

The completion rate of those enrolled in LL2E activities was 95-100%, indicating a prominent level of satisfaction toward market-driven and tailored training. As vocational occupations generally suffer from low esteem, active promotion of the vocational track to youth, parents and communities is part of FCA’s LL2E approach, along with intensified cooperation with the private sector for alignment of programming with (job) market requirements as well as for fostering business relationships.

The ultimate success of LL2E programming is measured by



the livelihood outcomes: whether those completing the programme have been able to transition to the world of work. Surveys are conducted 3-6 months after programme completion, with a target of 65% of those surveyed earning incomes through their work. Out of the eight projects surveyed in 2022, seven report that 60-95% of the youth have either found a job or started a business, while one project reports a success level of 24%. The project was specifically targeted to youth with disabilities in Cambodia with LL2E services tailored to their needs. The low employment rate reflects the challenges faced by the PwD in the world of work, including negative perceptions in the job market, lack of support and issues with accessibility.

The highest LL2E volumes were found in Cambodia (738F; 619M), Uganda (738F; 421M) and South Sudan (525F; 369M). In Uganda, the largest volumes came from refugee settlements hosting Congolese and South Sudanese refugee youth. Uganda also introduced complementary pathways to increase employment for refugees through international collaboration. The first cohort of 30 refugees was linked to employment in Canada and they are expected to travel there in 2023.

While most beneficiaries were still trained for traditional occupations in construction, mechanics, agriculture, tailoring and a range of services, the changing nature of work is reflected in the introduction of digital career options, and increasingly mainstreaming digital skills in vocational education and training. FCA continued strengthening its Digital Competency (DCP) and Creative Industries (CI) programmes, through which a total of 270 (154F; 116M) young people acquired skills in web design, animation, game development and graphic design in Kenya. In Somalia, digital technologies were leveraged through coding and software development training. Digital skills as well as advanced tailoring and fashion design attracted young females to join the programmes; overall, 73 of the 125 LL2E beneficiaries in Somalia were women. In Jordan, new partnerships with a university and a local learning innovation company were initiated to build the employability readiness of 272 youth through technical and vocational e-learning. The programme attracted 3,800 applicants, underscoring the interest in this type of skilling.

Overall, LL2E programming has directly contributed to improving household income levels, strengthened their resilience to socio-economic shocks, improved their quality of life and reduced youth vulnerability to poverty and economic incentives for violence.

SO 1.2 People in vulnerable situations engage in and benefit from inclusive and sustainable economic growth

In FCA’s operating contexts, wage employment cannot absorb all entrants to the labour market. In addition to improved skills and capacities, people in vulnerable situations also need actual opportunities for applying these capacities to benefit from inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

FCA focuses on income aspects of poverty, targeting a meaningful increase in household or individual incomes for at least 60% of the people we work with. This is pursued through employment, income generation and entrepreneurial activity, bolstered by improved access of both individuals and businesses to essential networks and public and private services for business development and finance.

Kenya, South Sudan, Nepal, Syria, and Myanmar reported meaningful increases in household and/or individual income levels based on household surveys and evaluation results. In 2022, as before, women constituted over 80% of those benefiting from inclusive growth through FCA’s action. Refugees and people in communities hosting refugees also remained a major target group for instance in countries like Uganda and Jordan.

The number of jobs created (344F; 423M) and supported (262F; 356M) fell 19% from the 2021 figures, with Kenya as the main contributor with 323 new and supported jobs. The same trend was seen in the number of new enterprises (2,780 as against the targeted 3,500) and new sources of income (644), which combined saw a reduction of 44% compared to the previous year. This is partly owing to the project cycle and the number of large livelihood projects coming to an end in 2022, with fewer businesses established during the final year, but the main factor was the modification of the indicator itself, which some major



contributors failed to accommodate in their monitoring. This mainly affected the reporting of rural income generation activities. Thus, it is difficult to estimate the effects of global economic developments in these volumes. Generally, country programmes reported positive signs of post-Covid recovery affected by globally felt negative economic developments towards the end of the year. Non-farm self-employment and micro-businesses formed 75% of all new business activity, and the share of women of all business initiators reached a staggering 95%.

In 2022, global environmental and digital sector priorities were reflected in pilot-type projects carried out in several country programmes. As an example, in Nepal FCA supported a business that produces Black Soldier Fly Larvae (BSFL) with funding and technical support from Women's Bank. Under the auspices of a women's cooperative in Bhardeu, Lalitpur, a team of seven women were trained and equipped to start converting organic waste into protein-rich animal feed and fertilizer by farming BSFL. In Kenya, also with Women's Bank funding, FCA partnered with a waste-management company to create decent employment for women in the waste value chain, at the same time reducing the dumping of recyclable plastics. In 2022, this collaboration resulted in 122 new jobs in the informal settlements of Nairobi and Mombasa, 98 of them for women, and an additional 201 employees benefitted from improved skills and working conditions through the action.

The COVID-19 pandemic increased the demand for business support services. FCA responded to this by expanding its supply

both in terms of volume and range, using multiple means including digital tools. In 2022 these services, spanning from livelihood, entrepreneurship and management skilling and advisory services to improved access to financing or start-up grants, reached a total of 36,535 individuals and enterprises, well exceeding the targeted level of 25,000. In protracted crisis situations found in countries like South Sudan, Central African Republic and parts of Myanmar, the services were provided directly through projects to support livelihoods recovery and sustenance. In more stable contexts, however, project-based activities were fortified by effective linkages with providers of public and private services and business networks that are crucial for sustained impact.

In country programmes like Cambodia, Nepal, Uganda and partly Myanmar, business development services were accessed via local cooperatives that also have a role in promoting equitable and profitable participation in agricultural value chains through e.g. bulking and collective marketing. Such community-based structures, typically with their savings and credit function, have proven to be extremely resilient in the face of economic crises. In 2022 these four countries accounted for 88% of all those with improved access to business development services. A clear majority of the beneficiaries (32,823) were rural smallholders and individuals diversifying their sources of income, but the volume also included an increasing number of registered small businesses, collective business entities and producer groups, which stood at 3,712 in 2022.



Main Objective 2

**People and Governance:** People can claim and enjoy their right to improved and inclusive governance and services

Under this objective, the focus is on ensuring that people can claim and enjoy their right to improved and inclusive governance and services. This entails transparent, accountable institutions; effective, participatory and inclusive decision-making, as well as strengthening the role of governments as duty-bearers in providing essential services, notably in education and emergency relief.

In 2022, FCA continued to support and strengthen the capacities ministries, authorities, and key institutions for improved capacity to deliver services and enhanced accountability towards the rights-holders. The duty-bearer capacity-building initiatives reached a high number of duty-bearers, and most advocacy initiatives produced either moderate or high impact.

SO 2.1 Policies and processes promote a positive change and are transparent, responsive and participatory

In 2022, FCA engaged in advocacy initiatives and capacity-building targeting duty-bearers at national and local levels, resulting in more inclusive policies and processes. A total of 11,643 duty bearers (40% female) were reached through capacity building initiatives e.g. in Cambodia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Syria covering education sector development, inclusive governance and peacebuilding, as well as women's rights and gender equality. The duty bearers represented school/education administration, religious leaders, provincial/district authority, other decision-making bodies, ministry representatives and community leaders. The capacity building initiatives contributed



489,330

learners (50% female) were supported by FCA in 2022.



11,643

duty bearers (40% female) were reached through capacity building initiatives, which covered education sector development, inclusive governance and peacebuilding, as well as women's rights and gender equality.

to improved service delivery and accountability, more inclusive decision-making, developing gender and disability sensitive protection mechanisms, enhanced child protection and safe and responsive learning environments.

FCA implemented and supported 65 advocacy initiatives, out of which 88% produced a positive change during the year. Five initiatives produced a high positive impact, meaning that they enhanced the situation of a large number of beneficiaries and that impact is structural and permanent in nature; 52% of all initiatives produced a moderate impact (impact is more permanent in nature).

Thematically, 37% of the initiatives focused on Right to Quality Education (R2QE), 37% on Right to Livelihoods (R2L) and 18% on Right to Peace (R2P). The advocacy initiatives focused on gender, influencing to remove various structural barriers and challenges encountered by girls and women, and promoting gender equality. Of the initiatives, 40% had an important gender component; 23% had a civil society space and/or human rights component.

High level advocacy impacts were demonstrated in three R2QE initiatives. In Cambodia, FCA built on the earlier successful advocacy work and continued to advocate integration of Career Guidance and Counselling (CGC) into the national curriculum. A CGC master plan has been recognized as a roadmap for implementation countrywide. In Kalobeyei refugee settlement in Kenya, FCA has been an active member of Education sector coordination working groups both at the Local and National levels, which are chaired by the Ministry of Education. Through these forums, FCA managed to advocate for more resources to provide additional learning facilities (classrooms, wash facilities), teaching, and learning materials, deployment of government teachers, scholarships, and additional funds for the intervention. In Uganda, FCA supported the work of the National Education Review Commission.

In South Sudan, high level advocacy impact was achieved in the R2P theme. FCA convened six High Level Religious Leaders Consultations in response to emerging conflict issues such as inter-communal violence between cattle herders and agriculturalists. A total of 180 religious leaders participated in these consultations. Through these consultations, six statements have been issued that denounced the violence, calling on the government to protect the sanctity and sacredness of life. This heightened consultancy also de-escalated tensions, pushed for the resumption of the Rome Peace talks between the South Sudan government

and the hold-out rebel groups, and the establishment of an inclusive Truth, Healing, and Reconciliation Commission.

In Nepal, the FCA Country Director is the Vice Chair of the INGO Forum. The Forum actively advocated to the EU Delegation about the importance of the enabling environment of Civil Society, which has now materialized in a €1 million grant to the INGO Forum and the separate NGO Forum.

On R2QE, FCA's advocacy efforts focused on better quality education in emergencies (EiE) responses in Kenya, Myanmar, Somalia, Syria, Uganda, and Ukraine. In Myanmar, FCA advocated on behalf of affected communities towards education clusters and other key partners including UN agencies, other NGOs, donors, local partner, de-facto authorities, and non-state education providers. FCA, in cooperation with several INGOs working in the EiE sector in Syria in coordination with the Education sector, initiated the education working group to attract donors' and stakeholders' attention to education, which has been declining. In Ukraine, FCA played a key role in establishing the Education Cluster in Ukraine and chaired the Northern Ukraine Education Sub-cluster for six months.

In Uganda, FCA conducted a teachers' campaign aimed at aimed at drawing attention to the need for multi-year funding for teachers' salaries. Upon construction and setting up of the community-initiated schools, FCA-UNHCR partnership advocated for and facilitated licensing of 10 schools, which were taken on by refugee-hosting local governments. A complementary pathways pilot project that aims to increase employment for refugees also started in 2022 due to successful fundraising efforts and FCA's partnership with UNHCR.

FCA advocated for CGC adoption in Cambodia, Myanmar and in Somalia. In Myanmar, CGC components are incorporated into two ethnic education systems such as Mon Education System in Mon State and Kachin Education System in Northern Shan.



In Somalia, FCA continued to advocate with the MoE and head teachers at the target secondary schools for the establishment of school-based career guidance units and its scale-up to other secondary schools. Traditional and religious leaders are engaged as change agents to advocate for the increased participation of young women in TVET courses, to contribute to changing negative perceptions and attitudes towards women.

On R2L, FCA advocated for sustainable livelihoods in Cambodia, Kenya, Nepal, and Somalia. In Nepal, women's cooperative groups have advocated with the local government for resource allocation for women's cooperatives and groups. The advocacy was done by proposal submission and submission of a memorandum to local governments. As a result, three cooperative groups successfully accessed resources from the government for cooperative building construction and construction of irrigation systems for vegetable farming. In Somalia, FCA participated in a series of advocacy meetings and documentation to alert the donor and Government stakeholders to the plight of people facing the drought and security crisis.

On R2P, FCA advocated peace and conflict prevention-related issues in Cambodia, CAR, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, and Uganda. In CAR, FCA supported advocacy of Bangui Youth Peace Club towards authorities on registration issues. In Kenya, FCA worked closely with the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) and the Ministry of Interior and coordination of national government at all levels in the mobilization, registration, and verification of households in the target locations through a participatory process. Through this intervention, FCA was able to lift cultural and religious barriers as a result of our close cooperation with these key partners. Also, in Kenya FCA facilitated engagements at the Elgeyo Marakwet/West Pokot border between duty-bearers and cross-border NRMs. Resolutions from these engagements resulted in the establishment of a police post in a hotspot area to avert and respond to possible cross-border attacks. In Somalia, FCA supported the government of Somalia to streamline Local Governance and Reconciliation Activity (LGRA) in the country through streamlining frameworks to guide the processes.



**2.2 Children and youth have equal and uninterrupted access to inclusive quality education/learning**

FCA supported 489,330 learners (50.4% F; 49.6% M) with access to quality education, including formal, non-formal and informal education modalities. Formal education was the largest education intervention, providing access to 443,561 learners. FCA was able to increase our reach to learners by 69% from 2021. The proportion of girls was maintained at 50%, compared to 53% in 2021 and under 50% in previous years. The Uganda Country Programme had the largest education programme in terms of number of learners reached, followed by the Central African Republic, Kenya, South Sudan, Cambodia, and Somalia.

Early Childhood Development (ECD) activities reached a total of 35,633 children (17,824F; 17,809M). The number of children attending ECD decreased from 2021 (45,369 children), for a number of reasons. In Kenya, the age bracket for ECD children was adjusted to 3-6 years, resulting in a smaller number of children reported. Additionally, new private ECD centres have children from refugee families who can afford to pay the fees. In Uganda and Kenya, funding for ECD was reduced, resulting in larger adult to child ratios in ECD classes, motivating parents to take their children to private ECD centres.

Primary education programmes reached 316,317 learners (14,8443F; 16,7874M), which is over 50% of the total number of learners. Secondary education was the second largest learner category with 58,529 learners (37,605F; 20,924M). The number of secondary school learners supported was 58,529. This grew greatly from 2021 (36,857) with 64% of female learners supported in secondary education in 2022 as opposed to 46% in 2021. One possible reason for this is the expectations placed on boys and young men to provide for the family, thus many dropping out from school to find work. Additionally, the interventions put in place since 2021, e.g. provision of CGC, psychosocial support, breast-feeding corners and provision of menstrual hygiene materials, have had a positive impact on the enrolment and retention of female learners.

FCA's TVET programmes reached 1,164 learners (635F; 529M) as opposed to 1,499 in 2021. The fragile operational contexts and consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, the role of short-term livelihoods training and obtaining employment through reskilling and upskilling grew significantly. This caused a decrease in the number of trainees participating in longer-term TVET programmes. In 2022, 21,990 students benefited from CGC services. There was a slight increase from 20,647 students in 2021, which indicated that the need for supported learning paths and transitions was increasing in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis.

In addition to formal education, FCA implemented a number of remedial education opportunities and catch-up classes, especially in Syria. The total number of learners reached through these education modalities was 7,739 (3,696F; 4,043M). Accelerated Education Programmes (AEP) are crucial pathways for children and youth who have been out of school for an extended period, or have never been enrolled into education, to learn a condensed curriculum and to be able to move faster back into formal education. Many AEP learners are young mothers. FCA supported 2,958 learners in 2022 to access AEP (1,354F; 1,604M); many resided in Uganda, Somalia, and Kenya.

Teacher training is one of FCA's key intervention areas, as teachers are seen as the key to quality education. In 2022, 5,200 teachers were trained, a 30% increase from 2021 (4,071).



This reflects the re-opening of schools and opening up of societies after the COVID-19 pandemic. 96% of teachers received in-service training, 4% pre-service training. A teacher training component is part of all FCA's education programmes, differing in content and targeted teachers, as per the contextual needs. Of the teachers trained, a majority (2,136) work in the primary school sector. Uganda, Ukraine, Central African Republic, and Cambodia trained the largest portion of teachers in 2022. The teachers were trained on topics such as inclusive education, learning through play and active learning methods, digital pedagogy, peace education, psychosocial support and child protection, life skills and looking after one's own wellbeing. A total of 578 teachers or teacher trainees (incl. TVET teachers) completed qualifying programmes or joined training sessions on selected CGC topics in Myanmar, Cambodia, and South Sudan. Professional growth of school counsellors, counsellor teachers and CGC Master Trainers was supported through coaching, mentoring, and peer support groups.

FCA succeeded in strengthening disability inclusion more systematically as part of our education activities. This is reflected in the nearly doubled number of children with disabilities (CwDs) supported in the education programmes. In 2022 FCA reached 4,557 CwDs under the age of 14 (2,214F; 2,343M). In 2021 this figure stood at 2,717 (1,219F; 1,498M). Secondary school-aged learners and TVET learners are reported in the age cohort of

**Primary education remained the largest form of education supported by FCA representing over 50% of learners in 2022.**

15-24-year-olds; and thus the figure, 2,673 learners, also includes youth who have received skills training, reported under R2L programming. In South Sudan and Kenya, FCA reached out to CwDs to promote their access to education through door-to-door campaigns. In Uganda, Somalia, South Sudan, Kenya, and Syria, country programmes provided assistive devices based on individual needs in addition to continued sensitization activities. In Uganda, FCA continued to support two special needs schools and built a new Secondary Special Needs School. In Somalia, FCA supports the running of two Special Needs Education (SNE) classes. In Uganda and Kenya and Somalia, FCA enhanced its cooperation with partners specialised in working with people and children with disabilities. In Uganda, FCA participated in the SNE and Children with Disabilities (CwD) specific Task Teams and Working Groups at national level. In Kalobeyei, Kenya, FCA upkeeps SNE resource centres where teachers have access to teaching and learning aids and assistive devices especially to aid



movement of learners. Teachers have been trained on the use of the devices together with Teachers Without Borders (TWB) education specialists. In Kenya FCA, has also supported parents of CwDs through parents' peer support groups, easing home-based care by providing assistive devices, training parents on supporting their children in terms of basic needs and building positive and acceptive relationships with their children to ensure the children's' needs are met.

School construction and rehabilitation activities (942) took place in Syria, Ukraine, Uganda, South Sudan, Somalia, and Kenya. FCA rehabilitated and constructed classrooms and WASH facilities and constructed additional libraries, dormitories, science laboratories, playgrounds, and kitchens. The largest number of permanent or semi-permanent classrooms were constructed or rehabilitated in Syria, followed by Uganda. School construction and rehabilitation activities increased from 2021 (673) and 2020 (732).

The TWB volunteer education experts supported FCA's education programmes in Uganda, Cambodia, Kenya, the Occupied Palestine Territories, Myanmar, South Sudan, Somalia, and Somaliland – onsite and remotely. TWB contributed to teachers' and career guidance counsellors' professional capacity-building through in-service training, mentoring, and coaching adapted to local needs and resources. Moreover, the TWB experts co-developed training and teaching materials together with local colleagues on Peace Education, inclusive education, and Learning through Play pedagogics, among others. The trained teachers have reported having improved pedagogical skills in learner-centred and activating methods as well as being more self-confident in their profession.

### 2.3 Disaster affected people have access to essential life-saving assistance

In 2022, FCA supported the provision of essential services through its emergency humanitarian programming. FCA provided access to essential services and material support to a total of 301,113 individuals, with 51% of the recipients being female, across its overall response.

In Kenya and Somalia, FCA supported families during the drought response, benefiting a total of 229,809 individuals, of which 53% were female. This was FCA's first joint intervention that led to further funding in the area due to the experience gained during this short-term intervention.

In Haiti, FCA, in collaboration with Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe, successfully delivered emergency aid and provided food security assistance to families affected by earthquakes and storms, reaching a total of 11,432 people.

FCA's emergency aid program in Afghanistan, carried out in partnership with Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA), commenced following the Taliban's takeover of the Afghan government in August 2021 and was completed, providing assistance to 15,120 individuals.

In Ethiopia, FCA, in partnership with Norwegian Church Aid, concluded its emergency aid program in 2022, supporting vulnerable individuals and reaching a total of 25,635 people.

FCA's humanitarian response in Ukraine initially focused on providing essential supplies, including food and non-food items, to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the affected areas. In 2022, an additional 9,889 people were reached. As the situation on the ground evolved, FCA shifted its focus towards an Education in Emergencies (EiE) response, going beyond the provision of access to basic services.

Furthermore, FCA implemented projects to ensure access to basic services in other countries, including South Sudan, Syria, Myanmar, Nepal, and Uganda. Many of these offered cash-based assistance for three months to respond to acute crises, although even in emergencies, FCA continues to aim at providing longer-lasting means of assistance, when possible and the context allows.

**In 2022, FCA provided access to essential services and material support to a total of 301,113 persons.**





### Main Objective 3

**People and Civil Society:** People fulfill their legitimate and active role for positive change

Under this objective, FCA continued to support the space and capacity of civil society – with a focus on women, youth, excluded people, traditional and religious leaders, and people on the move. Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and networks continue to work in increasingly volatile environments, exacerbated by violations of human rights, conflicts and climate-induced effects. In several contexts, the shrinking space for civil society continued to limit NGO and CSO capacity to work independently and effectively.

In 2022, FCA supported communities, CSOs and networks to claim and fulfil their legitimate and active role. Civil society and community-led processes were supported in CAR, Cambodia, Somalia, South Sudan, Kenya, Uganda, IOPT, and Nepal, while almost 800 community-based groups and networks in 11 countries benefitted from capacity-strengthening, technical, thematic, and financial support. Community and civil society-led processes aimed at increasing participation in decision-making.

#### SO 3.1 Local communities and their members play an active and leading role in the societal development, contributing to enhanced social cohesion.

In 2022, FCA continued to enhance citizens' and civil society's participation and decision-making through the facilitation of 40 processes in eight countries. These processes focused on conflict prevention, resolution, reconciliation, meaningful participation of women in decision-making, strengthening of local governance structures, prevention and countering of violent extremism, promotion of women's rights, economic empowerment of women and youth, strengthening of informal and formal peace structures, prevention of election violence, and promotion of peace education at the community and national levels. To continue strengthening the meaningful participation of women and youth in peace and security, 43% of the processes were women-led and 35% engaged youth.

In total, 34 out of the 40 supported processes related to peace and security initiatives. FCA continued to ensure inclusivity in peacebuilding programming and enhance participation of women and youth. The role of religious and traditional leaders in conflict prevention, resolution and transformation was strengthened. FCA supported these peace processes to provide vulnerable communities and CSOs capacities to respond to and address societal issues and spearhead peacebuilding initiatives. In Somalia, FCA continued to implement reconciliation and district council formation processes while ensuring meaningful involvement of women and youth. In Adado, 8% of the peace committee constituted women. This translates to active participation of women in district council formation.

Promotion of women's rights was strengthened as six processes focused on gender justice. In Nepal, women cooperatives' priorities were considered and included in local community plans

**FCA's direct support reached 797 civil society organizations and groups and networks in 11 countries.**



40

**civil society and community-led processes were supported in 8 programme countries.**



797

**civil society organisations and community based groups in 11 countries benefitted from capacity strengthening, technical, thematic, and financial support.**

through various campaigns. In Cambodia, FCA strengthened the capacities of women on land and family laws and Alternative Dispute Resolution.

#### SO 3.2 Civil society partnerships and networks are strengthened and promote participation, open dialogue and positive social change.

FCA's commitment and effort towards localization is reflected through the engagement of 797 civil society organizations and networks in 11 countries. Formal and informal community structures, organizations and networks were supported through capacity strengthening, technical, thematic, and financial support. The number of CSOs and networks supported increased from 490 in 2021 as they continue to promote participation, dialogue, and social cohesion.

In Nepal, Somalia, Cambodia, CAR, South Sudan, Uganda, and Jordan, 3,533 civil society members received capacity training (2,461 in 2021). Of those, 60% were women. The training and capacity enhancement themes included civic education, mediation, financial management, proposal writing, entrepreneurship skills and trauma healing in peacebuilding. A train-the-trainers course in Jordan targeted 23 university students, providing them with technical agricultural training and leadership skills. In CAR, technical support to four local peace and reconciliation committees led to development and implementation of peace actions. In Somalia, FCA supported the Bay Women Association Network (BAWAN) with operational and capacity enhancement support to enhance participation of grassroots women initiatives in local governance. South Sudan Council of Churches staff participated in training on project cycle management and financial reporting. TVET management committees in South Sudan were trained on financial and centre management, resource mobilization and community engagement, improving their ability to effectively manage the centres. In Nepal, three cooperatives and 17 women groups received grants worth €41,955 from local government after receiving proposal writing training from FCA.



FCA provided funding to civil society organizations, groups and networks in Uganda, Cambodia, Nepal, Kenya, and South Sudan. In Kenya for example, three women waste picker groups were supported to purchase raw material via the business from waste through Taka Taka Solutions. The women were supported through social benefits schemes including provision of personal protective equipment. Eight youth and women groups were also provided with livelihood start up kits to engage in joint farming in Kenya. In Uganda, funding was provided to the Uganda Muslim Youth Development Forum to implement a peace project targeting at-risk youth in Kampala and Yumbe districts. The youth were engaged in dialogue sessions and provided with livelihood grants with the aim of preventing religious violent extremism.

Thematic support was provided to CSOs and networks in 2022. Traditional and religious leaders, women and youth were engaged in civic education sessions in Somalia to strengthen their roles in governance and reconciliation processes. In CAR, FCA chairs the social cohesion working group, a platform that strengthens peace through civil society networks and stakeholders.

FCA continued to support the establishment of Community Education Committees (CECs) and Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs) under the R2QE thematic programming. Community members continue to play an active role in decision-making, playing a crucial part in school administration. FCA supported capacity-building of CECs and PTAs on how to identify needs and priorities, school management, psychosocial support, child safeguarding and protection, supervision of construction of child-friendly spaces and monitoring project implementation. In Uganda, 201 school governance committees were trained on school management while 150 volunteers gained skills as peer educators to support children with disabilities. In Somalia, 520 CEs and PTA members received training on school management. FCA continued to enhance peace education by supporting peace and youth clubs in CAR and Cambodia.

**Formal and informal community structures, organizations and networks were supported through capacity strengthening, technical, thematic, and financial support.**

#### SO 3.3 Vulnerable communities have enhanced adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters (sudden and slow-onset)

FCA continued to support vulnerable communities in adapting to climate change and preparing for potential natural and man-made disasters. In 2022, FCA took concrete steps to support community learnings and actions. For instance, in Uganda FCA conducted 150 school-based Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) training events. This training was followed up and supported by eco-clubs in the school, working in close collaboration with school governance committees, teachers, and FCA staff. Similarly, in Somalia FCA worked with learners, teachers, caregivers, and the Community Education Council to develop 22 Emergency Preparedness and Response Plans (EPRP). Through active engagement with the community, FCA was able to tailor the EPRPs to the specific needs and challenges faced by the region. To build on this work, FCA established 20 children clubs with the support of the school and FCA staff. These clubs provided a safe space for children to learn about disaster preparedness and response through the school-based EPRPs. With these types of initiatives, FCA fosters community ownership and empowerment by actively engaging young people in adaptation and preparedness processes. By providing students with the knowledge and skills they need to build resilience against the impacts of climate-induced hazards and other natural disasters, FCA helps to create a ripple effect that extends beyond the classrooms.





In Jordan, FCA has incentivized sustainable business development, providing opportunities that generate income and contribute positively to the environment while enhancing community's adaptive capacity. For example, FCA has supported initiatives that increase the shelf-life of agricultural products, reduce water waste, and promote the correct management of solid waste. These initiatives have directly benefited the community, including hospitals, schools, and government offices, by helping them sort and manage their solid waste for recycling. By promoting sustainable business practices, FCA is helping to create a more circular and resilient economy in Jordan.

FCA's commitment to enhancing community resilience to climate change is reflected in its work in Cambodia and Nepal. In Cambodia, FCA collaborated with key stakeholders including a Commune Committee for Disaster Management, youth, local authorities, school principals and NGO networks to mainstream Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and DRR into communities' practices. In Nepal, three rural municipalities have received training on CCA. FCA has also worked closely with local representatives to prioritize climate and environmental issues in local development plans, resulting in a strong commitment

**FCA fosters community ownership and empowerment by actively engaging young people in adaptation and preparedness processes.**

from the community to address these challenges. In 2022, local government took concrete actions towards climate change adaptation, including providing materials for sustainable vegetable production, supporting fruit seedlings, and promoting kiwi plantations through the ward office. FCA recognizes the importance of promoting sustainable agricultural practices in communities that rely on agriculture as a primary source of income. In Nepal and South Sudan, FCA has worked to support the adoption of conservation agriculture practices and the generation and use of organic fertilizers. This support has been provided to cooperatives in Nepal and returnee farmers in South Sudan.

FCA initiatives under this objective have had a tangible impact on local communities, helping them to increase food security and build resilience against the impacts of climate change.

## CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

FCA is a rights-based actor, and our work is guided by international human rights principles. We promote gender equality and social inclusion and Do No Harm Principles, and work for climate action and environmental protection.

### Gender equality and social inclusion

Promotion of gender equality continued to be an important element in FCA's programme. Working for the rights of girls and women has been integrated systematically in all FCA's operational work and working modalities as a cross-cutting issue. Targeted actions and projects have continued to focus on women's economic empowerment, ensuring girls' and women's access and continued education opportunities, and on women's equal and meaningful participation in peace building and decision-making fora. During FCA's humanitarian responses, and particularly in Education in Emergencies, FCA has supported girls and teenage mothers continued schooling, protection from sexual and gender-based violence, menstrual health management and sexual reproductive health rights.

In 2022, the total number of female beneficiaries was in 550,084 (52.9%) as opposed to 269,558 in 2021 (53.50%). The numbers reflect a high increase in the total number of beneficiaries in 2022 with continued focus on girls and women. Girls aged below 15 years of age constituted 33.19% (46.17% 2021). They were largely those enrolled in FCA-supported education activities. The share of young women aged 15–25 was 19.08% (51.32% 2021) and women over 25 years and above 19.15%. There is a relatively large share of female beneficiaries (28.58%) in the unknown age category. This is due to increased FCA emergency responses through different mechanisms that has not included age disaggregation.

The FCA Gender Equality Policy was approved in early 2022 and rolled out to all country offices (COs). A Gender Focal Point group was established, including representation from all COs, to support the implementation of the policy. In addition, the ACT Alliance Gender Justice policy continued to be an important reference together with other guidance and training materials. FCA also used other capacity building material including INEE, UN Girls' Education Initiative (UNGEI) and Education Cannot Wait (ECW) in gender responsive and inclusive programming.

FCA Country Programmes (CPs) continued to use gender analysis tools systematically and pay targeted attention to gender imbalance and social inequality. In right to education, the focus was on ensuring girls' equal access and continued schooling as part of education sector development. This covered early

childhood development to primary, secondary, and higher education, including investments in the vocational training and career guidance and counselling. Various interventions targeted communities, schools, and individual learners. Work at the community level has also been influential towards changing attitudes on the higher level of education sector management and towards local government authorities. The aim was to increase women's representation in decision-making bodies and enhance the understanding of promoting gender equality.

In right to livelihood, FCA continued to invest in women's economic empowerment through self-employment and enterprise establishment, along with broadening opportunities in digital jobs and markets for instance in Jordan and Somalia.

In right to peace, FCA continued to promote the inclusion and leadership of women in peace building. In Kenya, the Women Talking Circles and Women Peace Ambassadors programmes continued, and the concept was extended to other countries. Work also continued in Somalia in securing women's meaningful participation in the council district formation process and ensuring women's 30% quota in decision-making bodies, while also organising training on women's political participation and advocacy work.

FCA has continued working against harmful traditional practices stemming from patriarchal norms and values, towards broadening existing gender roles and women's agency. In Palestine, work included efforts to increase the number of men entering the teaching profession and voluntary work in general, as teaching and working with children is mainly seen as a culturally appropriate profession for women willing to pursue a career outside the domestic sphere.

Many FCA Country Programmes (CPs) increased their involvement in providing different forms of protection and safeguarding measures. These included provision of childcare (also for CwDs), training and improved facilitation of sanitation and hygiene management, menstrual health management, child rights and working against FGM. In Syria, FCA continued to actively engage with female students, teachers, volunteers, and mothers of students to recognize their role as important stakeholders. FCA succeed in securing women's active participation in parent-teacher associations and protection committees. In 2022, In Syria, 50% of the community-based group members were females, and 69% of teachers involved in non-formal education were females in 2022. Similarly, Syria progressed in providing safe, gender-sensitive and accessibility WASH facilities in rehabilitated schools and succeeded in securing girls' enrolment in secondary level education with their male peers.

In advocacy work, FCA continued to build FCA and our partners' capacities to advocate women's human rights and support awareness-raising, capacity building, training, programme development and advocacy. These efforts have improved FCA and its partners' capacities in identifying gender-related practical and strategic needs, roles, and power dynamics to promote





gender equality more efficiently. FCA continued its close collaboration with LWF, WCC and NCA in organizing women's human rights advocacy training for faith-based organizations. In 2022 the training was organised in Geneva.

FCA collaborated actively with the ACT Alliance networks and working groups such as the ACT International Gender Justice Community of Practice. FCA joined the ACT Gender Justice Programme in organising an online Side Event in connection with the Commission on the Status of Women under the topic Gender and Climate Change in March 2022. FCA also continued to follow the work of International Partnership of Religion and Sustainable Development work stream of Gender Equality and Empowerment. Several FCA country offices again contributed to the Thursdays in Black and 16 Days of Activism against GBV campaigns together with their partners to raise awareness of the important work against SGBV and rape. FCA continued to support the TiB Ambassadors – FCA Executive Director Jouni Hemberg and the archbishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland, Rev. Dr Tapio Luoma.

FCA has been also an active member of the Finnish advocacy network for gender equality the Friday Group (under the Parliament of Finland Sexual and Reproductive Rights group). FCA was actively engaged in the working process of Finnish Fourth Women, Peace and Security National Action Plan and a member of the Finnish Women, Peace and Security (1325) Network.

**FCA continued to build FCA and our partners' capacities to advocate women's human rights and support awareness-raising, capacity building, training, programme development and advocacy.**

## Disability inclusion

FCA continued to strengthen its capacity in disability inclusion. This entailed developing tools for right-based analysis, strengthening the use of FCA's comprehensive context analysis and inclusive programming.

FCA continued its collaboration with Abilis Foundation, focusing on enhancing capacities in disability inclusion, strengthening disability inclusion advocacy and finding ways of mutual collaboration. In Nepal, follow-up training was organized with the Abilis Nepal office on project level disability inclusion.

The number of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) as programme beneficiaries increased in 2022. The total number of PwDs was 10,400 compared to 4,336 in 2021 (5,217 females compared to 2,137 in 2021 and 5,183 males compared to 2,199 in 2021). This was largely due to the significant increase in the total number of FCA beneficiaries in 2022. While the increase is modest it shows positive progress on reach and engagement of PwDs in all FCA's actions. Identifying PwDs has been used as one of the vulnerability criteria, with a recommendation to use the Washington Group criteria.

Disability inclusion has been a systematic part of FCA's efforts in education sector development. In Uganda and Kenya, disability inclusion has been rooted in all education sector activities and development objectives. It has also formed one of the key strategies in international education sector global funding (UNHCR, ECW, ECHO and PRM). Support to promote disability inclusion ranged from provision of assistive devices and SNE materials to payment of salaries for SNE teachers.

In right to livelihood, progress was made mainly as a part of the Inclusive Labour Market project in Cambodia. Collaboration with the Humanity and Inclusion organization continued in Uganda and Kenya, and contacts with local disability organizations were

established in many CPs. In Cambodia, the Inclusive Labour Market progressed well through good collaboration with National Employment Agency (NEA) and in partnership between FCA and local NGOs. During 2022, 46 (21F; 25M) jobseekers registered at NEA for employment opportunities. A total of 134 (59F; 75M) jobseekers got job matching, and 23 (11F; 12M) out of 46 got jobs. Other activities included learning on-the-job training, access to small business set-up, agriculture, vocational skills, food processing, job-searching, and job coaching.

In Myanmar, the CP incorporated inclusion of PwDs systematically into all new project designs with a target percentage set for PwDs. For instance, in a project funded by Myanmar Humanitarian Fund (MHF) 12.5% of the total number of beneficiaries were PwDs.

## Do No Harm and conflict sensitivity

FCA adheres to the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) and in line with the standard integrates Do no Harm & conflict sensitivity in programming to avoid negative effects, and to maximise positive impact. In 2022, FCA continued to ensure systematic analysis of the impact of its interventions in all areas of operation.

During 2022, FCA continued to strengthen stakeholder engagement and community consultations to ensure potential unintended negative effects are identified and acted upon. To ensure this across all programmes, the requirement of participatory identification of risks and potential negative effects on communities has been integrated into FCA's Risk Management Guideline.

In Myanmar, Kenya, Nepal and CAR, capacity building training for staff on principles of Do no Harm were organized. In Kenya, journalists were trained on conflict sensitivity reporting ahead of the general elections.

Conflict mapping and analysis was carried out in several programme countries including in Somalia, CAR, Jordan, Myanmar and Kenya. Gender and climate sensitive analysis was also conducted in Somalia and Myanmar to avoid negative effects on gender and climate. The Somalia country office carried out a Conflict, Political, Economic and Gender Analysis to understand the dynamics before initiating the district council formation process. Results of the COPESA framework will inform reconciliation, local governance, civic engagement, and participation of women in politics by strengthening cohesion and social integration as well as in education and livelihood projects. In Kenya, Somalia, Uganda and CAR, formal and informal peace actors were engaged in buy-in meetings and multi-stakeholder consensus-building sessions to agree on peace processes.

Participatory beneficiary selection was strengthened in all thematic areas. This was done to avert possible unintended negative effects and enhance social cohesion across projects. In livelihood interventions, the beneficiary selection criteria process was inclusive. FCA ensured that refugees and members of the host community benefit from interventions. In Jordan, Syrian and Jordanian youth are engaged in joint training and business design sessions contributing to enhanced social cohesion.

FCA country offices implementing education projects continue to incorporate INEE's Conflict -Sensitive Education (CSE) strategies and approaches. TiCC training materials are used to

There is some variation between age groups and gender of PwD beneficiaries between programme countries. In Uganda, the majority of PwDs were girls under 15 years of age, while in Kenya, CAR and Somalia boys under 15 years represented the largest percentage of the total number of PwDs. In Asia, the majority of PwDs reached by FCAs programmes were women aged over 25. The differences are not remarkable, but some targeted actions are needed to increase the reach of female PwDs and CwDs in some FCA programme countries.



strengthen teachers' capacity to include PSS activities in daily teaching and learning processes, to care for their own well-being and to improve child protection responses in school environments. FCA rolled out peace education and established peace clubs to enhance a culture of non-violence. FCA trained duty-bearers on CSE and promoted the use of Peace Education in CAR. In Uganda, Kenya and South Sudan, peace clubs were established in refugee settings to foster cohesion and provide students with tools for non-violent approaches to conflict.

**Conflict mapping and analysis was carried out in several programme countries.**





## Climate action and environmental sustainability

In 2022, climate action and environmental sustainability was an important part of FCA's work to contribute to finding solutions to current environmental crises. As a human rights-based organization, FCA supports the right to a healthy environment, which requires international cooperation, solidarity, and equity. FCA uses its thematic expertise as leverage against environmental and climate crises.

During 2022, FCA programme countries were severely impacted by the effects of climate change and environmental degradation. The Horn of Africa has been hit hard by a severe drought, leaving 23 million people in dire need of assistance, with up to 20 million at risk of acute food insecurity and famine. To respond to the crises, FCA provided lifesaving cash transfers to 2,529 individuals in Somalia and 216,230 in Kenya, offering an immediate, effective, and environmentally sustainable response. Additionally, FCA ensured improved access to water for around 250,000 people in Kenya's Marsabit and Garissa counties through rehabilitating water and sanitation facilities. The humanitarian programme in Somalia actively shared research findings on the severity of the drought and the security crisis in the region. This enabled a better understanding of the situation and supported funding opportunities to address the crises in Somalia and Kenya.

In contrast, in Cambodia, heavy rains and severe floods impacted 14 out of 25 provinces, directly affecting 10 FCA-targeted schools. After the floods subsided, FCA supported school cleaning and worked with local disaster management committees and NGO partners to monitor the situation. In addition, training was

organised on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) for local disaster management committees and schoolteachers, raising their awareness and skills on DRR planning, and providing emergency kits.

FCA prioritized disaster risk reduction efforts to enhance community resilience against both climate and non-climate-induced disasters. CCA and DRR trainings directly benefited 4,516 individuals. In Uganda, Somalia, and Myanmar, 38 Emergency Preparedness and Response Plans were designed and implemented in schools and communities with FCA's support. In Nepal and Cambodia, mainstreaming efforts influenced local authorities to revise and create local DRR plans, expanding the reach of FCA's work even further.

The integration of climate action and environmental sustainability activities into FCA projects as a standard practice also continued. FCA worked with communities to support resilience building, reduce risks, and to improve project impact in an environmentally sustainable way. For example, in Uganda, Kenya and Somalia FCA promoted green, clean, and healthy environments in schools, and supported the creation of environmental clubs. These have allowed students to learn about environmental sustainability, climate action, DRR, and the importance of ecosystems. In Syria, a new project using solar energy was initiated to provide steady and sustainable access to water in 15 schools. A total of 5,328 children benefited from the project.

FCA has made climate-resilient, low-carbon, and environmentally sustainable activities an integral part of programme work. In Nepal, FCA supported sustainable farming practices and integrated climate change adaptation into local plans. In Uganda, a project used mobile devices to provide farmers with advice and information services to manage their farms, and to proactively adapt in

case of climate/environmental challenges. In Baringo, Kenya, youth groups were supported to diversify income through honey and derivatives production, promoting the growth of pollinators crucial for crops. In Jordan, livelihood projects prioritized environmental sustainability by promoting circular economy projects and efficient water consumption, while providing technical and entrepreneurial training. In Cambodia, organic fertilizers were used on drought-resistant crops based on environmental and social screening.

In peace projects, FCA has been transmitting radio programmes directed to local communities in the north of Kenya, where peace and security issues are exacerbated by climate change and diverse environmental issues. FCA facilitated engagement between duty-bearers and cross-border natural resource management (NRM) committees in Marakwet and West-Pokot counties. In summer 2022, FCA supported the organization of the National Dialogue Conferences in Finland, where FCA hosted sessions about how natural resources, climate issues, conflicts, and peace mediation intersect. FCA collaborated with the Network for Traditional and Religious Peacemakers to exchange insights and experiences on the linkages between climate change, environmental degradation, conflict dynamics, and peacebuilding. The exchange included case studies on Mozambique and Kenya.

Towards the end of the year, FCA Country Directors and key staff members held meetings to plan an assessment of their environmental impact and determine next steps for reducing emissions in line with global and regional goals. The move is driven by FCA's recognition of the importance of adopting environmentally sustainable practices in its global programme and operations, which

will benefit both the planet and the communities it serves.

In 2022, Changemaker initiated a campaign in Finland aimed at reducing overconsumption. The campaign highlighted the adverse effects of current consumption patterns and provided opportunities for young people to participate in and study the issue. As part of the campaign, FCA Climate and Environment Working Group members, and SITRA's expert on circular economy conducted a session for Changemaker, stressing the significance of systems thinking in analysing overconsumption.

**FCA worked with communities to support resilience building, reduce risks, and to improve project impact in an environmentally sustainable way. In Uganda, Kenya, Somalia and Syria FCA promoted green, clean, and healthy environments in schools.**





Innovations



Closing the Loop: Transforming Waste into Opportunities in Jordan’s Circular Economy

In Jordan, FCA is spearheading an innovative program that explores the Circular Economy (CE) model of production and consumption. The CE model aims to reduce waste and pollution by promoting the longevity of materials, products, and services within the economic cycle. Throughout 2022, FCA has collaborated with local and international organizations to support the implementation of the CE model in Jordan. One such collaboration is with the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), an organization dedicated to fostering strong, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth. Together, FCA and GGGI conducted a comprehensive study to gain a deeper understanding of the waste sector in the region. The study aimed to identify opportunities for innovative actions that can be adopted and implemented by Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), municipalities, and the private sector.

The findings of the study have had a significant impact on shaping the “Micro and Small business support with focus on Women” (MiSS) project. The project focuses on creating new employment opportunities through micro-enterprises for Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanians, while simultaneously contributing to environmental sustainability and climate action by reducing waste streams and pollution in Jordan. As part of the MiSS project, 56 trainees received technical training on the circular economy, followed by entrepreneurship training provided by FCA staff and expert mentors. Out of the 56 trainees, 40 were awarded financial grants to start their micro-businesses. The MiSS beneficiaries work in various sub-sectors, including plastics, cardboard, paper, glass, tires, organic waste, non-fresh vegetables, fruit, garments, wood, metal, and electronic waste. Additionally, some project participants were linked to the waste sorting station owned and operated by the Madaba municipality, receiving support as part of community outreach efforts. They signed agreements with hospitals, schools, and government agencies to sort waste at its source and collect it on a monthly basis.



Empowering African Farmers – Harnessing Technology for Resilient Food Systems

The HealthyFoodAfrica (HFA) project aims to enhance the resilience of food systems by adopting a comprehensive approach to transforming local food systems. A key component of this project is the establishment of 10 Food System Labs strategically located across Africa. Each lab focuses on specific areas of the local food system that require improvement and have the potential to generate significant nutritional impact and contribute to food safety. The project has 17 partners, including local and international NGOs and research institutes. Finn Church Aid and Kabarole Research Centre/KRC are hosting the two Food Systems Labs in Uganda. FCA implements the Rwamwanja Food Systems Lab (FSL-RW) located in the Rwamwanja refugee settlement. The FSL-RW works with 1000 smallholder maize farmers, of whom 77 per cent are women and 72 percent refugees.

One of the major challenges identified by FCA and its partners is the low agricultural yields in this region. This is mainly due to lack of support for farmers, with inadequate extension and advisory services. To address the issue, the project is employing technological solutions utilizing the community-based extension structure and mobile phones to enhance farmers’ access to crucial agricultural extension services. This approach relies on Village Enterprise Agents (VEAs) who are trained in the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) through mobile phones. For the Rwamwanja Food System Lab, 10 VEAs were trained, each supporting an average of 100 farmers. These agents serve as a vital link between the Labs and the farmers, facilitating a two-way flow of information using ICT. The extension services offered through mobile platforms provide valuable information to farmers and crucial insights to the Labs on diseases, garden preparation, harvesting, pests, planting, soil nutrient management, weeding, post-harvest handling, collective marketing, and weather forecasts. Additionally, VEAs create and maintain farmer profiles, allowing for effective tracking of support needs and farming outcomes. Through increased accessibility of effective extension by VEAs and increased technology adoption by the farmers, productivity, quality, and saleable volumes are enhanced. This attracts a favourable market and fair prices for the smallholder farmers. The FSL also supports the diversification of nutritious foods through promotion of fresh vegetable growing at individual household level.

Through these collaborative efforts, the HealthyFoodAfrica project aims to create sustainable and impactful changes within the local food systems, addressing key challenges and improving agricultural productivity for the benefit of farmers and communities in Africa.



Black Soldier Flies – Business for Women and Food for Animals

BUZZ is an innovative business trial in Nepal, launched jointly by FCA and Women’s Bank in 2021, piloting the production of larvae from the Black Soldier Fly as an alternative feed for farmed animals such as poultry and fish. With their high protein and fat content, locally farmed larvae can complement and partially replace traditional feeds that are largely imported, at the same time efficiently converting organic solid waste into valuable protein. Frass from the larvae can be further processed into a potent organic fertilizer. Following the principles of circular economy, the practice also reduces land competition between food for human and animal consumption.

With funding from Women’s Bank, and in partnership with the Federation of Woman Entrepreneurs’ Associations of Nepal (FWEAN), BUZZ provides employment to seven women, who are part of a farming cooperative in the Bhardeu village, Lalitpur. The women in that area face social and economic marginalisation, with limited access to resources, job opportunities and influence within their community.

In 2022, FCA rented and set up a pilot-scale production facility and provided training to the women in both the technical skills needed to raise the larvae and the business development skills that enabled them to connect with customers. The main challenges, including the sensitivity of the larvae to temperature and humidity conditions that need to be exactly right for optimal growth and steady access to organic waste in sufficient quantities, are being addressed during the pilot phase which will continue until the end of 2023. The market demand for affordable protein-rich feed has already been established.

BUZZ is an example of a new modality in the Women’s Bank funded portfolio whereby 10% of its annual fundraising proceeds is allocated to developing and piloting business ideas and models that show clear potential for scalable women-led business. Perceived economic, social, and environmental sustainability of the business case is one of the key considerations.

A call for new business ideas is organized annually and is open to FCA’s country offices. The initiative is managed jointly by FCA and Women’s Bank, and a dedicated team of Women’s Bank business professionals provide pro bono support to the country teams in all process phases.



Teachers Without Borders advancing activating and participatory learning methods in Peace Education in Uganda

In 2022, FCA continued to strengthen linkages between Right to Peace and Quality Education programming through Peace Education. FCA sees Peace Education as a holistic and transformative process that seeks to develop competencies that contribute to nonviolent conflict approaches, respect for human rights and active participation. FCA Uganda in collaboration with local partner Uganda Muslim Youth Development Forum (UMYDF) engage at risk youth and roll out interventions such as peace education, dialogue sessions and supporting youth groups through skills training with the aim of preventing and countering violent extremism. Teachers Without Borders (TWB) network Finland was invited to collaborate with FCA Uganda and UMYDF to enhance pedagogical teaching methods, youth engagement and the quality of learning within Peace Education. As a result, a Peace Education Manual for secondary school level Peace Clubs in Uganda was co-developed and published.

The manual which consists of 34 lesson plans was piloted in refugee hosting schools in Yumbe and Kampala areas. Over 165 peace club members in secondary school level (124 in Bidi Bidi Refugee Settlement and 41 in Kampala, and 47 “patrons” as in peace club instructors) were trained in peace education use of learner-centered and activating methodologies. The TWB education experts also trained FCA’s own education staff on the methodology of the manual which is currently spread through FCA schools countrywide and taken forward by the local teachers and staff themselves.

According to FCA Uganda’s reports, the peace education collaboration has contributed to having more active and vibrant youth and teacher engagement through the Peace Clubs and marked improvement of the quality of delivery of Peace Education programs in the respective schools. Both the youth and the teachers have been impressed by the engaging, playful, and participatory training methods that the TWB experts introduced to UMYDF and FCA peace education methodologies. This collaboration has made peace education also more entertaining and fun, thus attracting new members to the peace clubs.



# FCA'S WORKING MODALITIES

FCA's main working modalities are development cooperation, humanitarian assistance, advocacy and investments. The choice of the most effective modalities is based on the specific intervention. During 2022, FCA successfully adapted its ways of work in its countries of operation for context-appropriate responses and good results.

## Development cooperation

FCA's operating contexts are characterized by alternating periods of stability and recurrent crises, and our country programmes are well-equipped to adapt the working modalities as necessary. FCA acknowledges that development challenges are context-specific and complex, and that positive and sustainable progress involves tackling many different problems simultaneously, both in the shorter and longer-term and in a comprehensive manner.

FCA's development cooperation supports the realization of respective national development goals and provision of universal social, economic, and environmental rights and basic standards to all citizens and residents. At the core of FCA's working modalities and development work are the principles of local ownership, equity of partnerships, focus on sustainable results and impact, transparency, and mutual accountability between all partners.

In 2022, FCA continued to put people's resilience, their well-being, and the fulfilment of their rights, at the centre of its work. In line with the revised FCA Global Strategy that was approved in October 2022, FCA reconfirmed its commitment to the three thematic strategic areas as well as promoting gender equality and social inclusion, and in particular disability inclusion and diversity more effectively. Furthermore, FCA will continue developing and expanding our work with the private sector, in climate action and environmental protection and in facilitating localization.

Discussions on the localization agenda continued and a working group was established in late 2022 to support the process. FCA recognizes that localization is about decentralizing power, a strong focus on locally-led planning and operational capacity at different levels and strengthening networks and partnerships between local and international stakeholders. During 2022, FCA's country programmes worked in close cooperation with the local actors in promoting local ownership and capacity development. Civil society organizations, local partners and also private sector actors, play a key role in achieving the set programme objectives, and FCA has taken an active role in strengthening civil society and civil engagement at different levels with good results.



**FCA continued to put people's resilience, their wellbeing, and the fulfilment of their rights, at the centre of its work.**



## Humanitarian assistance

In 2022, FCA continued to address humanitarian needs in protracted crises and deliver interventions in key fragile states. Most of FCA's humanitarian aid programmes focused on supporting refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs) in South Sudan, Uganda, Somalia, Myanmar, Jordan, Syria, and the Central African Republic. The effects of drought and climate change have impacted eastern Africa, leaving millions of people with severe food shortages. FCA supported food security for families in Somalia, Kenya, and Uganda respectively through its country operations.

In 2022, FCA also provided support for sudden onset emergencies. In Haiti, FCA delivered emergency aid together with Diakonien Katastrophenhilfe and provided food security for families affected by earthquakes and storms. FCA's emergency aid programme in Afghanistan, in collaboration with Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA), which began following the Taliban's takeover of the Afghan government in August 2021, has been completed. In Ethiopia, FCA completed the emergency aid programme along with Norwegian Church Aid, supporting vulnerable people in food security, water and sanitation, and gender-based violence (GBV) related activities. In Lebanon, FCA continued aid work that began after the port explosion in 2020. The program repaired school buildings, delivered school supplies, trained local teachers, provided financial support to families for their

**In 2022, FCA initiated its largest emergency response operation in FCA's history in Ukraine.**

children's education, and provided assistive devices to disabled children. The programme was completed in 2022 in partnership with the local organization René Moawad Foundation.

FCA responded swiftly to the humanitarian crisis that arose in Ukraine following the Russian invasion in February 2022. In fact, it initiated the largest emergency response operation in FCA's history. The initial focus was providing essential supplies such as food and non-food items to IDPs in the affected areas. As the situation on the ground evolved, a more robust and targeted response was needed. This led to a strong education in emergency response, with a geographical focus on the north and northeast of Ukraine. FCA set up a local team and formally registered FCA in Ukraine, which has since grown into a full-fledged country operation. The humanitarian programming in Ukraine has been supported by extensive donor funding, which has enabled us to expand our efforts to reach even more people in need. FCA also provided significant financial support to other organizations working in Ukraine. We also funded the Act Alliance appeal with \$1 million and provided €500K through a bilateral agreement with HIA.





Most of FCA's humanitarian aid programmes focused on supporting refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs) in South Sudan, Uganda, Somalia, Myanmar, Jordan, Syria, and the Central African Republic.

FCA's humanitarian work remains largely focused on Education in Emergencies (EiE). One of FCA's employees is seconded to the Global Education Cluster (GEC), which coordinates the humanitarian relief work of the UN-driven education sector in disaster situations worldwide. In recent years, FCA has also increased its attention to environmental sustainability, including our green response and green procurement practices. As part of our humanitarian aid programme activities, more efforts are devoted to emergency livelihoods and gradually replacing material aid with cash allowances in the programme countries. This not only enhances the dignity of people affected by disasters but also has a more positive environmental impact. FCA believes that our increased attention to green response and procurement practices is essential to building more resilient communities and reducing the environmental impact of our humanitarian work.

Furthermore, FCA has strengthened its relationships with international humanitarian aid networks, partners, and funding organizations. This allows us to leverage our expertise and resources, enabling us to deliver more effective humanitarian aid in an enhanced manner.

**Advocacy focused on right to quality education, right to livelihood, right to peace, human rights, and the politics and funding of development cooperation and humanitarian aid.**

## Advocacy

In 2022 FCA's advocacy work was strongly framed by the Russian attack on Ukraine that started in February. The COVID-19 crisis was put on the back burner and it was finally possible to return to face-to-face meetings. This also made it possible to deepen our work with international partners such as the ACT Alliance.

The war that changed the entire global politics also changed the priorities for FCA. Since the start of FCA's operation in Ukraine, FCA has been involved in the coordination of the advocacy work of INGOs within Ukraine. FCA has promoted advocacy messages especially related to education. As a Finnish NGO, FCA has highlighted Finland's role specifically as a supporter of education in Ukraine and has focused on education programming. Soon after the start of the war, it became clear how devastating the effects of the attack are from the perspective of developing countries. As early as March, FCA highlighted the food crisis – especially the looming famine in the Horn of Africa –, the overshadowing of other humanitarian crises by war, and the political situation from the perspective of countries outside of Europe. Among other things, FCA organized a discussion event (May 12) with Finnish Development Policy Committee and Members of Parliament on the topic. The UNDP's Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa Ahunna Eziakonwa also spoke at the event.

The priorities of our advocacy were right to quality education, right to livelihood and right to peace, human rights including women's rights, and questions related to the politics and funding of development cooperation and humanitarian aid. The approaching parliamentary elections in Finland became the focus of advocacy work towards politicians and decision-makers.

FCA also published its election programme and had direct and extensive dialogue with decision-makers, participated in the events of different parties, gave several statements and were heard in the parliament, appeared in the media, organized debates, published articles and cooperated with other organizations. Unfortunately, some cuts were made to development cooperation. Finland, however, avoided the situation of several other EU countries, where support given to Ukraine and Ukrainian refugees was cut directly from other development aid.

Strengthening FCA's influencing activities in the direction of the African Union (AU) progressed quickly when a full-time person was hired to lead the work from the beginning of July. During the year, FCA met with the Commissioners of the African Union in Helsinki and Addis Ababa, and it was agreed that the FCA African Union Liaison Office could be established at the start of 2023. At the same time, FCA was also strongly linked to the water diplomacy work led by Finland, in which the AU is an important partner.

Regarding right to quality education, one key result in influencing work was our strong participation in the UN's Transforming Education Summit (TES) process both at the preparatory meeting in Paris in June and in New York in September as part of the UN General Assembly. Based on FCA's own capacity to deal with the vocational training of refugees, we got into the TES program together with Finland, UNHCR, ILO, GIZ and Uganda. At the event, a report prepared with partners on the vocational training of refugees was published. Raising the status of vocational education among governments, civil society, and education supporters is essential to the employment and livelihoods of young people in developing countries. FCA also participated in Finland's UN General Assembly delegation and to the MFA

hearing for CSOs afterwards. FCA also organized a briefing on the TES process for other organizations together with the UN and Finnish Development NGOs (Fingo).

In education advocacy, FCA also highlighted the importance of Education in Emergencies (EiE) and the need to strengthen the focus on education as part of Finland's humanitarian aid. The situation in Ukraine provided an excellent example of this. Towards the end of the year, the approaching financing round of the Education Cannot Wait fund was a priority in our advocacy. FCA worked closely with The International Parliamentary Network for Education (IPNEd). We also become members of the EiE Hub established in Geneva as FCA is an important supporter of the international education cluster. FCA also highlighted the challenges caused by international sanctions for humanitarian aid and organizing crisis education.

Strong education advocacy was also carried out at the country level. The Ugandan Education Policy Review Commission visited Finland as a guest of FCA to get to know the Finnish education system. Together with UNICEF, FCA supports education reform in Uganda, and the visit enabled extensive and in-depth discussions on the contents of the education reform. Based on the tour, we also started looking for concrete support for the Commission's work through The Finnish Centre of Expertise in Education (FinCEED) – that was later confirmed.

In advocating for the right to livelihood, we worked closely with FCA Investments (FCAI) and focused especially on the business opportunities of Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). FCA advocated to decision-makers that development finance instruments are also needed to support the private sector in fragile states and the SME sector. Events in connection with the EU-Africa Business Forum, in Uganda and Kenya built



work towards the fifth Least Developed Countries (LDC5) conference postponed to March 2023.

The National Dialogue Conference, organized together with the Missionary Society and Crisis Management Initiative (CMI), was the biggest effort of the year. The event gathered 180 participants and particularly highlighted the conflict countries' own ownership in peace processes, but also, for example, the need to strengthen the inclusion of disabled people as part of peace processes. We continued to influence Finland's work in the UN Women, Peace and Security resolution (1325) and Youth, Peace and Security (2250) agendas.

Human rights were strongly reflected in FCA's advocacy work throughout the year. Finland's membership in the Human Rights Council provided an important avenue for this work. FCA participated in all hearings organized by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (MFA), the work of the Advisory Board for International Human Rights (IONK) and briefed the MFA on our country contexts. FCA was also involved in the women's rights UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) meeting, as well as Thursdays in Black and the 16 Days of Activism campaign against gendered violence. UPR monitoring continued for South Sudan.

Human resources for influencing work were strengthened at FCA during 2022. The humanitarian advocacy advisor started work, focusing on topics related to FCA's rapidly expanding humanitarian work, such as Education in Emergencies. The Advocacy Unit changed its name to the Advocacy and Partnerships Unit. The Unit's new Global Partnership Manager strengthens the entire organization's partnership strategy, including advocacy towards FCA's wide group of international partners.

The African Union Liaison Office, which started at the beginning of 2023, is now part of FCA's advocacy work. Stronger resources enable a better integration of advocacy work throughout the entire organization. They also strengthen the capacity of country offices and bringing a stronger understanding of country level work into international advocacy work.

**Human rights were strongly reflected in FCA's advocacy work throughout the year**



## Investment – Capital for development

In 2022, FCAI's board approved one divestment and four direct investments in FCAI's countries of operation. These approved investments target different sectors (i.e., renewable energy, Fintech, and agri-food production) and amount to ca. €1.63m.

The first direct investment approved was in a company called Laboremus, a credit infrastructure provider based in Uganda. It enables banks and other financial institutions to digitize most customer-facing tasks, consequently reducing customer interaction and cost. FCAI approved and fully executed a €300K investment in Laboremus in the form of a convertible note (a co-investor, DOB Equity, provided €500K, pro-rata conditions). The second investment was allocated to one of FCAI's portfolio companies, Kande Poultry Farms (KPF). FCAI provided a €152K additional loan combined with management services to KPF on top of the initial investment made in 2020. The additional loan and management support aim to help KPF execute its business turnaround plan and overcome short-term financial challenges resulted mainly from COVID-19 and the conflict in Ukraine.

In Somalia, direct investment in SolarLand Africa SLA was approved. SLA is a company that aims to advance the entire solar value chain by providing industry-leading solar energy solutions to customers (households and companies) in Somalia. FCAI's board approved a €300K equity investment in SLA as a follow-on investment to a USD 728,000 grant provided by Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund (AECF), which has been spent on building the basic infrastructure and reducing the overall risk associated with the project.

In Kenya, direct investment in Sakami Coffee was also approved. It is a family-owned farming company engaged in coffee, macadamia, avocado, dairy, and vegetable production. FCAI approved and partially executed an €880K investment in Sakami Coffee in the form of convertible debt. Sakami has the potential to positively impact the Trans-Nzoia region of Kenya helping ease the transition from maize to coffee production, providing better returns to the farmers when the processing facilities are available. This will also have an environmental impact, as Sakami is at the forefront of replanting indigenous coffee varieties and using macadamia trees to inter-crop the coffee plants and other crops such as avocado.

FCAI approved divestment from Sausage King (a Ugandan portfolio company) in March 2022. Due to unforeseen misalignments with the promoter and the lack of proper implementation of the investment from the investee side, both FCAI and PCP (co-investor) agreed with the promotor to exit that co-investment (conducted in 2021) with a 9% premium. The agreement was signed in March 2022; however, some challenges have emerged and halted the execution. The investors will be addressing these challenges using proper legal channels.

In 2022, FCAI launched its innovative Business Development Service (BDS) arm to help SMEs overcome growth barriers related to management capacity and business control. This BDS arm, called Missing Middle Opportunity Facility (MMOF), is SME-oriented by design and it has been developed in collaboration with Finnpartnership and Accenture Development Partners based on the needs on the ground. As of December 2022, FCAI has piloted MMOF in three companies, resulting in significant improvement in terms of enhancing productivity and management processes. The MMOF website was also launched



**FCAI kept managing its portfolio and working with like-minded partners to advance its objectives.**

in 2022 with the opportunity to interact digitally with potential client-SMEs and receive their applications online.

Moving forward, MMOF will have local branches in Uganda, Somalia, and Kenya to help scale the model and embed the BDS interventions in the financing process. MMOF will be providing a shared-service model in which SMEs can receive the following services in a cost-effective way pre- and post-investment: financial management and accounting services; ESG management and responsible business conduct and marketing, sales, and market research.

In 2022, FCAI kept managing its portfolio and working with like-minded partners to advance its objectives, strengthen its track records, and advocate for effective SME-development and financing solutions in least developed countries (LDCs).



# 2022 COUNTRY PROGRAMME ANNUAL SUMMARIES BY REGION

In 2022, FCA supported operations in 15 countries. We worked in close partnerships with local and international partners and key stakeholders addressing immediate humanitarian needs, while maintaining and building the basis for long-term sustainable development.

In 2022, FCA had 11 country offices in Asia, Africa and Middle East. FCA’s country offices have the main responsibility for programme implementation. In addition, FCA started its operation in Ukraine.

The country programme specific annual summaries include some examples of country programme results<sup>1</sup>, and the direct beneficiary numbers. In some country programmes, partner implemented projects receive funding also from other donors besides FCA and FCA’s back donors. The key results may include not only FCA’s and its back donors’ financial contribution, but also other donors’ contributions.

The country specific project tables include the main funding source and main projects implemented as part of the respective country programme in 2022 and may exclude some smaller projects or carry-overs from 2021.

### ASIA

Cambodia, Myanmar, Nepal

### MIDDLE EAST

Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories (IOPT), Jordan, Syria

### AFRICA

The Central African Republic, Kenya, Somalia, South-Sudan, Uganda

<sup>1</sup>FCA’s humanitarian operations in Lebanon, Haiti, Ethiopia and Afghanistan are described in the section Humanitarian Assistance.



## AFRICA

### The Central African Republic

#### Overview of CAR Country Programme

During 2022, the higher cost of living increased the number of people in need (now a record high at 3.4 million, 56% of the population), while violence by armed groups and crime also increased. The relations between the CAR government and western powers, notably France, grew more tense with a strong Russian influence and misinformation campaigns.

The Country Programme (CP) continued to work on all three strategic themes. In line with the Humanitarian Response Plan 2022, FCA mainstreamed protection in all its programming in CAR. The protection work will continue, with particular focus on returned Muslim refugees and gender-based violence. Overall, programming has become more and more multi-sectoral and more efficiently incorporating nexus.

FCA has continued to strengthen and build the capacity of its staff with key processes conducted in French to ensure the full participation of national staff. The logistics department is now completely managed by FCA national staff. Three bases were closed in 2022, but the remaining ones have been strengthened, with two new office premises. Short-term funding has made it difficult to retain and recruit quality staff. There were about six expatriates and 70 national staff working in CARCO during 2022.

The CAR CP was implemented mainly in the western and southern parts of the country in an early recovery context, with several delays due to conflict and insecurity. The targeted districts (prefectures) were Mambéré-Kadéï, Mambéré, Nana-Mambéré, Sangha-Mbaéré, Lobaye and Ombella-Mpoko. The programme was planned and implemented in close collaboration with diverse community groups and government authorities.

**76,228**  
learners (46,161F; 30,067M) had access to formal or non-formal education

**76**  
44 men and 32 women acquired jobs in carpentry, blacksmithing and honey production.

**120**  
members (50% female) of youth peace clubs are now playing a greater role in the peace processes of their communities.

101,062 61,582 39,480

direct beneficiaries reached by the Central African Republic Programme in 2022, including 1,184 (598F; 586M) Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).





### Main Objective 1

#### People and Private Sector

People can claim and enjoy their right to inclusive and sustainable economic growth for poverty eradication

During 2022, CARCO continued with a group-based approach to income generation, also to strengthen social cohesion. Over 2,390 youth or young adults (1,587 women/girls) benefited from LL2E services. After literacy training, 367 youth (201 girls) participated in a two-month skills training course, and subsequently received start-up kits for their chosen small trades. The skills training proved to be a motivating factor to finish the literacy course, and the youth have eagerly embarked on their small businesses.

Over 2,000 young adults (1,386 women) received support (cash or kits for the cooperative community groups) to start income-generating activities after technical and business skills training. FCA also supported 76 vulnerable adults (32 women) to acquire jobs in carpentry, blacksmithing, honey production etc. Notably, the women themselves chose fields that are traditionally considered masculine, wishing to acquire the same skills as men. Therefore, during the dry season, when agricultural activities or sales do not provide income, carpentry and blacksmithing offer an opportunity to feed the family. This diversification of sources of income has helped to build the participants' resilience in the often challenging socio-economic situation in CAR.

As part of this work, FCA produced videos for community agricultural groups explaining the best practices of cultivation, including adaptation to climate change and environmental protection.

### Main Objective 2

#### People and Governance

People can claim and enjoy their right to improved and inclusive governance and services

To promote the right to improved and inclusive governance and services, FCA worked particularly with government primary schools and education authorities to improve access to quality education. Over 76,200 learners were reached through education programming (59% of them girls, 25% in secondary school

and 3% in non-formal education), which is a significant increase compared to previous years. The programming included distribution of materials, teacher training as well as catch-up classes for learners. Furthermore, classroom and toilet construction resulted in nine new and six rehabilitated classrooms. To address girls' absenteeism and even dropping out from school, girls in upper grades and in secondary school were provided with sanitary kits and participated in discussions on menstrual hygiene management. Significantly, 80% of the girls then remained in the highest grade until the end of the year. A total of 250 displaced children received school kits to enable them to continue their education.

The most successful advocacy took place at the local rather than national level e.g. promoting minority (Ba'aka pygmies) children's and displaced children's free access to school and advocating the private sector to cover more of the community teachers' payments. However, some of the advocacy issues, such as the more equitable distribution of qualified teachers in rural schools, are longer-term initiatives with no notable progress in 2022.

FCA continued to target remote rural schools to promote the right to quality education for all children. The six-month remedial and literacy classes provided a second chance for vulnerable school drop-outs (1,162 children and youth, 51% girls). The literacy classes were followed by a two-month skills training course in a field chosen by the students. Out of 812 adults participating in literacy training, 78% were women. Their high number in non-formal education is a success, as there are very few girls in the upper primary grades due to pregnancy or early marriage.

Of the 248 teachers who participated in a 10-day training course on basic pedagogy and related topics, only 26% were women. The training was facilitated by the local education authorities, with FCA's support in cross-cutting themes such as inclusion, psychosocial support, gender, integrated school safety, mother tongue learning or positive discipline. In addition, a four-day train-the-trainers course for education authorities of two districts was organized (25 participants, 16% women). It included conflict-sensitive education, peace education, group pedagogy, teacher wellbeing, entrepreneurship, teaching in mother tongues, pedagogical evaluation, remediation, and supervision.

### Main Objective 3

#### People and Civil Society

People fulfill their legitimate and active role for positive change

The CP contributed towards strengthening the capacities of youth in their efforts to promote social cohesion through peace clubs by encouraging and supporting the clubs to develop their own action plans and implement the plans with FCA's support. By doing so, the youth developed organizational skills and became more confident in promoting social cohesion. Initiatives by the clubs also include environmental activities, such as the promotion of national "cleaning Saturdays". One club has embarked on a process of official registration under its own initiative.

At the same time, CARCO worked with PTAs, local education networks and protection committees to build their capacities and reinforce their involvement and responsibility in ensuring that parents send their children to school. Consequently, 100 PTA members (28 of them women) now have a better understanding of their role in school management and resource mobilization for schools.

### Challenges and lessons learnt

The context of CAR remains volatile, and the security situation worsened during 2022, with increased activity by armed groups and crime. The country has also been susceptible to geopolitical changes within the region, and internationally. However, CARCO remained committed to the principles of neutrality, accountability and transparency, targeting the most affected communities.

Especially in the remote locations, the internet and electricity connections are still a challenge, and the road network can be impassable during the rainy season. Consequently, project activities were implemented aligned with the seasonal, cultural, and school calendars to ensure intended outputs and outcomes. CARCO also made steps towards increasing the use of solar energy to mitigate power cuts. By consciously reducing the use of generators, CARCO contributed towards reducing carbon emissions by adopting clean energy.



### Project list and financial summary

Project nr	Project name	Partner	Primary Funding Source	Costs (€)
11533	FCA CAR Programme support & Office	FCA	MFA Frame	303,252
11903	CAR CO - FCA other projects PMER support	FCA	FCA	530,852
12164	CAR MFA HA EiE 2021-22	FCA	MFA Hum	321,982
12226	Rétablissement d'un environnement éducatif sain et protecteur pour les enfants de Baboua	FCA	CAR Humanitarian Fund	134,315
12232	L'approche intégrée de l'éducation	FCA	UNICEF	724,180
12271	CAR MFA	Reseau de Mediateurs	MFA Frame	176,182
12284	Monitoring de Protection, des Frontières et Réponses Multisectorielles	FCA	UNHCR	564,033
13071	Appui aux AGR et à la formation en alphabétisation fonctionnelle	FCA	UNDP	164,637
13072	Appui au dialogue social et Communautaire inclusif pour la paix en RCA	FCA	UN Women	146,357
Total (€)				3,065,790





operational areas inaccessible. General elections in August 2022 also slowed down programme implementation owing to the political campaigns and fear of election-related violence. The general elections were finally conducted peacefully, and FCA was able to continue with the implementation of planned activities.

**Main Objective 1**  
**People and Private Sector**  
People can claim and enjoy their right to inclusive and sustainable economic growth for poverty eradication

A total of 250 youths were trained in digital competency and creative industries and benefitted from career guidance and counselling to be able to make informed career choices. In total, 31 youths from vulnerable backgrounds enhanced their economic self-reliance through participation in entrepreneurship training and facilitated access to employment or becoming self-employed. Two students were offered internship opportunities with a private company and two others by FCA at the training center in St. Phillips Jericho. The creative industries are one of the rapidly developing sectors in Kenya, where the youth are turning to online jobs and content creation as a source of livelihood.

FCA implemented the Business from Waste for Women in Nairobi project in partnership with a private sector enterprise, TakaTaka Solutions, supporting vulnerable women. The project created 122 new jobs (98F; 24M) while 201 existing jobs for 159 women and 42 men were maintained. Furthermore, a tool kit was developed for training in waste management practices.

An integrated peace and livelihood intervention supported 12 youth and women groups from Elgeyo Marakwet and Baringo counties in Kerio Valley with livelihood start-up kits such as dairy cattle and goats, tents and chairs, generators, and drought resistant crops. The project provided the targeted women with alternative sources of livelihoods as opposed to pastoralism, which has often contributed to conflicts in the area due to the scarcity of natural resources.

**Main Objective 2**  
**People and Governance**  
People can claim and enjoy their right to improved and inclusive governance and services

FCA enhanced access to quality education for more than 38,000 learners through



provision of learning materials such as textbooks, uniforms, Menstrual Health Management (MHM) Kits and school kits. A total of 72 new school units were constructed. In addition, 310 school-related infrastructure elements such as existing classrooms, kitchens, sports, and hand-washing facilities were rehabilitated, considering the needs of Children with Disabilities (CwD). This contributed to enhanced enrolment, attendance, and transition rates especially among the girls in Kalobeyei settlement. Furthermore, training events were organized for 210 teachers (58F;152M) to acquire skills on Competency Based Curriculum (CBC), pedagogical instruction, Teachers in Crisis Context (TICC), child safeguarding and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).

FCA successfully advocated for 2,500 slots that were reserved by the government for refugee learners who completed class eight in 2022 to join secondary schools in January 2023. Advocacy initiatives also led to the establishment and opening of a new police post in Baringo County. This aims to curb insecurity incidents across the border. The establishment of a peace directorate in Elgeyo Marakwet County to coordinate local peace and security pro-

cesses will strengthen early warning and early response mechanisms. Furthermore, FCA capacitated over 880 duty-bearers on peace building, community engagement and right to inclusive education for all children in Kenya.

Over 216,000 rights-holders affected by drought in Marsabit and Garissa counties had access to lifesaving support through restoration of water supplies and cash transfer interventions.

**Main Objective 3**  
**People and Civil Society**  
People fulfill their legitimate and active role for positive change

KECO facilitated seven community-led processes focusing on inclusive peace. For instance, the CP promoted participation of women in peace building in line with UNSCR1325 and supported 10 Women Talking Circles by facilitating their meetings and radio talk shows with the aim of changing general perceptions of their role in peace building. The Women Talking Circles created platforms for women to sensitize the communities and discuss issues affecting women via radio sessions. As a result, the messages of peace were broadcast to a larger number

**Kenya**

**Overview of Kenya Country Programme**

In 2022, FCA Kenya implemented programmes in the Arid and Semi-Arid (ASAL) parts of Kenya in Turkana, Garissa, Baringo, Elgeyo Marakwet, Marsabit, Samburu, West Pokot counties and informal settlements of Nairobi County. Five new field offices were opened in Samburu, West Pokot, Garissa, Lodwar town in Turkana and Marsabit counties to support FCA's drought response. FCA worked in close collaboration with the local communities, donors, government departments (both National & County), humanitarian agencies as well as other stakeholders. In Nairobi County, FCA worked with partners such as TakaTaka Solutions and NGO Mondo, while in the other regions the work was largely directly implemented by FCA.

The country programme's (CP) implementation was affected by high inflation rates, which in turn led to increases in the costs of goods and services. The



**250**

youths (143F; 107M) benefitted from CGC to enable them to make informed career choices.



**216,230**

drought-affected people (113,738F; 102,492M) had access to lifesaving assistance through restoration of water supply, and cash transfers.



**38**

journalists (10F; 28M) strengthened their capacities in conflict-sensitive reporting during the pre- and post-election period

**299,420**

163,469 135,951

direct beneficiaries reached by the Kenya Programme in 2022 including 1,617 (613F; 1,004M) Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).

Russia-Ukraine war aggravated the situation with high fuel and food prices, which further increased the vulnerabilities of local communities. In response to the crisis, FCA had to re-align activities within the available budget as well as to source ad-

ditional funds for new interventions.

Kerio Valley, where FCA implements peace and livelihood programmes, was affected by insecurity. The government conducted disarmament exercises and imposed curfews, which made some





of community members, increasing community ownership of the issues, and promoting peaceful co-existence in local communities. To further strengthen traditional peace-building mechanisms, the CP created referral pathways by linking the women who faced gender-based violence to the Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender and POTUMA, a women’s Peace Forum.

KECO also facilitated training for community leaders, women, Natural Resource Management committees, chiefs, subchiefs, Assistant County commissioners and journalists in Kerio Valley on prevention of election violence. The journalists were further trained in conflict-sensitive reporting. Following the training, the participants were able to sensitize the community members on peaceful electoral processes ahead of the general elections in August 2022. This contributed to a peaceful election process in Kerio Valley with no reported electoral violence.

The Kenya CP supported the formation and strengthening of three groups of waste pickers by purchasing raw materials from them thus helping their income generation. In addition, eight youth

groups were further supported with livelihood start-up kits such as water pumps, high value seeds and farm inputs. The group members were also trained in water pump operation and generator care maintenance.

In 13 schools in Kalobeyei settlement, the Boards of Management (BOMs) members benefitted from capacity-building in childcare, child rights and inclusive education. This provided a basis for coordinated leadership and school management by the BOMs and school management.

Peace work in Kerio Valley also resulted in the revival and facilitation of five Natural Resource Management (NRM) committees. The NRMs have since then engaged in Early Warning and Early Response (EWER) and intra/inter-ethnic conflict prevention/resolution processes especially along the borders. Four environmental clubs were established in four schools in Baringo County and awareness raising on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation was conducted for 1,362 (106F; 1,256M) community members.

Challenges and lessons learnt

KECO adapted to curfews imposed in Kerio Valley with flexibility and used alternative monitoring strategies. These included working with local partners in various counties and liaising with the national government and security personnel for security updates. The severe drought situation led to increased resource-based conflicts, negatively impacting the gains made by the peace project in Kerio valley. However, the CP successfully responded to the drought with emergency humanitarian responses despite limited financial resources. The dwindling funding situation in the country was exacerbated by the war in Ukraine and led to budget cuts by donors and a low response to drought response calls for funding. This highlighted the need for the country programme to strengthen local fundraising initiatives to supplement available funds.

To ensure efficient response to shocks and changes in the country context, the CP maintained and regularly updated contingency plans. Coordination with the local government structures on the ground has been essential to ensure access to project sites.



Project list and financial summary

Project number	Project name	Partner	Primary Funding Source	Costs (€)
11782	KECO MFA PMER support	FCA	MFA Frame	212,718
11783	KECO FCA PMER support	FCA	FCA	188,129
12150	Livelihood support through Women’s Bank	FCA, TAKATAKA	FCA Women’s Bank	131, 416
12211	Improving access to safe and inclusive quality Accelerated Education for primary	FCA	UNICEF	625,876
12219	Supporting Kenya edu. sector: digital competencies and creative industry trainin	FCA	Estonian MFA (via Mondo)	82,232
12221	RISE - Right to Inclusive and Safe Education in Kalobeyei	FCA	US Department of State-PRM	893,094
12253	Development and Inclusive peace for all in Kenya (DIPAK)	FCA	MFA Frame	141,862
12254	Promoting Peace through livelihood opportunities for rural communities in Kenya	FCA	FCA	43,514
12274	Creative Industries program Kenya	FCA	MFA Frame	93,489
12278	Garissa Emergency Drought Response	FCA	FCA	197,177
12282	Provision of Safe and Inclusive Pre-primary and primary education	FCA	UNHCR	654,461
13093	Garissa & Marsabit Counties Emergency Drought Response Project	FCA	FCA	176,633
13099	Right to Inclusive and Safe Education for Children in Kalobeyei (RISE II)	FCA	US Department of State-PRM	392,083
13100	Increased opportunities for (re)-enrolment and retention of OOSC children	FCA	UNICEF	256,242
13143	Improving access to safe water and inclusive quality accelerated education -HPD	FCA	UNICEF	167,620
				4,256,547





## Somalia

### Overview of Somalia Country Programme

FCA Somalia's interventions in peace, education and livelihood were affected by increased conflict, insecurity, and political divisions, which continued to drive humanitarian needs, displacement and protection concerns. Local governance and reconciliation work suffered from significant disruptions due to power sharing challenges and Al-Shabaab attacks, with heightened tensions during 2022. The accelerating economic deterioration and impacts of climate change were additional key drivers that compounded vulnerabilities even further.

The educational crisis worsened due to an influx of out-of-school children displaced by drought and insecurity, thus straining the existing educational interventions. In many areas, parents were not able to pay for their children's education; more than three million children were out of school in 2022. In addition to poverty,



**13,722**

**7,416 boys and 6,306 girls affected by drought and insecurity were enrolled for basic education.**



**A Reconciliation Action Plan for Jowhar District was made available in collaboration with the district peace committee.**



**1,100**

**households in IDP camps in Baidoa and Burco met immediate household needs through unconditional cash transfers.**

**37,879**  18,599  19,280

**direct beneficiaries reached by the Somalia Programme in 2022, including 1,413 (641F; 772M) Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).**

long distances, safety concerns, social norms favouring boys' education, lack of teachers (particularly female teachers) and the low availability of sanitation facilities discouraged parents from enrolling

children, and particularly girls, in school.

In total 14.6 million people needed humanitarian assistance, an increase of 1.2 million from 2021, causing a paradigm shift in SOCO's response with active

advocacy towards donors for additional funding.

The Somalia Country Programme (CP) was implemented in South-West Somalia, Mogadishu and Somaliland. FCA worked in close cooperation with its local partners including TVET Technical Institutions, relevant Government Ministries and CSOs. The Disability Aid Foundation (DAF) was identified as a key partner in education interventions. In Somaliland, Hargeisa Technical Institute was chosen as a partner to provide level-two professional tailoring and garment design and soft skills for the project trainees. The iRise Hub foundation in Mogadishu was selected to deliver software development and coding to the project trainees.

### Main Objective 1 People and Private Sector People can claim and enjoy their right to inclusive and sustainable economic growth for poverty eradication

The Somalia CP supported 57 female and 28 male youth in Hargeisa and Mogadishu with access to LL2E mechanisms such as market-driven TVET training, entrepreneurship training and start-up grants. This included 15 female youth who gained market-driven skills in coding and software development, 10 of whom found internships in the private sector. All 86 youth benefited from CGC services to ease their transition to the labour market. In Hargeisa, FCA SOCO scaled up the pilot LL2E project by integrating more trade sectors in skills development including digitalization and technology. There were no businesses started by the end of 2022, but the provision of market-driven skills was still ongoing for 85 youth, with graduation expected by July 2023.

### Main Objective 2 People and Governance People can claim and enjoy their right to improved and inclusive governance and services

FCA SOCO, while supporting the government of Somalia, supported the consolidation of local governance and reconciliation through rationalizing frameworks to guide processes. In 2022, FCA engaged with the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs & Reconciliation (MOI-FAR) to review the Wadajir framework, the Federal Government of Somalia's (FGS's) roadmap. This works on local

governance, aiming to build up from the bottom, break down social barriers, mend social divides, and re-energize the spirit of working together for the common good. Furthermore, a Reconciliation Action Plan in Jowhar District was developed in Jan 2022 with the support of the district peace committee. It consisted of 30 (6F; 24M) participants with four youth members in the committee. This contributed to important peace, reconciliation, and good governance initiatives by the government of Somalia.

As part of education sector development efforts, SOCO provided inputs to the national Education Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP) 2022-2026. This was recently finalized and SOCO participated in its roll-out. The plan is a strategic guide to streamline education efforts in Somalia. At school level, 257 male and 62 female primary school and TVET teachers improved their skills in learner-centred and inclusive pedagogy. Continuity and quality of education were strengthened with monthly incentives and teaching materials provided to primary school teachers. To smoothen the transition from education to working life, a private sector engagement meeting was organised. This resulted in a commitment from public and private sector actors for networking to facilitate internships, apprenticeships and job placements.

There was a significant increase in enrolment of learners compared to the planned target numbers, with 7,416 boys and 6,306 girls affected by the drought and security crisis enrolled for basic education. A total of 500 Children with Disabilities (CwD) were enrolled in the target schools and 133 CwDs (57 girls) were provided with assistive devices to increase access to quality education, including rechargeable hearing devices, wheelchairs and walking sticks. Girls' retention in school was further strengthened with provision of dignity kits with sanitary pads to 700 adolescent girls.

Furthermore, 1,100 households were supported to meet immediate household needs through the provision of emergency lifesaving unconditional Multipurpose Cash Transfers (MPCT). As a result, the coping mechanisms and resilience of the drought-affected displaced populations were strengthened.

### Main Objective 3 People and Civil Society People fulfill their legitimate and active role for positive change

Two district council formation processes were re-initiated in the Jowhar and Adado districts of Hirshabelle and Galmudug states respectively. Women's meaningful participation was actively supported







during the District Council Formation (DCF) processes. The DCF process of Adado saw the election of three women and 13 youth out of 27 members to the council, while the minority Madiban sub-clan were allocated a seat in the council of the district. Overall, 20 IDPs, 74 youth and 42 women participated in the community consultation sessions to review the conflict mapping of Baidoa, thus increasing participation by vulnerable

community members and groups. Civic dialogue broadcasting sessions including talk-shows for youth and women were also organised. Fifty-four civil society groups, one network and over 1,200 of their members were supported through Government-led engagements. These groups included community and school-based structures under DCF peace committees, youth groups, women, Community Education Committees (CEC), and Parent Teacher Associations (PTA). This contributed to CSOs increased capacity to promote inclusive and peaceful electoral processes under the Local Governance efforts. Furthermore, 240 crisis-affected children from 24 Children’s Clubs and 500 CEC and PTA members from 22 supported schools were provided with capacity training on disaster risk reduction (DRR) and lifesaving skills to promote positive coping mechanisms during crisis.

**Challenges and lessons learnt**

Although the formation of a new Government and the peaceful transition of presi-

dential power in May 2022 brought some level of political stability, the security situation in Somalia remained extremely volatile. In addition to the political and inter-clan tensions, the escalation of the military offensive against Al-Shabaab resulted in significant humanitarian impacts including increased displacement and reprisal attacks. As a result, SOCO intensified fundraising efforts to meet the needs of the affected populations especially in South-West Somalia. Meanwhile, security-related displacement was made worse by drought-induced displacement. Addressing the needs of the displaced groups, with over 80 per cent of those displaced being women and children, put an additional strain on FCAs interventions.

FCA promoted and established partnerships with the local government, civil society and private sector actors, focusing on strengthening local capacity and systems. This contributed to an improved humanitarian response, accountability and access to local communities as well as more sustainable outcomes of our actions.



Project list and financial summary

Project nr	Project name	Partner	Primary Funding Source	Costs (€)
10781	SOCO Somali Country Field Office	FCA	MFA Frame	410,321
11919	SOCO CO - FCA other projects PMER support	FCA	FCA	333,437
11951	Strengthening local governance structures for more accountable and inclusive Federal Member States in support of the Wadajir National Framework - Phase II	FCA, CRD, EISA	EU-EEAS	896,957
12205	Inclusive Education in Emergencies for Crisis Affected Children in Baidoa of South West State of Somalia	FCA	FCA	79,295
12207	MIDEEYE - Support of the National Reconciliation and Local Governance in Somalia	FCA	MFA-ALI	612,265
12212	Right to Education for All for Displaced Children in Hard to Reach Areas of Southwest State of Somalia - READ Project	FCA, GREDO	ECHO	1,314,548
12245	MFA TVET	FCA, HAVOYOKO, GAVO, IRISE	MFA Frame	265,501
12292	Emergency Lifesaving Cash Assistance for Drought affected families in Baidoa	FCA	FCA	200,125
13083	Private funding support for inclusive EIE for crisis affected children	FCA	FCA	35,130
13154	Promoting resilience and peaceful co-existence for climate crisis affected communities	FCA	Bread for the World (via LWF)	25,665
13155	Emergency Lifesaving Cash Assistance for Drought affected families in Baidoa Southwest State of Somalia	FCA	FCA	188,466
13173	Emergency response, early recovery & resilience building for drought affected populations	FCA	Bay Women Association Network via ACT Alliance	12,022
Total (€)				4,373,732

South Sudan

Overview of South Sudan Country Programme

In 2022, an estimated 8.9 million South Sudanese needed humanitarian support. Flooding, which started three years ago in the Northern and Eastern parts of the country also affected South Sudan during 2022. Fighting also continued in various areas by both signatory and non-signatory groups to the 2018 Revitalized Agreement for the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS). Violent inter-communal clashes prevented the return and (re)integration of displaced persons, early recovery and stabilization activities, and created new humanitarian needs.

Responding to the humanitarian needs of the flood-affected IDPs was a high priority for FCA. FCA South Sudan also implemented its peace programme, responded to the needs of crisis-affected children through education in emergencies (EiE), provided teacher training, and supported provision of technical



400

returnee farmer households were able to meet their food requirements and earn an income from sales of surplus produce.



140

religious leaders strengthened their mediation skills, while 500 peace committee members strengthened their skills in conflict-sensitive trauma healing, conflict resolution, and non-violent communication.



28,763

learners (9,809F; 18,954M) have access to inclusive primary education.

89,723 40,403 49,320

direct beneficiaries reached by the South Sudan Programme in 2022 including 1,135 (518F; 617M) Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).



and vocational training (TVET) combined with start-up support and agricultural activities for improved livelihoods. The programme was implemented in the states of Central Equatoria, Western Equatoria, Jonglei, Upper Nile, Western Bahr El Ghazal, and Lakes State.

SSUCO worked closely with the South Sudan Council of Churches to promote peace, reconciliation, and social cohesion. SSUCO is also a member of several peace and education consortia cooperating with international NGOs such as Norwegian Church Aid, Save the Children and Norwegian Refugee Council. SSUCO also partnered with IOM and several local NGOs in joint implementation of peace and education projects. FCA formed a new partnership with Maridi Teacher Training Institute and the University of Juba to support teacher training, and to develop career counselling in schools.

**Main Objective 1**  
**People and Private Sector**  
People can claim and enjoy their right to inclusive and sustainable economic growth for poverty eradication

The economic self-reliance of 125 young people was supported through short-term skills training in several trades. After the training, 40% of them started a small business and 30% have found employment in the private sector. Meanwhile, 264 youth completed apprenticeships and gained practical skills and work life exposure, which increased their competitiveness in the labour market.

In addition, 30 women in Pochalla had their livelihoods strengthened through tailoring and food processing training, with 25 of the participants starting their own businesses and five finding employment. Another 43 women had access to entrepreneurship and skills training in tailoring or hairdressing in Mingkaman. A total of 30 graduates earned a living three months after the completion of training. In Yei, 131 female and 27 male skills trainees gained skills in catering, tailoring, hairdressing, and carpentry. After graduation, they received business training and were provided with start-up kits in 33 groups. Half of the groups have started businesses and the rest will benefit from additional support to start-up businesses in 2023.

In Yei, 400 returnee farmer households accessed cash, seeds, farming tools and agricultural training. The farmers reported that the support has

enabled them to meet the family food needs, but also to generate income from the sales of the surplus produce. Moreover, 197 female and 28 male IDPs and host community vegetable farmers in vulnerable situations in Mingakaman participated in training and were provided with agricultural inputs such as seeds and tools. By the end of the year, 74% of them demonstrated a significant increase in their incomes and were able to cover the food requirements of their household.

**Main Objective 2**  
**People and Governance**  
People can claim and enjoy their right to improved and inclusive governance and services

FCA played an active role in promoting transparent and participatory peace processes in South Sudan on different levels. FCA supported the review of South Sudan Council of Churches (SSCC) Action Plan for Peace (APP), which led to a collective statement by South Sudan’s Church Leaders to continue working for peace and justice. FCA also convened six High Level Religious Leaders Consultations in response to emerging conflict issues such as inter-communal violence between cattle herders and agriculturalists. Altogether 180 religious leaders participated in these consultations and six statements were issued to denounce the violence and call-out the government to ensure protection for its people. The consultancy also de-escalated the existing tensions. Furthermore, the CP supported the training of 140 religious leaders (26F; 114M) on mediation and subsequent formation of a county-level mediation group.

In the education sector, a national TVET apprenticeship guideline for South Sudan was developed and finalized, while curricula for Career Guidance and Counselling and TVET teacher pedagogical skills were drafted. A Peace Club Manual was completed in collaboration with Teachers Without Borders, which supported the operationalization of 32 School Peace Clubs with a total of 480 members. The CP also ensured access to primary education for 18,954 boys and 9,809 girls, while 779 male and 691 female youth had access to TVET. Learners with Disabilities were provided with incentives, and families were engaged in discussions on the importance of education. In addition, 39 male and eight female youth enrolled for

two years in primary teacher education, and 14 male teaching students from a previous batch completed their final examination for certification and accreditation by the University of Juba. A total of 332 teachers received incentives, which enabled them to continue teaching. The same teachers also attended the teacher training.

In total 1,000 disaster-affected households had access to cash assistance for food and education. This supported their children’s continued education, despite being affected by the ongoing conflict and flooding.

**Main Objective 3**  
**People and Civil Society**  
People fulfill their legitimate and active role for positive change

Altogether 500 peace committee members were able to strengthen their skills in conflict-sensitive trauma healing, conflict resolution, dialogue facilitation and non-violent communication. Furthermore, 108 traditional leaders were trained on the customary justice system and non-judicial conflict resolution mechanisms. This resulted in launching a process of documenting and reviewing the customary justice system.

In the education sector, 90 (23F; 67M) TVET centre management committee members participated in training on centre management, resource mobilization, community engagement and financial management. This contributed to improved ownership of the TVET centres by the Centre Management Committee, enhanced leadership skills and the ability to run and manage TVET centres effectively. Additionally, 509 (213F; 296M) Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) and School Management Committee (SMC) members were trained to support education and manage schools.

A total of 400 Peace Club members were trained in non-violent communication, and school level conflict resolution. Overall, the school peace clubs have proven to be a channel for students to connect and organize with others interested in promoting and learning about peace and gaining skills to deal with conflict. The students participating in the clubs have developed their communication skills and self-confidence, which has had a positive impact on the interaction and dialogue between students and teachers.

**Challenges and lessons learnt**

Insecurity in South Sudan directly affected SSUCO’s operations. Fangak Area Office was ransacked in August, and both FCA staff and rights-holders had to leave the area. To continue to support the targeted groups who became IDPs, FCA moved operations to the Malakal Protection of Civilian (PoC) site and implemented the project in the new location. Due to insecurity, the Fangak Area Office con-

tinued to operate from temporary office premises until the end of 2022. Moreover, Yei Area Office’s project implementation was hindered by a security incident, when an armed group attacked and burned MSF cars on the road to Tore Payam in February. These security incidents caused delays in project implementation.

Despite conflict and insecurity, SSUCO managed to continue its humanitarian response when the operation was moved to a new area from Upper Nile

State to Malakal PoC. This flexibility to adapt to the changing circumstances was appreciated by the donor and other humanitarian actors in the sector. However, this was only possible as Malakal PoC was safe enough for project implementation.

In addition to the security situation, the CP was also challenged by staff high turnover, which was mitigated against by identifying and focusing on project priorities.

**Project list and financial summary**

Project nr	Project name	Partner	Primary Funding Source	Expenditure 2021
10598	SSUCO South Sudan Field Office	FCA	MFA Frame	302,061
11774	RBA Horn of Africa Project in South Sudan	LWF	FCA	50,000
11904	SSUCO CO - FCA other projects PMER support	FCA,	FCA	248,619
12145	Providing access to basic education, protection, livelihood and nutrition services to populations affected by conflict in Jonglei and Upper Nile States, South Sudan	SALF	ECHO	363,599
12193	Enhancing Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) for youth employment in South Sudan	FCA	EU-DEVCO-CSO-LA (via NRC)	536,650
12201	Improving Food Security and Livelihoods of Crisis-Affected People in Yei County, South Sudan	FCA	CFGB (via PWRDF)	410,741
12208	Food Security, Livelihoods and Education in Emergencies Support for Returnees, IDPs and Host Communities in Jonglei State (Fangak County) and Central Equatoria State (Yei County), South Sudan	FCA	FCA	461,460
12214	Management Function of South Sudan’s Education Cannot Wait Fund (YII)	Oxfam, World Vision, Windle Trust International	Education Cannot Wait (via Save the Children Intl)	51,868
12215	Grassroot level peace building and reconciliation activities support	FCA	EU TF Africa (via NCA)	191,294
12229	Locally-Driven Solutions to Address Social Cohesion and Promoting Early Recovery	FCA	UN RSRTF (via IOM)	500,615
12247	Enhancing Sustainable Peace and Intercommunal Reconciliation in Boma and Jonglei	FCA	MFA Frame	273,283
12248	Advocating for, Promoting Peace and Reconciliation through Civil Society, Women	SSCC	MFA Frame	196,343
12249	Building resilience through livelihood support and development to vulnerable communities	FCA	MFA Frame	203,239
12250	TESS - Teacher Education South Sudan	FCA	MFA Frame	201,839
12293	Management Function of South Sudan’s Education Cannot Wait Fund (YIII)	Oxfam, World Vision, Windle Trust International	Education Cannot Wait (via Save the Children Intl)	3,083,348
12297	Integrated support to basic education, protection and livelihoods for conflict.	FCA, SALF	ECHO	643,325
13081	Early Recovery Support for Returnees and Host Communities in Yei River County	FCA	PWRDF	79,184
13159	Education in Emergencies Response for Crisis and Disaster Affected Children	FCA	SSHF	18,905
13168	Food Assistance for Food Crisis-affected People of Fangak County, South Sudan	FCA	CFGB (via PWRDF)	13,622
13172	New Fangak office Support Cost	FCA	FCA	14,403
Total (€)				7,844,398





## Uganda

### Overview of Uganda Country Programme

In 2022, the schools re-opened after two years of closure due to COVID-19. The outbreak of Ebola disease mainly affected a district near Rwamwanja and Kyaka refugee settlements, but this did not have a severe impact on FCA programme implementation. Uganda also continued to have an influx of refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo. This further increased needs, especially in education.

The Uganda Country Programme (UGACO) was largely implemented in the refugee hosting areas and mainly focused on quality education. UGACO's work significantly contributed to Uganda's refugee response plan and the education response plan for refugee and host communities. FCA operations were in line with the national policies on TVET, women's empowerment, and the rights of children and youth. UGACO contributed



**1,252**

**(463F; 789M) persons had access to LL2E mechanisms such as industrial training, and private sector job placements.**



**5,727**

**political and religious leaders and representatives of local community structures strengthened their capacities and played an instrumental role in improving school management.**



**250,112**

**(118,207F; 131,905M) learners had uninterrupted access to formal education, while 8,348 (6,964F; 1,384M) learners had access to non-formal education opportunities.**

**301,863**  146,655  153,167 (2,041 non-disaggregated)

**direct beneficiaries reached by the Uganda Programme in 2022, including 2,906 (1,758F; 1,148M) Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).**

to implementing the policies through education support, girls' and women's empowerment through Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM), women's livelihood support and vocational skills training.

FCA initiated a partnership to support the Ministry of Education and Sports, allowing FCA to play a key role in the review of Uganda's national education sector. The partnership enabled FCA to support the Education Sector Review Commission on a benchmarking visit to Finland. In 2022, FCA also continued working with four other partners, which complemented FCA's efforts in supporting women's empowerment, peacebuilding and skills development.

### Main Objective 1

#### People and Private Sector

**People can claim and enjoy their right to inclusive and sustainable economic growth for poverty eradication**

To contribute to employment creation for the youth, FCA supported vocational skills training through the existing TVET centres in Rwamwanja and Kyaka and coupled them with LL2E mechanisms. This led to 58% of the trained 789 male and 463 female learners earning a living by the end of December 2022. As part of efforts to promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, FCA supported 2,669 jobs and enabled the women to earn incomes. In addition, 5,264 women and 245 men accessed business development services including access to finance, advisory services, entrepreneurship training and specialized short-term livelihood training. Access to business development services led to the establishment of 2,165 women-owned business enterprises.

### Main Objective 2

#### People and Governance

**People can claim and enjoy their right to improved and inclusive governance and services**

During 2022, FCA directly supported the Education Sector Review Commission to benchmark the Finnish Education system, which also led to support from experts of the Finnish Government to Uganda's Ministry of Education and Sports. At refugee settlement level, FCA advocated for and achieved licensing and uptake of 10 community-initiated schools by the government of Uganda. These schools will receive permanent



staff and funding for other activities from the government.

The Country Programme (CP) actively mobilized communities to support education, provided scholastic materials and MHM support, strengthened school governance structures, constructed school infrastructure, and built the capacities of teachers, local leaders, and representatives for instance in psychosocial support. Notably, more than 5,700 political, religious and opinion leaders and representatives of local community structures took part in capacity-building. As a result, they played an instrumental role in strengthening school management and in mobilising communities to promote children's return to school after the COVID-19 crisis. In total, 2,362 teachers were supported with in-service training including protection, the new lower secondary curriculum, psychosocial support, continuous professional development, and referral pathways.

FCA's support enabled over 250,100 (118,207F; 131,905M) learners to gain uninterrupted access to formal education. Similarly, FCA supported 8,348 (6,964F; 1,384M) learners to access non-formal education opportunities including non-TVET business training, literacy and numeracy and short-term livelihood training. Over 1,300 learners and 324 teachers accessed psychosocial support after immediate basic support and referral from FCA-trained stakeholders. This improved their wellbeing and contributed to learners' retention in school and delivery of

lessons to learners. The support contributed to 15,000 learners completing their studies in primary, secondary and TVET education.

Furthermore, 2,444 people were provided with cash assistance to facilitate access to education for Out-of-School Children. Consequently, 85% of the targeted children returned to school on the re-opening in January 2022.

### Main Objective 3

#### People and Civil Society

**People fulfill their legitimate and active role for positive change**

At the end of 2022, all the 47 ECD centres, 159 primary schools and 18 secondary schools supported by the CP had active management structures in place. These structures not only provided a platform for community participation in school management and resourcing, but they also offered complementary support such as school monitoring, community mobilization in times of school re-opening. This mobilized parents to enroll their children at the beginning of every school term and enabled identification and referral of children with psychosocial and mental health challenges. Active management committees have also led to increased enrolment and retention of Children with Disabilities in schools.

In addition, more than 2000 youth took part in dialogue sessions to peacefully resolve conflicts that arise from religious affiliations, beliefs and values.



This increased the youth’s awareness of such mechanisms and enabled them to play a more active role in resolving conflicts at community level.

UGACO provided funding to four local partner organisations and 201 school governance committees that support schools on behalf of the communities they live in. FCA supported an additional 560 networks, including local CBOs and VSLAs (336) and 224 institutional governance structures with training, and guidance materials to enable them to perform their roles appropriately. An additional 150 adolescent volunteers gained skills to serve as peer educators to support Children with Disabilities in in the southern five districts of southwestern Uganda, including two refugee hosting districts (Kyegegwa and Kikuube). Through its partner UMYDF, FCA facilitated training for 70 people in dialogue-building, effective networking and/or civil society empowerment. This continues to instil the culture of peaceful resolution of differences in the communities that FCA supports.

FCA continued to mainstream disaster risk reduction in its operations. Building on the work carried out in the previous year, UGACO supported 180 DRR committee members in Kyaka Refugee Set-

tlement with strengthened skills in DRR. They were able to follow up on the plans they had developed earlier with interventions such as replacement of the vegetation in schools, tree planting and continuous care for the planted trees. FCA facilitated formation and capacity building for 46 eco-clubs in Bidibidi Refugee Settlement, which have assumed an active role in planting trees in the settlement. Consequently, the settlement has 10,000 newly planted trees. This did not only build learners’ capacity in addressing environmental protection issues, but also contributed to direct re-greening of the school environments in the semi-arid conditions in Bidibidi refugee settlement.

Challenges and lessons learnt

Government of Uganda re-opened schools at the beginning of January 2022 after two years of closure with stringent Standard Operating Procedures to prevent a possible resurgence of Covid-19. This called for massive resources and efforts as all FCA-supported education institutions were re-opening at the same time. School re-opening also put pressure on the infrastructure, especially on classrooms and sanitation facilities, with

schools experiencing congestion and staff shortages. To address these challenges, FCA adopted innovations such as a double shift programme and a shorter curriculum. As a result, the country programme successfully supported school re-opening and there were no incidents during the re-opening phase. Due to ongoing and active dialogue, schools and communities welcomed the new initiatives and ways of work.

School closure due to the Covid-19 pandemic had its toll on children including sexual abuse, which resulted into teenage pregnancies. With surging numbers of teenage pregnancies, FCA faced challenges of enrolling and retaining young mothers. The country programme responded with community mobilisation, recruitment of baby minders and provision of basic feeding support to retain the teenage mothers in schools. Consequently, this enabled 740 teenage mothers to return to school.

FCA also learnt that there is a continued need to inform teachers and learners about protection and safeguarding requirements to avoid misunderstandings and misinterpretations. This included active dialogue with adolescent learners on the interlinkage between safeguarding, school discipline, and learning.



Project list and financial summary

Project nr	Project name	Partner	Primary Funding Source	Costs (€)
11526	UGACO PMER support for MFA Frame funded projects	FCA	MFA frame, FCA	376,664
11683	Enhancing Civic Engagement and Economic self-reliance for peaceful and violent free communities in Yumbe and Kampala districts	Uganda Muslim Youth Development Forum (UMYDF)	MFA frame, FCA	207,634
11777	Women's Income Generating Support (WINGS) Project	Rural Action Community Based Organization (RACOB AO)	FCA Women's Bank, MFA frame	139,206
11906	UGACO FCA PMER support program	FCA	FCA	160,417
12022	SPEAR, Sustainable Primary Education and Accelerated Response	FCA	Education Cannot Wait	1,511,202
12137	HealthyFoodAfrica	FCA (consortia project)	EU Horizon2020	58,232
12149	Promoting Women's Entrepreneurship in the Poultry Value Chain in Mityana, Uganda	FCA	FCA Women's Bank, MFA frame	190,955
12155	Sustainable exit for the WID project in Yumbe and Arua districts	Uganda Change Agent Association (UCAA)	FCA Women's Bank, MFA frame	65,497
12156	Enhancing Youth Employability and Entrepreneurship through market-driven skills	FCA	MFA frame, FCA	405,501
12157	Economic empowerment of women in informal settlements/slums of Kampala and Wakiso Districts	Development and Relief Initiative Uganda (DRI)	FCA Women's Bank, MFA frame	124,906
12159	UGACO MFA HA 2021-2022	FCA	MFA HUM	482,812
12197	Mitigating the Effects of COVID-19 in Education: Enhancing Digital Competencies in East Africa	FCA (consortia project)	Estonia MFA	14,851
12204	INCLUDE II (INnovative and inCLUusive accelerated eDucation programme for refugee and host community children)	FCA (consortia project)	EU-ECHO, FCA	1,710,150
12218	SCORE IV - Sustainable Comprehensive Response to Education	FCA	UNICEF, FCA	199,136
12223	Interventions for Disability in Early Childhood (IDEC)	FCA	UNICEF, FCA	236,908
12230	LEARN Year 3 – Lasting Education Achievements Responding to Needs	FCA	US Dep. of State-PRM	820,255
12255	Quality of Education Improvement (QEI) Project in Mubende District	Rural Action Community Based Organization (RACOB AO)	MFA frame, Comic Relief	117,410
12256	Skilling Refugee Youth Project in Kyaka II refugee settlement	FCA	MFA frame, FCA	198,403
12257	Capacity Enhancement in Critical Sectors in the Uganda Ministry of Education	FCA	MFA frame, FCA	46,370
12285	Refugee Education Management in Parolinya, Bidibidi, Kyaka and Rwamwanja	FCA	UNHCR, FCA	5,591,823
12286	Transforming digital learning to earning in Kyegegwa District	FCA	Enabel	101,193
12287	Play to Learn - Re-thinking Learning in Crisis Settings	FCA	LEGO Foundation	261,037
13103	Kisoro Emergency Response	FCA	FCA	41,010
13138	Transitional support for a sustainable exit of the MFA Project	FCA	FCA	102,019
13141	LEARN - Lasting Education Achievements Responding to Needs	FCA	US Dep. of State-PRM	1,327,668
13176	ACT Appeal: Congolese Refugee Influx to Uganda	FCA	ACT Alliance	64,361
Total (€)				16,555,616



Cambodia

Overview of Cambodia Country Programme

After two years characterised by the effects of COVID-19, the pandemic no longer had a significant impact on FCA’s programme in 2022. However, due to the Ukraine crisis, the overall inflation rate in Cambodia continued to increase through 2022. At the same time, Cambodia faced a severe flood that affected 14 out of 25 provinces nationwide.

The Cambodia Country Programme (CP) was implemented in seven provinces around Tonle Sap Lake. The programme focused on quality education including Career Guidance and Counselling (CGC), teacher and key education stakeholders’ capacity strengthening and promoting inclusive education for all. FCA supported skills development and livelihood opportunities for youth, women and Persons with Disabilities (PWD) by strengthening skills needed in the job market. The programme also supported Women’s Agriculture Cooperatives for value chain development for selected agricultural products and in adapting to climate change. The programme has been actively promoting open dialogue with duty-bears, rights-holders and the private sector during the interventions.

During 2022, the country programme actively worked with 10 civil society organisations and key technical ministries including the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS), Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training (MoLVT) and Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF).

Main Objective 1

People and Private Sector  
People can claim and enjoy their right to inclusive and sustainable economic growth for poverty eradication

The CP actively promoted the Linking Learning to Earning (LL2E) approach



70 %

of complaints received by Commune Dispute Resolution Committees and District Cadastral Commissions were resolved peacefully using local alternative dispute resolution methods and mechanisms.



74 %

of targeted youth and young adults earned a living three months after completion of formal/non-formal TVET training.



9,286

lower secondary school students in 40 schools received CGC services.

52,550 30,710 21,840

direct beneficiaries reached by the Cambodia Programme in 2022, including 674 (325F; 307M) Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).

through collaboration with Technical and Vocational Educational and Training (TVET) and the National Employment Agency (NEA). More than 1,300 youth and young adults (incl. 738 females) benefitted from FCA-supported LL2E services towards employment. Vocational skills development was offered to 108 students (68 females) e.g. in construction work and IT. The students also benefitted from CGC, including enhanced self-esteem, problem-solving skills and work ethic. Overall, 74% of TVET graduates and jobseekers with disabilities were matched with job opportunities and accessed employment.

Main Objective 2

People and Governance  
People can claim and enjoy their right to improved and inclusive governance and services

During 2022, Cambodia CP collaborated

with national and sub-national counterparts to promote positive change and contribute to policy dialogues through key advocacy messages. For instance, the CP worked with MoEYS to initiate the master plan on integrating Career Guidance and Counselling into the education system. The plan included strengthening the capacity of school counsellors, master trainers and education authorities to test the CGC curriculum as well as improving the CGC manual at the pilot stage. A total of 10 female and 18 male Master Trainers have now been certified as the first CGC qualified educators, and CGC has been integrated into 90 Cambodian schools.

The CP promoted inclusive education through three main components: (i) establishing school development plans to ensure continued commitment to education by schools and communities, (ii) strengthening capacity of education authorities in providing a safe learning



environment, child safeguarding etc. and (iii) providing scholarship packages to vulnerable students including backpacks, school uniforms and books. In total, the activities reached over 25,000 (including 14,231 females) children and youth. Overall, more than 19,000 youth had access to career guidance and counselling to help them to plan their next steps after lower secondary education.

In addition, 15 TVET teachers (11 females) enhanced their professional skills when they were trained via distance and in-country learning by Teachers without Borders volunteers on soft skills, entrepreneurship, pedagogical skills and CGC.

Furthermore, the CP worked with the Provincial Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (PDAFF) and Women Agriculture Cooperative (WAC) committees through joint field visits. As a result, PDAFF conducted 17 coaching and monitoring sessions for all WAC committees that applied the financial management system instructed by PDAFF. At the national level, FCA continued to actively participate in strategic platforms including the National Committee for Disaster Management, National Farmer Forum, Agriculture Cooperative Business Forum, Youth Participation in Leadership & Management and Safe Back to School Campaign to seek opportunities for collaboration, and programme development and scale-up.

Main Objective 3

People and Civil Society  
People fulfill their legitimate and active role for positive change

The CP strengthened the capacity of more than 900 local authorities, youth and community members to influence authorities at the sub-national level through training, open dialogue, public forum sessions and meetings.

Seventy per cent of the cases received by Commune Dispute Resolution Committees (CDRC), and District Cadastral Commissions (DCCs) were resolved peacefully using local alternative dispute resolution methods and mechanisms. The approach helped to address a wide range of issues from gender-based violence to land disputes and community conflicts, and it is being advocated by FCA to be integrated into the Commune Investment Plan/Commune Development Plan. Furthermore, a Community of Practice (CoP) was established for over 1,290 people (790F; 500M) to promote community-based efforts in positive social change and equal access to education. The CoP provides community members with a better understanding of the different methods and skills used in supporting students. These include e.g. teaching assistants, CGC to support students’ problem-solving skills and career selection, and support to address academic challenges. This

contributes to a more effective, accessible, integrated and comprehensive education service. In addition, almost 50 young network members (34F; 16M) participated in training and then implemented their own initiatives that focused on youth capacity development, mental health issues and community engagement.

The Cambodia CP continued to empower youth through youth-led research activity focusing on youth employment, challenges faced by youth at university and environmental protection. These series of events supported youth’s active participation in promoting human rights, local development and environmental protection.

Challenges and lessons learnt

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected Cambodia in multiple sectors including education, health and economic development and its consequences have disrupted development in many ways. The inflation rate continued to increase, impacting the more vulnerable families in particular.

However, FCA’s work, and programme plans were not affected by major challenges. The CP was implemented in close cooperation with local partners whose capacity strengthening FCA actively supported, including in financial management and compliance.





Project list and financial summary

Project nr	Project name	Partner	Primary Funding Source	Costs (€)
11753	CAMCO MFA PMER support	FCA	MFA Frame	303,338
11892	CAMCO FCA PMER support	FCA	FCA	9,203
11874	Cooperation for Women's Economic Development (CWED) - phase 2	ICCO	FCA Women's Bank	4,489
12052	Inclusive actions for improving women's social status through skills, employm	FCA, CWCC	FCA Women's Bank	166,775
12152	Establishment of sustainable Career Guidance and Counselling in Cambodia	FCA	MFA Frame	138,431
12153	Youth for Future	FCA, PDP	MFA Frame	82,928
12181	Supporting vulnerable children in Cambodia by enhancing learning Opportunities	FCA	Boliden B'cause Foundation	82,893
12243	An Inclusive Labour Market in Cambodia support to people with disabilities	FCA	SIDA	146,813
12244	Cooperation for Women's Economic Development Phase III (CWED III)	FCA, CIRD, LWD	FCA Women's Bank	159,270
12268	Enhancing Inclusive education in Primary School	FCA	MFA Frame	90,175
12269	Local Alternative Dispute Resolution Project (LADR)	LWD	MFA Frame	77,951
Total (€)				1,262,267

Myanmar

Overview of Myanmar Country programme

The Myanmar country programme (CP) faced a range of challenges in 2022, from ongoing conflict and insecurity to limited space for NGOs and civil society. The political situation following the 2021 coup added to the complexity of the context, as did the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite all this, FCA's programme made notable progress towards its goals.

FCA's CP in Myanmar is largely self-implemented, with close cooperation with local partners in community mobilization and livelihoods. The programme focuses on resilience building, social cohesion, and economic empowerment in Rakhine, Kachin, Kayin, and Shan States. Key partners include local NGOs and community-based organizations, private sector actors, and government departments such as the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief, and Resettlement. These partnerships have enabled FCA to leverage local knowledge and expertise and build trust with communities,



180

women became self-employed; 10 new women's cooperatives, and 3 enterprises were established.



5,200

conflict and disaster affected people in Kachin and Rakhine had their immediate material and food security needs met.



Active advocacy resulted in Ethnic Education Providers starting to integrate CGC curriculum developed by MYACO into their education system.



35,010 20,069 14,941

direct beneficiaries reached by the Myanmar Programme in 2022, including 120 (68F; 52M) Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).



contributing to sustainable programming. Capacity strengthening of local civil society organizations and women’s networks has also resulted in open dialogue and positive social change, promoting Do No Harm and conflict sensitivity.

Overall, FCA’s CP in Myanmar demonstrated resilience and adaptability in a complex and challenging context. FCA’s work contributed to national policies and programmes and provided timely and appropriate assistance to the targeted groups.

**Main Objective 1**  
**People and Private Sector**  
People can claim and enjoy their right to inclusive and sustainable economic growth for poverty eradication

Despite challenges related to access to communities, cash flow, and security, several initiatives supported the targeted groups’ self-reliance, also contributing to enhanced social cohesion. For instance, the successful beekeeping initiative and collaboration with non-state education actors, have resulted in improved livelihoods and increased income for many women.

MYACO has been successful in providing economic opportunities and support to vulnerable women and individuals, with a particular focus on entrepreneurship and business development. The creation of new businesses and cooperatives, as well as the provision of training and support services, have helped to increase income and improve livelihoods for targeted individuals and families. FCA’s interventions enabled 180 women to earn incomes through self-employment. Furthermore, 56 women set up three new enterprises and 40 women set up 10 cooperatives for on-farm activities. In addition, 210 enterprises had access to business development services such as business coaching, entrepreneurship training, in kind or cash assistance and specialised livelihood training.

The Myanmar CP has also contributed to enhanced social cohesion by promoting economic self-reliance and empowering marginalized groups, which can lead to greater community resilience and stability. The work also contributed to women’s increased decision-making within their households as a result of establishing small businesses and engaging in income-generating activities. For instance, 64% of participants in a women’s empowerment project reported an increase in their incomes, while 86% reported an improvement in their control over household financial resources.



**Main Objective 2**  
**People and Governance**  
People can claim and enjoy their right to improved and inclusive governance and services

MYACO contributed to policies and processes that are transparent, responsive, and participatory, and promoted access to inclusive education for children and youth. The country programme also provided essential life-saving assistance to disaster-affected people. In education sector development, important progress was made when Ethnic Education Providers (Mon National Education Committee and SJN CBE) started integrating CGC curriculum developed by MYACO into their education system and granted FCA an opportunity to train in-service teachers. In total 240 teachers strengthened their professional skills in service-training and 160 teachers became CHC counsellors after the training.

Over 11,150 children (5,632 girls) were provided with student and recreational kits and have access to learning spaces as well as CGC services. Five schools in emergency settings were renovated, enabling 1,497 students to continue their education.

In addition, over 5,200 conflict and disaster-affected people in Kachin and Rakhine benefitted from life-saving and sustaining aid, which met their immediate material needs and contributed to enhanced food security.

**Main Objective 3**  
**People and Civil Society**  
People fulfill their legitimate and active role for positive change

MYACO promoted active participation of

local communities in societal development as well as strengthened civil society partnerships and networks. Four local CSOs had access to small-scale funding for their organizational capacity development initiatives, while seven local organizations and one international NGO strengthened their capacity in needs assessments, project design, MEAL, grants management, financial management, and market-based approach. Furthermore, three schools in Northern Shan drew up Emergency Preparedness and Response Plans in collaboration with MYACO and SJN CBE.

**Challenges and lessons learnt**

MYACO faced significant challenges due to the volatile political situation in Myanmar, economic collapse, and limited space for civil society. Access restrictions, travel limitations, and difficulties in accessing funding also impacted programme delivery. However, FCA was able to adapt its programme approach and achieve positive results.

Lessons learnt in implementing a programme in fragile and volatile contexts include the importance of programme flexibility in changing circumstances, building strong relationships with local partners and communities, and investing in staff capacity-building, including training in risk assessment and management to ensure staff safety and security.

MYACO also struggled with a low staffing level, while donors have prioritized funding to local CSOs. As a result, MYACO is exploring ways to support localisation more effectively and to better adapt to the changing funding landscape.



**Project list and financial summary**

Project nr	Project name	Partner	Primary Funding Source	Costs (€)
11563	MYACO MFA PMER support	FCA	MFA Frame	272,875
11880	MYACO FCA PMER support	FCA	FCA	138,226
12083	Empowering Women for Business Success	FCA, LWF	FCA Women’s Bank	163,194
12162	Women Socio-Economic Reconstruction in Kayin State -Phase 2	FCA, KLF	FCA Women’s Bank	152,627
12163	Career Guidance and Counselling II (CGC II)	FCA	MFA Frame	126,778
12202	Women and girls who have experienced/are experiencing GBV or are at risk of GBV	FCA, CERA, PYOE	CERF (via UN Women)	309,497
12246	READ	FCA, CERA	UN Women	315,391
12283	Strengthening education and multi-sectoral support for vulnerable, newly displaced people in conflict-affected areas of Kachin State	FCA, DAI FIN, EEI	MHF	336,557
12288	Education in Emergencies in Non-Government Controlled Areas of Kachin, Kayin	FCA, WPN, MNEC, CBE	FCA	93,676
13101	Continuing Education for Crisis-affected children in Kachin State, Myanmar	FCA, DAI FIN, EEI	GPE AF (via UNICEF)	191,370
13163	Bee Project_ Women’s Bank initiative		FCA Women’s Bank	1,346
13177	Joint education needs assessment of GPE project		Save the Children	467
Total (€)				2,102,005





tainty, inflation, and increased prices of fertilizers and food.

Nepal Country Programme (CP) was implemented in eight districts across three provinces, including Madhesh, Bagmati, and Sudurpaschim Provinces. FCA continued to work with local partners such as SOLVE, Federation of Woman Entrepreneurs Association Nepal (FWEAN), Integrated Development Society (IDeS), and Freed Kamaiya Women Development Forum (FKWDF). In November, a new partnership was established with Ratauli Yuwa Club (RYC). FCA Nepal also collaborated and coordinated with various platforms such as the Association of International NGOs (AIN), UN clusters, ACT Alliance Nepal Forum, International Development Partners Group (IDPG) and other thematic working groups for synergy and shared learning.

The CP focused on women's empowerment and income generation, advocacy and awareness raising on social issues. Education materials and coaching classes were provided to vulnerable children for uninterrupted access to quality education. Capacity-building for various stakeholders focused on Climate Change Adaptation (CCA), Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Humanitarian Response, and Emergency Livelihoods. The country programme also continued its efforts to diversify its funding base.



## Nepal

### Overview of Nepal Country Programme

Local elections in Nepal were organised in May and provincial and federal level elections in November. The overall percentage of elected women representatives in local elections increased slightly to 41%, but the representation of women in leadership positions of chief and deputy chief decreased to 39%. In the federal and provincial level elections, the number of women representatives in the House of Representatives is just 33% (91 out of 275 members).

Nepal continued to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic especially at the beginning of the year. Furthermore, Nepal experienced a major outbreak of dengue fever, with over 18,000 cases reported across the country. Climate change effects, such as unseasonal rains and lack of rain, had negative consequences for agricultural production, impacting food security especially for marginalized groups. Additionally, the effects of the Ukraine war caused economic uncer-



### Main Objective 1

#### People and Private Sector

**People can claim and enjoy their right to inclusive and sustainable economic growth for poverty eradication**

The Nepal CP supported the establishment of 516 farm and non-farm-based private sector enterprises, with 505 of them owned by women. These enterprises included 291 farm-based activities such as vegetable farming and livestock, and 225 non-farm enterprises such as cycle repair, salons, and tailoring. In just 50 days, women who initiated poultry farming were able to generate an income ranging from 632-700€. In addition, FCA facilitated job placements and entrepreneurial opportunities for 56 graduates of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programmes within three months of completing their courses. This was achieved through the implementation of the Linking Learning to Earning (LL2E) approach and assisting the trainees in identifying suitable enterprises or jobs based on their interests, skills, and

market demand. These youth and young people in vulnerable situations also benefited from entrepreneurship training.

Business Development Services were provided to 11,597 individuals, resulting in increased engagement in enterprises and higher income. The proportion of the population earning above the national poverty line increased from 15% at baseline to 32% at endline for one of FCA's projects in Lalitpur. The programme also initiated a business model involving Black Soldier Fly Larvae (BSFL) production, benefiting seven women rights-holders and strengthening their business management capacity. Overall, the programme's interventions increased the targeted rights-holders income and improved their access to resources. The programme exceeded the set targets, with more individuals benefiting from the interventions than initially planned.

### Main Objective 2

#### People and Governance

**People can claim and enjoy their right to improved and inclusive governance and services**

The CP supported 579 rights-holders to claim their rights through advocacy ini-

tiatives related to improved and inclusive governance and services. As a result, the federal government formed a task team to study the status and rehabilitation problems of ex-bonded labourers, identity cards were provided for ex-Haliyas, and budget allocation was secured for livelihood promotion of Persons with Disabilities (PwD). Additionally, cooperative groups accessed resources from the government for cooperative building construction and irrigation systems for vegetable farming. The CP supported their efforts with a proposal submission to the local government. The resulting fund is further accessed by women as subsidised loans to start and operate their businesses/enterprises. A grant of 3,000€ was secured for livelihood promotion of Persons with Disabilities (PwD) through advocacy efforts.

A total of 1,085 duty-bearers (564F; 473M) actively participated in workshops on critical social issues such as GBV, CCA, caste-based discrimination, and gender inequality. This increased local awareness of difficult social issues and prepared the ground for advocacy. Additionally, access to quality education was enhanced for 452 learners, 75% being girl-children, ex-bonded labourers or from Dalit and



indigenous communities. The learners accessed scholarships, educational material support, and Community Managed Coaching Classes (CMCC) to ensure uninterrupted access to quality education and promote retention in schools.

The country programme expanded its work with cash-based transfers in humanitarian settings, supporting 53 fire-affected households in Bipatpur, Kailali with cash response and livelihood recovery. Additional cash was provided to 23 households with vulnerable family members, including PwD, pregnant and lactating women, single women, and senior citizens. FCA also facilitated the opening of bank accounts for rights-holders in collaboration with NIC Asia Bank, empowering marginalized communities with access to banking services. All these initiatives have contributed to improved governance, inclusive services, and empowerment of marginalized communities.

**Main Objective 3**  
**People and Civil Society**  
People fulfill their legitimate and active role for positive change

The country programme collaborated with 78 CBOs and CSOs to empower local communities and promote societal develop-

ment. Overall, 1,334 women and 292 men participated in training on various topics such as dialogue building, networking, empowerment, and community engagement, which contributed to strengthening civil society groups and promoting their active participation in local development.

CBOs and CSOs led initiatives including workshops with social leaders, Local Government (LG), women cooperatives, and schoolteachers. This resulted in increased participation of local communities, especially women, in local level planning processes. Review workshops with local judicial committees and family dialogues promoted gender equality and contributed to social cohesion. The women’s cooperatives were supported in lobbying and advocacy towards the LG for resource allocation. As a result, three cooperatives and 17 women’s groups received a grant of 41,995€ from local government for cooperative building construction and livelihood interventions.

Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) training conducted in three rural municipalities resulted in LG representatives committing to prioritize and integrate plans to address climate change issues. Additionally, 265 rights-holders from vulnerable communities participated in CCA and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

training, resulting in improved mitigation of and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters. Furthermore, 27 staff from FCA and partner organisations were trained on humanitarian response programming and emergency livelihoods, increasing their capacity to integrate CCA and DRR perspectives into project planning and implementation.

**Challenges and lessons learnt**

Local level elections held on 13th May and federal and provincial level elections held on 20th November 2022 affected programme work; activities were halted as per the elections Code of Conduct, which delayed certain projects. The uncertainty related to the elections also led to some administrative issues, related to FCA’s agreements with the government, and thus challenges for partners’ work. Two project evaluations were conducted in Nepal in 2022, leading to lessons learnt incorporated in the design of a new livelihood project in the country programme. FCA Nepal will e.g. prepare an exit strategy for the project as well as encourage partners to explore how cooperative activities could be covered by an insurance policy.



**Project list and financial summary**

Project nr	Project name	Partner	Primary Funding Source	Costs (€)
12057	Up scaling socio-economic empowerment of disadvantaged women	FCA	FCA Women’s Bank, MFA	153,544
12058	Strengthening community resilience through sustainable livelihood	Sahakarya	MFA Frame	33,799
12258	Promoting Women Employment through Sustainable Access to Finance and Business Skills	Sahakarya	FCA Women’s Bank, MFA	49,381
12259	Promoting Women Employment through Sustainable Access to Finance and Business Skills	FWEAN	FCA Women’s Bank, MFA	42,340
12261	Advocating for consolidation of Equality and Non-discrimination for Sustainable Peace (ENDS) Action in Nepal	NNDSWO	MFA Frame	3,511
12262	SAHAKARYA - Partnership in promoting social and economic rights of ex-bonded labors for better resilience and peace	FKWDF	MFA Frame	88,696
12263	Economic Empowerment for Social Justice: Supporting Ex-Bonded Labourers, Dalits and Marginalised Groups for Transformation (Rupantaran)	IDeS	MFA Frame	79,387
12264	BUZZ - Sustainable business through Black Soldier Fly Larvae (BSFL) production	FCA	Women’s Bank	12,731
12265	BUZZ - Sustainable business through Black Soldier Fly Larvae (BSFL) production	FWEAN	Women’s Bank	31,418
10837	MFA PMER: Nepal field presence / PMER support for MFA frame funded program	FCA	MFA Frame	393,165
13017	Humanitarian response	FCA	FCA	14,737
Total (€)				902,709



# EUROPE

## Ukraine

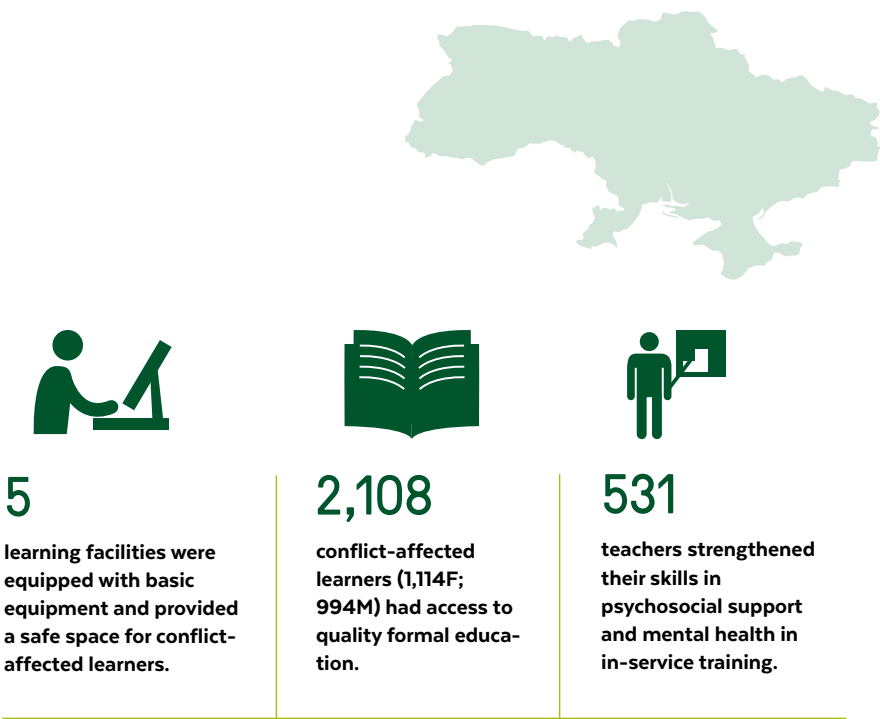
### Overview of Ukraine Country Programme

After the illegal Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, FCA responded promptly to the needs of those affected by the war. Our first activities included shipping food and hygiene kits to refugee centres in western and central Ukraine, with an operational base in Budapest. In March, FCA conducted a mission to Ukraine, and by April, had established a permanent presence in the country, with a head office in Kyiv and a field office in Chernihiv.

Initially, FCA's emergency response in Ukraine was led from Helsinki SAC. As the response evolved into a permanent operation, FCA established a strong local team and forged agreements with key local partners. In October, a new Country Director was recruited to assume leadership of the Ukraine operation.

Between April and December 2022, FCA's staff in Ukraine increased significantly from two to 21, including local staff and a few international education experts. FCA also took important steps to formalize its presence in the country, including obtaining legal registration, which became effective in September 2022.

As a new Country Office, UKRCO is still in the process of developing its country strategy and other relevant policies and plans. To date, UKRCO's programming has prioritized education and psychosocial support, with most of the funding coming from a European Union-funded consortium project implemented in partnership with Save the Children International, People in Need, and War Child Holland, with FCA as the consortium lead. FCA is also implementing four education projects in partnership with local NGOs DOCCU, Go Global, and savED, made possible by successful domestic fundraising in Finland.



18,400 10,050 8,350  
direct beneficiaries reached by the Ukraine Programme in 2022, including 301 (162F; 139M) Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).

### Main Objective 2 People and Governance People can claim and enjoy their right to improved and inclusive governance and services

Following the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, UKRCO became the first international NGO to focus on education in emergencies in the Northern part of the country. As a result, UKRCO played a vital role in establishing the Education Cluster in Ukraine and chaired the Northern Ukraine Education Sub-cluster for six months. Additionally, FCA actively participated in the Advocacy Working Group and endorsed key advocacy statements produced by the Working Group.

In 2022, UKRCO's education activities benefited 2,108 learners (1,114F; 994M) in Chernihiv and Kyiv Oblasts through the rehabilitation of five schools. Additionally, 531 teachers were trained in mental

health and psychosocial support skills to be put into action during 19 informal education summer camps that benefited over 5,870 children during the summer of 2022. Training on psychosocial support was also extended to other stakeholders such as social workers, psychologists, legal aid providers, police, and caretakers involved in shelters, totaling 11 people. Furthermore, UKRCO supported the establishment of 11 children's clubs to facilitate the return to school for conflict-affected learners.

In addition, UKRCO provided support to local NGO GoGlobal in assessing the physical damage inflicted on 68 school facilities in Chernihiv Oblast. The assessment included 13 secondary schools, 50 kindergartens, and five vocational schools. The findings of the assessment were shared with the government of Chernihiv Oblast, as well as local and international NGOs providing support in the area.

FCA provided material aid including various types of canned meat and vegetables (such as corn, peas, beans, and chickpeas), as well as cereals and

hygiene products such as diapers of different sizes. This aid was delivered to IDP shelters in Lviv and Dnipro. In addition, UKRCO contributed 1 million US dollars to the ACT Alliance for the provision of humanitarian support to Ukrainian IDPs and refugees in the form of food, hygiene items, and generators, benefiting more than 9,889 individuals directly. UKRCO also provided half a million euros to its sister organization, Hungarian Church Aid, for further food and goods distributions to the affected communities and IDP shelters.

### Main Objective 3 People and Civil Society People fulfill their legitimate and active role for positive change

UKRCO has worked very closely with three local education-focused NGOs which are invested in supporting the Ukrainian education system. UKRCO funding and partnership has enabled these local organizations to play active and leading roles in restoring societal confidence in local schools. UKRCO's support of our local NGO partners has also resulted in education programming, which has encouraged IDPs who had fled Chernihiv Oblast during the Russian occupation to return to their home communities with their children.

### Challenges and lessons learnt

One of the significant challenges faced by UKRCO during its first year of operation was establishing a new operation in a war context where FCA had no prior experience. This included setting up a robust security system, opening two new offices, recruiting local and international staff with the necessary skills and experience, and forming strong partnerships with local or-



ganizations and government representatives. One major lesson learned was the value of hiring experienced local staff as early as possible, as they possess extensive contextual knowledge that is invaluable for an organization new to Ukraine. Another challenge has been the unpredictable security situation in Ukraine, with frequent air raid alerts requiring staff to relocate to shelters and resulting in work continuity issues. In addition,

Russian attacks on Ukraine's electricity grids caused problems with internet and electricity access for UKRCO offices until back-up systems and generators could be procured. As UKRCO plans to expand programming to new areas in central and eastern Ukraine, which have only recently been de-occupied and are closer to the front lines, careful planning and security assessments will be necessary.

### Project list and financial summary

Project nr	Project name	Partner	Primary Funding Source	Costs (€)
12295	Emergency aid to Ukraine people	Hungarian Inter-church Aid, FCA	FCA	1,317,424
13090	Inclusive access to summer camp activities, Chernihiv Ukraine	FCA, NGO "Development of Citizenship Competences in Ukraine"	FCA	480,595
13094	Ukraine Education Response Consortium: Safe Return to Learning	FCA, War Child Holland, People in Need, Save the Children	ECHO	2,006,800
13096	13096 - A 2022 Official (PMER)	FCA, GO GLOBAL, GROMADS'KA ORGANIZACIYA	FCA	674,047
13170	Rebuilding Ukrainian schools on new philosophy, concepts & curricula for Lyceum	GO GLOBAL, GROMADS'KA ORGANIZACIYA	FCA	7,981
Total				4,486,847



# MIDDLE EAST



## Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories (IOPT)

### Overview of IOPT Country Programme

The UN called 2022 the deadliest year in 16 years for Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, with at least 170 Palestinians killed, including more than 30 children. In addition, the blockaded Gaza Strip was attacked by Israel for three days in early August, killing at least 49 Palestinians, including 17 children. Twenty twenty-two also witnessed the fifth Israeli parliamentary elections in less than four years, reflecting Israel’s inability to form a stable government.

The IOPT Country Programme (CP) continued working the education sector in Palestine and Israel, both through direct implementation and in close collaboration with two local partners in East Jerusalem, the West Bank and Israel. Project locations included Ramallah, Beit Jala, East Jerusalem, Qalansawa, Ramleh, Bat Yam and Or Yehuda. The implementation took place in a complex operational environment created by the protracted Israeli occupation. With very little impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the interventions were implemented according to the plan. Teachers without Border (TWB) volunteers were also able to return to visit the CP and work with different target schools.

### Main Objective 2 People and Governance People can claim and enjoy their right to improved and inclusive governance and services

The CP promoted access to quality inclusive education in IOPT both by enhancing the quality of formal education and ensuring availability of non-formal education in close collaboration with local actors and TWB volunteers. FCA staff advocated at the Ministry of Education



46

Ministry of Education officials are informed of the key learnings about inclusive education and its application in Palestinian schools.



2,082

Palestinian learners (825F; 1,257M) in four schools in East Jerusalem and West Bank had access to formal education provided by teachers capacitated by TWB.



61

university students from East Jerusalem and Nablus gained skills necessary to serve as mentors for children at high risk of marginalization.

2,712 1,545 1,167M

direct beneficiaries reached by the IOPT Programme in 2022.

on the importance of inclusive education and liaised with different departments. We discussed the TWB project evaluation and working jointly on inclusion and class management.

A total of 91 (80F,11M) Palestinian educators, including teachers, school principals and vice principals in the targeted schools in the West Bank and East Jerusalem were trained with the support of six TWB volunteers, who supported local teachers both online and through two on-the-ground deployments (field visits to Jerusalem and the West Bank). As a continuation to the online work conducted with two partner schools (Rawdat al zuhoor and Nour Al-Quds) in East Jerusalem, FCA also selected two new schools: Al Ahliyah School and Beit Jala Latin Patriarchate School. TWB volunteers were able to provide the teachers in the targeted schools with theoretical capacity-building as well as practical support. Some remote learning took place especially with volunteers who were not able to travel to the country. Overall,

94% of the surveyed teachers noted that they were satisfied or very satisfied with the activities implemented by the Finnish volunteers. Furthermore, 89% of the teachers felt that they had enhanced their knowledge (moderately or to a large extent) in classroom management. After the training, the capacitated teachers have applied their new skills with more than 2,000 Palestinian learners in four partner schools in Ramallah and East Jerusalem.

FCA also continued to support availability of non-formal education both in Israel and East Jerusalem. Among the targeted children in the West Bank and East Jerusalem were 61 children at considerable risk of marginalization and who were supported by volunteer mentors. The mentors provided the children with academic and emotional support. In Israel, 182 secondary school learners mostly in secondary schools and from both Jewish and Arab origins had access to extra-curricular activities to stimulate active citizenship and explore complex socio-political issues.



### Main Objective 3 People and Civil Society People fulfill their legitimate and active role for positive change

The CP continued to actively engage with local organizations and community members in support of its education interventions. In Israel, FCA’s partner Sadaka Reut conducted a series of workshops in secondary schools. In addition, eight Israeli facilitators refreshed and updated their capacities to run workshops for secondary school students and to stimulate their socio-political thinking and activity.

In total, 513 Palestinian children played an active role with Big Brother Big Sister volunteers to design and organize com-

munity activities for other children and adults in East Jerusalem and Nablus.

Furthermore, the capacity of the local civil society was also strengthened when university students from East Jerusalem and Nablus were trained to become volunteer Big Brother Big Sister mentors who support children at risk of marginalization.

### Challenges and lessons learnt

The TWB project evaluation faced some challenges when the external evaluator was not granted access to public schools despite negotiations between local officials, FCA staff, and the consultant. As a result, FCA decided to change the scope of the evaluation. This meant that the consultant

was able to conduct fewer interviews, especially with public school teachers.

The evaluation led to valuable reflections with the project team and volunteers and enabled greater sharing and an improved project design. Some of the learnings included the need for a better definition of inclusive education and to engage in classroom management prior to covering other issues. The evaluation also suggested building a professional learning community (PLC) inside each target school to disseminate the best practices beyond those teachers who were trained by the TWB volunteers. The evaluation also recommended creating a booklet based on best practices and success stories collected in the different targeted schools.

### Project list and financial summary

Project nr	Project name	Partner	Primary Funding Source	Costs (€)
12172	IOPT East Jerusalem Big Brother-Big Sister Project	ACCE	MFA Frame	80,000
12005	Teachers Without Borders	FCA / ACCE	MFA Frame	57,259
11990	School Workshops phase 2	Sadaka Reut	FCA	20,000
11848	IOPT Office	FCA	MFA FRAME	136,124
Total (€)				293,384

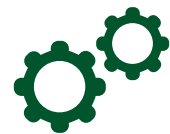




## Jordan

### Overview of Jordan Country Programme

With only 31% of the Jordan Response Plan's budgetary requirements met and with a deficit of 1.4 billion euros in 2022, the Jordanian government and NGOs were unable to respond to the refugee and local population needs. Humanitarian aid and self-reliance support available for refugees declined, resulting in greater competition for livelihoods opportunities. Jordan's economy is not able to generate enough new jobs for young people and the problem is further aggravated by the low productivity and segmentation of the labour market. Furthermore, the global price increases caused by the war in Ukraine led to a significant rise in Jordan's import bill, which in turn undermined the positive effect of increased merchandise exports and tourism. Inflation also impacted the FCA Jordan Country Programme (CP) due to the higher cost of supplies and services.



95

agricultural and circular economy businesses benefitted from technical and entrepreneurial skills training followed by extensive coaching.



260

youth had access to Career Guidance and Counselling.

894 573 321

direct beneficiaries reached by Jordan Country Programme in 2022.

In 2022, the FCA Jordan CP focused on youth and women's empowerment. The main sectors included agriculture, climate and the environment. FCA operational areas were in the middle, western and northern parts of the country where the relevant target groups, most of the refugees and

other stakeholders are present. The implementation methodologies were direct implementation and co-implementation with a local engineers' association, a CSO and a university that are accredited and well-capacitated entities who add value to project implementation and impact.

The country programme achieved the anticipated results in 2021. The projects were aligned with policies related to business start-ups registration and licensing and Decent Employment Policy, which maintains the rights of the workers, and especially the refugees. FCA self-implemented the projects in Jordan but also actively sought local partnerships and promoted localisation.

Due to lack of funding, FCA had to exit its operation in the Zaatari camp, and the operation was handed over to another organisation.

### Main Objective 1

#### People and Private Sector

People can claim and enjoy their right to inclusive and sustainable economic growth for poverty eradication

The country programme continued to support Jordanian and Syrian youth and women with income generation activities to cover their household and family expenses. Overall, a large proportion of youth is unable to define their career pathways as they struggle to identify their capabilities and available jobs. To address this need, Career Guidance & Counselling training informed 260 youth of the available market needs and opportunities and enabled them to explore their own potential. In total 172 youth, many of them agricultural engineers, attended specialized post-harvesting training provided by FCA's partner. The youth were linked with on-the-job training and internship programmes at local farms and agricultural

companies which abide by decent work conditions and Jordanian labour law.

Other youth accessed entrepreneurial and business development skills training followed by start-up grants. FCA provided business coaching to 95 youth who were able to initiate start-ups in the agricultural and circular economy (CE) sectors. Farm-based businesses were supported according to the harvesting seasons to ensure that the full harvesting cycle fell during the coaching period. In the pilot CE project, businesses were provided with practical advice by mentors on how to reach out to customers, markets, service providers, and suppliers in the CE sector. The mentors worked hand-in-hand with the new entrepreneurs for months to ensure they would not just reduce or recycle the solid waste in their community but would also produce zero waste.

To promote sustainable agricultural livelihoods, FCA assisted farmers to increase the shelf-life of their products, thus decreasing the organic waste dumped in landfills and around farms. The CP also contributed to environmental protection by initiating micro projects for managing different kinds of waste. Project participants took part in technical CE training, in addition to the coaching provided by FCA staff and the expert mentors.

A 50% target was set to ensure women's equal participation. Surprisingly, most of the applicants for the training were women; the projects therefore also actively encouraged men's participation. Some of the employers who were ready to

employ FCA's trainees requested female employees who are seen as committed to their work and abide by the agreed-upon working conditions. Home-based businesses were supported to promote mothers' and students' income generation. To ensure accessibility of business coaching for both women and men in a socially conservative context, FCA's team consisted of two Business Coaches, one male and one female. Women guest speakers and women panel members were invited to participate in project activities to offer positive examples and role models of women in business.

Actions were also taken to reduce possible tensions and ensure deeper cohesion within the targeted groups. During the training, the trainees were encouraged to work together (locals, refugees, men, women). Enhanced cooperation between the Syrians and Jordanians also started in the agriculture project. Since Syrian project participants are not allowed by law to own land, they resorted to renting farms from Jordanian landowners.

### Main Objective 2

#### People and Governance

People can claim and enjoy their right to improved and inclusive governance and services

FCA, in cooperation with Jordan INGO Forum (JIF) members, continued to advocate for the ease of the project approval processes by the Ministry of Planning & International Cooperation (MOPIC) and the line ministries. As a result, a consultation paper







stakeholders that will be facilitated by the Project Management Unit (PMU) on a tri-annual basis. Based on the discussions, the committee members provide feedback on the work plans and implementation updates as part of building their capacity on project management and leadership. The students' skills and capacities in leadership and community empowerment were enhanced by their participation in a Transfer of Technology in Agriculture course.

### Challenges and lessons learnt

Despite the advocacy efforts by the local and international NGOs in Jordan, civil society operational space continues to be restricted. Consequently, there are limited opportunities for NGOs' engagement in society and in advocating for legislative modifications. NGOs are still not allowed to pursue any project in the country, despite mutual agreements between governments, before receiving the approval from the Jordanian government, which can take months to obtain.

The country programme is still struggling to encourage youth interest in the agricultural sector, which is considered less attractive and interesting to work in. Therefore, FCA is bringing in new technologies and approaches, expanding marketing capacities of businesses (incl. exports) and promoting the rights of agricultural workers. Furthermore, youth entrepreneur guests from previous projects were invited to the training classes to share their success stories and lessons learnt. All the success stories are available in English and Finnish and published on FCA Jordan Facebook page.

was produced and shared with donors and MOPIC; it is still under discussion.

FCA also reached out to private sector companies in the Jordan Valley to present its projects and successfully advocated for linkages to job opportunities for project participants.

### Main Objective 3 People and Civil Society

People fulfill their legitimate and active role for positive change

To have better access to new communi-

ties, young local volunteers were recruited as community mobilizers for short periods prior to each training. The youth's knowledge of the local context facilitated FCA's access to the farms and neighbourhoods.

Furthermore, a new civil society group, the Youth Steering Committee, comprising 23 university students was formed. The students will play an integral role as change agents in their universities, in the agriculture sector, and in their own communities. The role of the committee is to attend meetings with key project

### Project list and financial summary

Project nr	Project name	Partner	Primary Funding Source	Costs (€)
10780	MERO Middle East Regional Field Office	FCA	MFA Frame	157,554
11911	FCA PMER Jordan	FCA	FCA	252,005
12190	LARMA - Livelihoods in Recovering Markets in Syria	FCA	Caritas Switzerland	1,450
12222	Regional budget for JOCO/IOPT	FCA	FCA	9,912
12251	Micro and small business support with focus on women (MISS)	FCA	MFA Frame	127,780
12270	Change negative norms regarding SGBV - BFDW/FCA	LWF	FCA	41,313
12277	COOLYA Creating Attractive Opportunities for Livelihood of Youth in Agriculture	HAI	Dutch MFA	663,575
Total (€)				1,253,589



## Syria

### Overview of Syria Country Programme

In Syria, the immediate effects of the war in Ukraine have made an already difficult humanitarian situation even worse, with the decrease in funding allocated for the Syrian Humanitarian Fund. In September, the national average price of WFP's standard reference food basket increased by 52 %, and the Syrian pound weakened by 26% against the US dollar compared to 2021. The declining economic situation in Syria has pushed a lot of people into poverty, which made donors prioritize life-saving activities while deprioritizing FCA's key priority – education. At the same time, over 2 million children in Syria are still out of school, and another 1.6 million learners are at risk of dropping out.

The overall focus of the Country Programme (CP) in 2022 was on education, which was reflected in the successful implementation of school rehabilitation activities. Moreover, FCA started exploring



277

classrooms were rehabilitated in 21 schools and provide facilities for quality education.



8,094

3,826 girls and 4,268 boys participated in at least one Non-Formal Education cycle and 80% of them improved their school performance, which is expected to increase their enrolment in formal education.

19,586 9,835 9,751

direct beneficiaries reached by Syria Country Programme in 2022, including 337 (141F; 196M) Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).



new educational methods and techniques that can work in the Syrian context. FCA extended the geographical area of its intervention to cover Aleppo, and Ar-Raqqa governorates and new areas in Hama and Idlib governorates. The intervention aims at increasing the resilience of the communities in the two governorates through increasing access to and improving the quality of education services.

The Syria CP was implemented in the governorates of Rural Damascus, Hama, Idlib, Aleppo, and Ar-Raqqa through direct implementation and cooperation with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent and the Ministry of Education. Partnerships with UN agencies such as UNICEF, WFP, and UNESCO were developed with a view to new projects being implemented in 2023. FCA Syria is part of the Damascus-based international organization forum (DINGO) and participates in the UN Sectors’ meeting and reporting process. In 2022, FCA ranked second in the OCHA evaluation for implementing partners in the education sector.

**Main Objective 2**  
**People and Governance**  
People can claim and enjoy their right to improved and inclusive governance and services

FCA provided capacity-building training for 20 school principals in Hama and Idlib governorates on Teacher in Crisis Context (TICC) & Psychosocial support (PSS) training, leading to improved technical capacities, skills, a Code of Conduct, and

better child protection. Furthermore, FCA successfully advocated WFP and the Department of Education (DoE) in Idlib governorate to distribute snacks for children in two schools targeted by FCA in Idlib.

FCA effectively enhanced access to education services for children in the Hama, Idlib, and Homs governorates. During 2022, FCA rehabilitated 21 schools in Hama, Homs and Idlib governorates to create safe and inclusive learning spaces for children in the targeted communities. The interventions adhered to SPHERE & INEE standards and ensured that the WASH facilities were gender and disability sensitive. Hygiene kits (9,355) as well as school furniture and educational and recreational kits were also distributed in the rehabilitated schools. Additionally, 155 heaters were distributed to 11 schools in Hama, Homs, and Idlib governorates. In the Homs and Hama governorates, FCA also rehabilitated and equipped five early childhood education rooms in five schools, enabling 55 girls and 45 boys aged 3-5 to start early childhood education in a safe learning space.

FCA initiated a WASH project that provided water solutions in 15 schools in Hama & Idlib. Over 5,320 children now have access to a stable source of drinking water, and 94% of the targeted schools reported increased access to drinking water for children attending formal and non-formal classes.

Non-formal education (NFE) was also provided in the rehabilitated schools through catch-up and remedial classes, with 3,826 girls and 4,268 boys partici-

pating in at least one NFE cycle in 2022. Pre and post-tests were taken by the children who participated in the NFE classes and showed an average improvement in their performance at school of 80%, which is expected to increase their enrolment in formal education. Additionally, FCA distributed essential disability aid devices to further support children with disabilities. To ensure the quality of the NFE classes, FCA provided capacity-building training for teachers, covering topics such as TICC, PSS, and early childhood education. A total of 213 teachers benefited from the training, with an average improvement in their capacity of 36%.

FCA ran back-to-learning campaigns through door-to-door visits to reach 539 Out-of-School Children (OoSC), with the support of key people from local communities. Material and cash support were provided to ensure their enrolment and participation in NFE classes. In total 126 OoSC benefited from cash for education to support their families, and 6,771 student kits (stationery and school bags) were distributed to children attending the NFE classes. FCA provided winter clothes kits for over 1,900 children in three schools in Hama and Homs governorates, ensuring they had access to education during the winter season; 1797 children from evacuees in collective shelters in Hama governorate were also equipped with winter clothes.

Moreover, protection-related awareness-raising sessions benefitted a total of 11,372 children and adults. The sessions focused on important topics such

as child marriage, child labour, COVID-19, disability inclusion, and road safety.

**Main Objective 3**  
**People and Civil Society**  
People fulfill their legitimate and active role for positive change

FCA facilitated the establishment of community-based groups in 22 targeted communities. The groups comprised 141 members, including parents, schoolteachers, and key members of the community, with an equal gender distribution of 70 females and 71 males. The FCA team worked closely with these groups to receive feedback on the needs of families and children in their communities. The members received comprehensive training on their responsibilities and FCA's child safeguarding and code of conduct policies. The groups actively participated in planning, implementing, selecting the OoSC and evaluating FCA's project activities.

Additionally, FCA, in coordination with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), provided a two-day capacity-building training course on disability inclusion in education for humanitarian actors in Syria. FCA also became the leading organization for the established education task force in the education sector. The task force advocated for more funds to support education interventions in Syria by sharing a report that was developed for the ECW conference taking place in Brussels in 2023.



**Challenges and lessons learnt**

The deteriorating economic situation was reflected in hyperinflation and an unstable exchange rate. These were major risks that affected FCA intervention in Syria. Developing the budget for FCA projects and operations was challenging in light of the continuous changes in the market price and the currency exchange rate. Active communication and the accurate context analysis shared with donors mitigated the consequences of this risk. Budget revision requests were shared with donors when needed to respond to major changes in the inflation rates.

The power and fuel crisis caused a minor suspension in the movement of the programme team to the project locations. This challenge was mitigated by contracting

with transportation service providers. The lack of electricity challenge was answered through a power generator that provided electricity for lighting and laptop charging all the time. It also powered heating and air-conditioning during power cuts.

In terms of programme development, one of the main lessons learnt is that FCA has to expand its thematic approach and cover more areas than just education, because we keep learning from donors (SHF, ECHO, UNHCR) that they prefer contract partners that cover several sectors at a time. On the other hand, the war in Ukraine has diverted the attention of many donors (both institutional and private) from Syria. For some allocation papers announced by the SHF, the requested fund to answer the education sector's needs was less than 50% responded.



**Project list and financial summary**

Project nr	Project name	Partner	Primary Funding Source	Costs (€)
12068	SYRSCO FCA PMER support	FCA	FCA	341,769
12194	Emergency NFI response in Hama city for IDP families evacuated from the shelters	FCA	FCA	90,697
12195	Humanitarian and Livelihood Coordinator	FCA	FCA	20,406
12196	Livelihood Pilot in Rural Damascus	FCA	FCA	97,695
12220	Education in Emergencies in Hama and South Idlib, Syria	FCA	ECHO	877,808
12233	Providing access to safe and inclusive education in collective shelters and Communities in Hama and Homs.	FCA	SHF	688,431
12279	Winterization support to education in Hama and Homs	FCA	SHF	227,165
12289	Provision water to schools covered by ECHO/SHF NFE activities	FCA	FCA	76,536
13142	Education and Resilience in Raqqa and Aleppo	FCA	SHF	7,190
Total (€)				2,427,698



# PARTNERSHIPS AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

During 2022, FCA continued to strengthen its cooperation with global, regional and national partners. FCA finalised its Partnership Strategy, and 24 new partnerships were established by FCA country offices.

In 2022, the FCA Partnership Strategy was finalised and a multi-year workplan plan was developed to ensure quality partnership processes globally, focusing on robust partnership management, established partnership principles and organisation-wide capacity development. The FCA Partnership Matrix, bringing together colleagues from different parts of the organizations, gave strategic support to this work. By the end of 2022, the development/renewal of the FCA private sector partnership due diligence, FCA local implementing partner guidance and FCA global institutional partnership due diligence, were also started.

FCA worked with six priority partnership groups in line with the FCA Partnership Strategy. FCA’s Operational Partnerships Policy, which guides FCA’s work with Local Civil Society Partners, was finalized in 2022. New partnerships were established in most of FCA’s country offices (COs). For instance, two new partnerships will add value to and ensure expertise in disability inclusion in Cambodia and Somalia. New partnerships with organizations working within agriculture were started in Cambodia and Jordan. Kenya CO started a partnership with the Peace and Justice Reconciliation Commission and both Myanmar and Nepal found new local civil society partners.

Among FCA’s Global Institutional Partners, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Finland (MFA) remained an important strategic partner for FCA. FCA also reinforced its relations with long-standing institutional global partners from the intergovernmental and international nongovernmental sectors. These were e.g. United Nations (UN), European Union (EU), African Union (AU), Global Partnership on Education (GPE), Education Cannot Wait (ECW) and Inter-agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE). By utilizing our UN ECOSOC consultative status, FCA continued to build close working relationships and partnerships with several UN Agencies and UN bodies to influence and support UN deci-

**FCA reinforced its relations with long-standing institutional global partners from the intergovernmental and international nongovernmental sectors.**

sion-making at all levels. These partnerships were also cultivated during the United Nations General Assembly and Transformative Education Summit, where FCA organised an event together with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the UN refugee agency UNHCR and International Labour Organisation (ILO). FCA also started to develop relations with globally operating private sector-based foundations, such as LEGO Foundation and Mastercard Foundation and started to develop our positioning towards the Gulf donors. FCA also formalized relations with the African Union and prepared for the opening of a permanent liaison office in Addis Ababa.

As part of our work with Faith-Based Organizations and Interfaith Actors, FCA actively participated in local and regional Forums, Reference Groups and Communities of Practice of the ACT Alliance. With Lutheran World Federation (LWF), FCA supported especially the Universal Periodic Review process in South Sudan, as well as women’s empowerment in Myanmar and in Jordan. Together with the Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers (NETW), FCA contributed to an international conference of faith actors in refugee response and building inclusive societies organized by LWF, Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW) and Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS). FCA supported the World Council of Churches’ (WCC) work on peace, justice, and human rights, especially in the Middle East.

FCA continued to promote the WCC ‘Thursdays in Black’ campaign against sexual and gender-based violence, both globally and in Finland, and contributed to a global exhibition at the 11th WCC Assembly. In the Assembly, FCA organized a workshop together with NETW on the role of faith-actors in peacebuilding and reconciliation processes. Through both LWF and WCC, FCA promoted interreligious dialogue and cooperation. In addition, FCA maintained its engagement with the International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development (PaRD).

During 2022, FCA continued developing internal and external coordination with research partners to strengthen collaboration with universities and academic institutions globally. This improves our capability to provide evidence-based research information, identify best practices, and enhance functional partnerships and funding mechanisms. FCA also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Helsinki, enabling even closer collaboration in upcoming years. New partnerships with local universities were started by FCA COs in Jordan, Kenya, Somalia, and South-Sudan.

FCA received a large number of donations for its Ukraine response from private sector donors and identified a need to develop a more strategic approach towards private sector partnerships. To identify areas for collaboration, FCA conducted an internal private sector partnership survey and identified sustainability, learning environments and digitalization as key sectors for programmatic collaboration. In 2022, FCA Kenya started collaboration with Coca-Cola in its drought response, and also

developed a partnership with the recycling company TakaTaka Solutions, providing new opportunities for female workers in the sector.

As part of our cooperation with public authorities, FCA collaborated closely e.g. with the Ministry of Education and Sports in Uganda within the Uganda Education Reform, and the Education Policy Review Commission of Uganda with the successful delegation visit to Finland in September 2022. FCA also continued our collaboration with the Cambodian Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in CGC.

In Finland, FCA participated in Finnish networks and partnered with numerous domestic actors. In addition to our partnership with the MFA, FCA continued its cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of the Interior, National Board of

Education, as well as with the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment. FCA continued its active work with Finnish civil society actors for better coordination, information sharing and joint advocacy. This was achieved through active membership of different platforms, working groups and committees. FCA also continued to develop collaboration with Finnish Universities, e.g., based on our MoU with University of Helsinki.

**In Finland, FCA participated in Finnish networks and partnered with numerous domestic actors.**





# PROGRAMME IN FINLAND

FCA’s work in Finland aims at supporting and resourcing FCA’s Global Programme through church relations, volunteer networks, communications and fundraising. In 2022, FCA cooperated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland (ELCF) and its parishes, NETW, volunteer networks, other NGOs and state authorities.

## Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland and Parishes

As an international aid organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland (ELCF), FCA engages in development cooperation, humanitarian assistance and advocacy work authorized by the church. In this way, FCA fulfils the church’s international diaconal mission to help those most in need abroad.

The ELCF parishes are an important network for FCA in Finland. Through budget allocations, church collections, fundraising campaigns, and various local voluntary activities, parishes are important donors and supporters of FCA’s work. In 2022, parishes were especially active in organizing box collections and various events to collect funds for FCA’s Ukraine response, leading to record financial support from parishes.

FCA focused on strengthening its relationships with parishes both through online and in-person meetings and training. FCA organized eight full-day training events around Finland with a total of 207 participants, as well as four webinars with 559 participants. The webinars focused especially on FCA’s work in Ukraine and in Eastern Africa. FCA’s employees conducted dozens of visits to parishes and participated in several national events of the ELCF. Furthermore, FCA’s work was promoted in the parishes by the network of FCA contacts (approx. 500 people).

As part of FCA’s 75th anniversary, FCA organized a celebratory church service and produced new prayer material consisting of 13 texts by people from different sectors of Finnish society. Furthermore, FCA together with FELM and the Finnish Bible Society also organized a campaign in relation to the ELCF parish elections. The aim of the campaign was to promote the church’s global responsibility and to encourage parish decision-makers to commit themselves to it.

In addition, FCA took an active part in the Common Responsibility Campaign. This included material production, 15 in-person and three online training events for parishes around Finland, with a total of 539 participants, as well as eight training events for students of Diaconia University of Applied Sciences (Diak), with 228 participants.



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## The Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers (NETW)

The Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers (NETW) and FCA organized the National Dialogues Conference in June in Helsinki in cooperation with the CMI – Martti Ahtisaari Foundation and Felm, supported by the MFA Finland. The two-day conference attracted more than 150 peace practitioners from over 30 countries including Finland. We succeeded in enabling space for grassroots peacemakers, including youth and persons with disabilities, to have peer exchange resulting in peer learning. In addition, the conference platform supported exchange between grassroots peacemakers and Track One and Two peacemakers, feeding into increased inclusion of grassroots peacemakers into ongoing debates in the peace and mediation field.

In the fall, the NETW co-organized a community discussion with the Central Church Administration of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Finland. The topics were hybrid influencing and the role of religious communities in community resilience in building hybrid influencing in the context of the Russian war in Ukraine. The meeting brought together religious communities in

Finland, led by thematic experts from Erätaukosäätiö and The European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats (Hybrid CoE), facilitating a lively debate on the role of religious communities in crisis preparedness and community support.

Furthermore, FCA and the NETW continued University co-operation by organizing in January-February 2022 a 28-hour online course at the University of Helsinki focusing on historical developments in violent extremism and its prevention. With more than 30 M.A. level students we examined present-day extremism in its multiple manifestations from both practical and recent theoretical perspectives. Based on the course feedback, the teaching was perceived as an extremely important channel for deepening the understanding of the many forms of the radicalization process and the multi-stranded consequences of extremism on societies.

Women’s Bank also continued to empower and facilitate volunteer network in Finland to take action for global justice, while FCA’s Changemaker Finland network also continued its work by educating young people about development issues and organising advocacy campaigns.



# NETWORKS AND VOLUNTEERING

FCA's networks promoted collective engagement and cooperation for global justice. During 2022, they provided thematic and technical expertise, engaged in fundraising efforts and advocacy, and promoted global education in Finland.

## Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers

In line with its 2020–2025 strategy, the Network continued to work towards its vision – a world where religious and traditional actors play a positive role in preventing violence and contributing to sustainable peace. The Network recognizes the critical role of religious and traditional actors in peacebuilding, mediation and conflict transformation.

The Network's programme work is carried out through global and regional approaches and initiatives that focus on Europe and the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), South and South-east Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa. Additionally, the Network has global networking, advocacy, capacity building and research initiatives, while maintaining its capacity to react to pressing needs for peace and mediation support through its members and partners globally.

Uncertainty was present in many of the Network's programme regions during 2022. Especially during the first months of the year, the COVID-19 pandemic and possible related restrictions caused concern. In addition, political instability and intensifying internal conflicts continued to create uncertainty in many areas. The war in Europe, and the Great Power Competition as well as unstable economic situations created uncertainty that was reflected widely. Finally, climate change kept having its devastating effects, especially in societies facing some of the above-mentioned challenges too.

Despite these uncertainties, the Network succeeded in implementing its programme and reached several key objectives. The key events were the National Dialogues Conference in Helsinki in June and the Network Advisory Group Meeting (AGM) in Muscat in November.

The Network and FCA acted as a secretariat of the National Dialogues Conference organized in June together with the CMI – Martti Ahtisaari foundation, and Felm, supported by the MFA Finland. The conference attracted more than 150 practitioners from over 30 countries to discuss inclusion, mass social movements, the climate crisis and support for regional actors in the context of national dialogues. Besides increasing understanding of the discussed themes, the Conference provided an enabling space for grassroots peacemakers including youth and PwDs for peer-learning and exchange. This fed into increased

inclusion of grassroots peacemakers into ongoing debates in the peace and mediation fields. Overall, 65 % of speakers and moderators were women, including young women and women with disabilities.

In November, the Network convened its first in-person AGM in nearly three years. The meeting gathered 78 Network members and supporters from 63 different organizations to revisit the Network's Strategy for 2020–2025, examine emerging trends in peacebuilding, dialogue, and mediation, and discuss collaboration during 2023. With over 25% of participants being youth, the AGM prioritized intergenerational dialogue and collaboration. The event in Oman was a success, with 100% of participants reporting satisfaction with the opportunities for networking at the meeting, and 75% finding the topics discussed "extremely relevant" to their organization's mission and priorities. The AGM enabled a direct exchange between members as well as between the members and the secretariat.

In 2022, the Network continued to improve its own structure. The Network officially recognized ten additional Members and 21 Supporters, bringing the total number of members to 84 and supporters to 41. The share of faith-based organizations grew slightly to 14 %. Other Members and Supporters are NGOs (46%), nonprofit organizations (29%), intergovernmental organizations (2%), academic or research institutions (8%), and governmental organizations (2%). Concentrated efforts were taken to ensure the ample representation of women and youth-led organizations among Members (target at least 30%). Currently, 31% are women-focused or led, 38% are youth-focused or led, and 85% are religious and traditional actor-focused or led.

The Network continued to convene several regional and thematic-focused working groups as vehicles for communication, planning, and knowledge exchange. The regional working groups include working groups for Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa as well as Europe and MENA. The thematic working group is an Inclusivity-Based Community of Practice. In total, the Network convened 11 working group meetings in 2022, engaging over 500 actors from across the globe.

Inclusion is mainstreamed in all the work of the Network, and strengthening the leadership of women and youth in religious and traditional peacemaking and broader peacebuilding processes is one of the Network's priorities. Besides the Inclusivity-based Community of Practice working group activities, the Network launched four inclusivity briefs that highlight how Members advance and mainstream inclusivity in the Network's four modality working areas: networking; research; advocacy; and capacity building. The Network also held its first E-advocacy training for youth, and started preparing Religion and Mediation training tailored for youth (to be launched in 2023).



The Network continued to empower local peacemakers and support bridging them in peacebuilding processes by contributing to a Berghof Foundation-led platform for faith mediators, with nine track 1 and 2 faith-oriented mediators from diverse regional and religious backgrounds. The Network also joined – as a technical partner – a consortium project called Joint Initiative for Strategic Religious Action. This aims to create interfaith peacebuilding coalitions to promote freedom of religion and belief, address religious violence and discrimination, and reconcile divided communities in Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, and Uganda.

In addition, the Network increased engagement with traditional actors and led a global consultation in Abuja with traditional leaders and actors in partnership with the UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect. This was the first meeting in the history of the UN where different ethnic, indigenous, clan communities and representatives of traditional societies gathered to discuss their roles and responsibilities to prevent atrocity crimes. As a result of the consultation, a draft Plan of Action for Traditional Leaders and Actors to Prevent Atrocity Crimes was created.

On the regional programme level, the Network finalized the implementation of two large EU-funded regional consortium projects in South and Southeast Asia. One project empowered youth to work in PVE, advocated for their roles as peacebuilders and promoted the importance of the YPS agenda. The other responded to the COVID-19 pandemic by preventing conflict and building social cohesion.

In the Sub-Saharan Africa region, the Network continued to strengthen and expand its portfolio. A new consortium project aiming to increase social cohesion and resilience to

**Strengthening the leadership of women and youth in religious and traditional peacemaking processes is one of the Network's priorities.**

radicalization in five instability-affected districts of northern Mozambique was started. The implementation of two earlier launched projects also continued in Mozambique. The Network convened two closed virtual consultations on religiously-inspired violence in the Sahel, and developed a concept to further focus on the theme. The Network and Berghof Foundation also concluded the final report on the status of track 2 dialogue processes between Somalia and Somaliland.

The Europe and MENA regional programme continued implementing two consortium projects funded by the EU: Preventing and Addressing Violent Extremism (PAVE) through Community Resilience; and Strengthening the security and resilience of at-risk religious sites and communities (SOAR). The Network finalized a report on post-Islamic State and national reconciliation in Iraq. One of the key messages of the report was that complex communal trauma must be considered in reconciliation and peace work. Due to the Russia-Ukraine war, the Network started working with a situational analysis in Ukraine especially focusing on the religious landscape of the war.





Project table and financial summary

Project number	Project name	Partner	Primary Funding Source	Costs (€)
11789	NETWS networking	FCA	MFA-POL, FCA	261,996
11812	NETWS Peace support	FCA	MFA-POL, FCA	5, 218
11813	NETWS inclusivity	FCA	MFA-POL, FCA	81,051
11815	Methods and tools for faith and tradition-oriented peace building	FCA	MFA-POL, FCA	46,673
11816	NETWS Admin and Staff	FCA	FCA	257, 945
12235	THACO Office	FCA	FCA	24,201
12237	Regional Program Asia	FCA	MFA-POL, FCA	131,383
12238	Regional Program Sub-Saharan Africa	FCA	MFA-POL, FCA	73,115
12239	Regional Program MENA/Europe	FCA	MFA-POL, FCA	43,159
13074	Global Consultation on the Role of Traditional Leaders and Actors to Prevent	FCA	MFA-POL, FCA	24,172
13079	Regional Conference to Foster Engagement between Women & Youth	FCA	MFA-POL, FCA	15,495
12290	Somaliland Initiative	FCA, Berghof Foundation	MFA-POL, FCA	48,666
12296	National Dialogue Conference	FCA	MFA-POL	253,075
12089	Oman gov funding for NETW Core Functions	FCA	Oman gov.	198,527
12180	FNM Faith mediator Network	FCA	German MFA (via Berghof)	10,685
12108	ALLY – Amplifying Leadership of Local Youth in Preventing Violent Extremism in South Asia	FCA, CCD, YDF, SLU, UNOY, RDS	EU-FPI-IcSP	262,951
12144	AHA – Awareness with Human Action	FCA, CCD, Sarvodaya, BRAC Univ, IRW, YDF, WFDD	EU-FPI-IcSP	457,967
12281	IDove – Interfaith Dialogue and PVE	FCA, small grants	German gov. GIZ	225,623
12184	Towards an Inclusive and Peaceful Society in Mozambique (TIPS)	FCA, IMD, IESE	EU-FPI-IcSP	358,187
12291	ID-PEACE – Interreligious Dialogues for Peace in Mozambique	FCA	US Department of State-DRL (via MASC Foundation)	26,419
12189	SOAR - Strengthening the Security and Resilience of At-risk Religious Sites and Communities	FCA	EU-HOME-ISFP (via EFI)	197,913
12075	PAVE Preventing and Addressing Violent Extremism through Community Resilience in the Balkans and MENA	FCA	EU Horizon2020 (via Berghof Foundation)	115,074
13166	JISRA - Joint Initiative for Strategic Religious Action	FCA	Dutch MFA (via Mensen met en Missie)	4,100
13169	Community Social Cohesion Project: Strengthening Social Cohesion in Cabo Delgado and Nampula	FCA	EU-NDICI-Peace (via AKF)	2,702
Total				3,126,297

Teachers Without Borders Network (TWB)

In 2022, Teachers Without Borders (TWB) Network Finland and its volunteer education experts continued to provide valuable support for the right to quality education (R2QE) initiatives in FCA Country Programmes (CPs). The in-country collaboration was efficiently re-started in early 2022 with the first volunteer deployments to Uganda, Kenya and Palestine since the pandemic began; the first deployment to Cambodia also followed later in the year. The distance volunteering model was further developed and strengthened aside the in-country model as both an independent and complementary working modality, allowing the network to again expand its support to new contexts. The potential to collaborate onsite, remotely or in a hybrid mode provided even wider chances for collaboration and doubled the network’s expert resource from the previous years. A total of 51 volunteer education experts – 17 of which onsite, and 34 remotely – supported FCA R2QE programmes in Uganda, Cambodia, Kenya, and the Occupied Palestine Territories (OPT), Myanmar, Somalia, Somaliland, and South Sudan based on local needs and focus areas, guided by the FCA education strategy.

The TWB volunteers contributed to teacher education and professional development of colleagues. These included teachers, school counselors, principals, and district officials, in early childhood, primary and secondary education levels, as well as in career guidance counseling (CGC), technical and vocational education and training (TVET), and – as a new collaboration area – peace education. The experts supported teacher capacity building through providing training, mentoring, and coaching to local colleagues. For instance, in a LEGO Foundation-funded project in Uganda the TWB had a lead role in the development of a functional and play-based training manual and teaching and learning materials for a mobile matatu school bus to reach Out-of-School Children (OOSC). A total of 133 teachers were trained on functional and play-based pedagogy, and teachers in three FCA-supported schools are now able to apply active and play-based methods of teaching in their day-to-day lessons. Within the peace education collaboration, a peace education manual for Ugandan secondary schools’ peace clubs was co-developed with a local partner.

This was piloted in refugee hosting schools both in Yumbe and in Kampala, where over 165 peace club members were trained in the use of learner-centred methodologies in peace education. In Kenya, peace education teaching material was developed for primary school level. This has contributed to more active and vibrant youth and teacher engagement through peace clubs and marked improvement in the quality of delivery of peace education programmes in FCA-supported schools in Uganda and Kenya.

The distance modality provides great potential for flexible, cost-efficient, yet tailored high-quality solutions to support the continuation of learning. It also allowed TWB to expand its collaboration to Somaliland via a notable higher education collaboration in the teacher education curriculum harmonization process. Distance modality also supported national TVET teacher training content development in South Sudan. Either in-country or distance, the TWB collaboration contributes to the quality of the education work that FCA and its partners do by building on Finnish education expertise to respond to local stakeholders and contextual needs.

In Finland, the current and previous Network volunteers actively supported the Network commitment to SDG4 in many ways. These included visibility, marketing and communications, school and higher education visits, pedagogical support for global education material development, and event planning and implementation. A highlight was the well-received ‘From Teacher to Teacher: The Limitless Power of Remote Connections in International Teacher Collaboration’ webinar in February. In addition, the previous volunteers actively participated in the training and induction of new volunteers to ensure the continuation of internal learning and sharing.

The TWB Network continued working together in close collaboration with its steering committee members MFA, Ministry of Education, National Agency for Education, Teacher Union, University of Helsinki, Church Council, FINGO, and with a new teacher education representation from the University of Oulu, to find opportunities to utilize Finnish education and pedagogical expertise to address the global learning crisis. Representatives of the volunteer body are included in the steering committee.

As a member of the UNESCO International Task Force on Teachers for Education 2030, TWB promoted Finnish expertise in teacher training and teacher management in crises and emergency situations by contributing to the related Civil Society Organization members’ group.

Women’s Bank

Year 2022 marked the 15th anniversary year of Women’s Bank (WoB). During its 15 years of operations, Women’s Bank has worked in 17 countries, supported 92,000 women, impacted the lives of 460,000 in total and raised 21.3M euros in funds. The core of WoB work is to support women’s economic and social independence through sustainable entrepreneurship and livelihoods.

In 2022, the war in Ukraine and the interconnected global crises had a significant and wholly unplanned impact on WoB fundraising. As Finns donated to Ukraine appeals in an unprecedented manner, the focus and the capacity of donors towards other purposes was compromised. The impact on WoB fundraising can be seen from March 2022 onwards. Due to the timing of the start of the war, the WoB biggest annual campaign, International Women’s Day, was cancelled.

Despite the instability of the donor landscape, and the heavy media and audience focus on Ukraine, Women’s Bank managed





to reach a good fundraising result of just over 1.5M € in 2022. This was a 15% decrease from 2021 and was particularly evident in 'Alternative Gift' and community donations. Monthly donations remained the most significant income stream, at 47% of all income. However, in 2022 WoB was endowed a major legacy donation of 2M €. This is by far the largest individual donation in its history and will have a positive impact on the project portfolio.

Volunteer activities resumed face-to-face as much as possible after the pandemic. Two national seminars took place, in Helsinki in May and in Turku in November, gathering participants from several local groups. Additionally, training events were organised on digital platforms. Despite the lingering impact of the pandemic on volunteerism and activism, most of the 40+ WoB groups continued their activities. Three national volunteer-led campaigns were organized; Women's Bank Walk, Women's Bank Golf and Women's Bank Read, raising over 90,000 € in total.

In 2022, the WoB portfolio included 11 entrepreneurship, education and cooperative projects and two pilots in five programme

countries: Cambodia, Nepal, Myanmar, Uganda and Kenya. The number of direct beneficiaries was around 29,000. Despite the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, the war in Ukraine, economic crises and social unrest affecting implementation, in some countries more than others, the results remained encouraging. In 2022, the 577 savings and credit associations and cooperatives under WoB's auspices had collected a total of over 2,4M€ which continued to circulate among the members boosting women's income generation through affordable loans.

The strategic direction towards strengthened engagement in and with the private sector was underscored by direct private sector partnerships and the Innovation Initiative that directs WoB funding to innovative and sustainable business cases. Since its introduction in 2021, the Initiative has launched two such pilots. The "BEE" test pilot in Myanmar aims at commercial farming of local stingless bees for honey-based products, whereas the "BUZZ" pilot in Nepal explores the business potential of black soldier fly larvae production for animal food.

## Changemaker Network

Changemaker Finland is the youth advocacy network of Finn Church Aid. Youth participation and volunteer work are the key elements in Changemaker's advocacy work. The network strives for global justice by giving youth the tools to change the world, educating young people about development issues, and teaching youth to execute their own advocacy campaigns.

The strategic key areas for 2022 were grassroots-level advocacy work and low threshold activities for young people. Changemaker's mission is that young people themselves design and carry out the network's advocacy activities. In 2022, 56 new members joined the network, 126 people took part in the network's activities and 35% of them participated at least twice.

Since COVID-19 regulations were mostly removed during the year, Changemaker managed to rebuild some of its local groups and organize live events. Most of the events allowed online participation to allow youth from all over the country to join in.

The network's volunteers and coordinators organized events such as a Changemaker weekend, discussion events, campaign planning meetings and visits to schools and congregations. The network also attended national and local events. In total, the network organized 150 meetings and events in 17 different towns and online.

Changemaker organized a wide variety of training courses: two on journalism; two on train-the-trainers; one on lobbying; campaign training, podcast training, fundraising training, due diligence training and five advocacy training events under the ABC Advocacy training concept. In total, Changemaker organized 14 training events with 55 participants.

In 2022, the network implemented a campaign on overconsumption, bringing attention to the environmental effects of overconsumption and to the financial inequality between the global north and south. The campaign consisted of a petition, campaign actions in many different cities and social media campaign.

Changemaker continued to publish its own biannual magazine Globalisti (circulation of 8,000 copies/year). The magazine is popular in schools and is also shared with network members and parishes. The magazine is produced by volunteers. The theme of the first 2022 issue was Rule of law and the second theme Overconsumption. In addition to the magazine, volunteers produced one episode for the Globalisti podcast.



## EAPPI

EAPPI (Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel) is the World Council of Churches ecumenical initiative through which FCA yearly deploys 9-12 volunteers for three months as human rights observers to loPt (Israel and the Occupied Palestine Territory). The programme supports local and international efforts to end the Israeli occupation and bring a resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict based on international law and United Nations resolutions. The volunteer Ecumenical Accompaniers (EAs) support vulnerable local communities by providing a protective presence, monitoring the compliance of the international humanitarian law and human rights in the area, and by engaging in advocacy work mainly on a Finland and EU level.

In January 2022, the program re-started after a two-year suspension of volunteer deployments that followed the COVID-19 pandemic and travel restrictions. Placements in Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Hebron, South Hebron Hills, and Jordan Valley were re-opened.

In 2022, FCA deployed nine human rights observers. Three of the Finnish human rights observers were funded by the international EU fund managed by WCC.

The EAPPI programme noted a record number of human rights violation incidents during 2022. As an example, one of the placements, Hebron, faced a 494% increase in total incidents from 2016 to 2022 (from 35 incidents in 2016 to 208 incidents in 2022). The number of human rights violation incidents was

**A lack of international presence in East Jerusalem and the West Bank during the COVID-19 pandemic, and political instability have contributed towards the increased human rights violations faced by local communities.**



especially high from November 2022 onwards. Human rights observers recorded an average of 290 incidents per 3-month period in 2022, but the number increased significantly for the period from November 2022 to February 2023 (492 incidents). A lack of international presence in East Jerusalem and the West Bank during the COVID-19 pandemic, and political instability have contributed towards the increased human rights violations faced by local communities.

Following their deployment period, the EAs participated in advocacy work mainly in Finland. In 2022, EAs increased awareness of the human rights situation in the area through presentations and eye-witness stories in their own networks, organizations, schools, and events as well as producing communication materials for social media and media platforms. The EAPPI programme has also gathered and shared briefing materials from the field to support decision making.

To respond to the need for more visible and impactful advocacy work, the EAPPI-community of all sending organizations and WCC further strengthened and systemized its collaboration on advocacy. The development of joint global advocacy processes and initiatives with WCC and other international EAPPI-organizations continued and strengthened during 2022.





## PART 3

# PROGRAMME QUALITY ASSURANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

## FCA'S QUALITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK

FCA strives at ensuring effectiveness and high quality of work, and accountability to all key stakeholders and the communities we work with. During 2022, we continued to apply the highest INGO sector standards, including the Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality and Accountability (CHS).

During 2022 a cross-organisational Quality Management Co-ordination Group was set up to support in the development of the Quality Management System. One key modality in which the group has provided support and advanced quality management has been by supporting the development and/or revision of process descriptions.

Follow up of the CHS recertification Audit of 2021 observations continued in 2022. A root-cause analysis was conducted to identify the causes of the identified gaps, and the analysis was brought to SAC MT and GLT agenda for follow up and action. The observations of the 2021 report related to 1) ensuring adequate human resources and staff capacity at CO level, 2) partnership management (e.g., ensuring partner due diligence and capacity building), 3) effectiveness of roll-out/operationalisation of policies and guidelines. The newly established collaboration platforms were utilized for mainstreaming FCA's quality and accountability commitments into various processes of the organization.

### Accountability to Affected People - Safeguarding Mechanisms

The rollout of the revised FCA Code of Conduct Policy was completed. Induction sessions were held with all Country Offices (COs) and the Service and Accountability Centre (SAC), which promoted staff awareness of expected behaviours and ethical standards.

The CO quality and accountability self-assessment and Accountability Improvement Plan (AIP) processes were supported by the QAU both through on-site support and remotely. The AIPs have become increasingly utilized by COs as a tool for monitoring and improving quality and accountability.

COs were supported in establishing and maintaining their Complaints Response Mechanisms (CRM) through on-site and remote training, as well as induction sessions and one-on-one support to CO Complaints Focal Points. Data gathered from CO Complaints reports shows some improvement in the extension of CO CRM to cover a greater number of projects, more systematic information of communities about CRM and the expected staff behavior, and greater coverage of CRM also in partner-implemented projects.

The CRM has proved its necessity and value for the organization

globally: FCA was able to identify and address several breaches of the Code of Conduct associated with sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment (SEAH), corruptive and fraudulent behaviour, and abuse of power, as well as minor operational issues that were handled on a CO level. This has helped to identify structural loopholes, prevent further harm, draw learnings about project implementation approaches, and to improve the effectiveness and impact of programme work.

To address the increasing needs for strengthening safeguarding procedures and practices in country programmes, two new positions were created: Safeguarding Manager and Child and Youth Protection Specialist. Recruitment for both positions will take place in early 2023.

### Accountability for Results and Programmatic Learning

Development of the programme layer of the SAMPO PM platform continued as planned in 2022. After mapping development needs in consultation with the COs and different SAC units, a new, digital country programme annual planning and reporting format was created for SAMPO and used for the first time for the 2023 annual planning. The user feedback on the format was positive, but some technical aspects will still require more attention. Similarly, annual target setting in SAMPO went into effect, providing 2023 global targets for FCA Results Framework indicators. The reporting of results data in SAMPO, which began in 2021, continued in 2022 for the compilation of global annual results. The use of SAMPO helped in creating a centralised platform for all FCA projects and allows more accurate tracking of progress towards the achievement of global targets. In addition, a project-specific indicator monitoring system was developed and tested in SAMPO. In 2022, the PCM Group also continued its efforts to enhance project cycle and grant management processes.

FCA's global programme underwent a mid-term evaluation in 2022. The evaluation learnings and recommendations have been widely discussed and will feed into the development of new strategies and continued work on the Global Programme. Furthermore, a country programme evaluation was conducted in Uganda. The findings highlighted FCA's strong profile in Education in Emergencies, good stakeholder relations with donors and the local government and investments made in the country office's capacity. The evaluation recommendations were utilised in Uganda's country strategy revision at the end of 2022.

In 2022, there were 23 project level endline and mid-term evaluations, 21 of which were conducted by an external consultant. These evaluations continued to contribute to FCA's programmatic accountability and learning. Furthermore, at least 41 surveys, assessments, and reviews conducted at project-levels supported FCA's evidence-based programming.



## Knowledge management and learning

During 2022, FCA carried out an internally led self-assessment of knowledge management activities to assess whether it was on the right path to achieving the set objectives in its Knowledge Management Plan. The self-assessment was carried out with FCA's COs and SAC. Overall, developments have been made in all knowledge management areas. The analysis concluded that progress was slower in building awareness and capacity on knowledge management and reflection.

In 2022, knowledge and information exchange carried on mainly virtually between SAC and the COs. Country offices hosted virtual annual planning and reporting workshops. A new information sharing modality "Country Office virtual triannual briefs" was also developed. In addition, virtual knowledge and information-sharing sessions on various topics were organized.

In total, six internal knowledge management "news flashes" were prepared and shared internally within FCA between late 2021 and early 2023. The aim was to provide simple practical guidance on how to take knowledge management forward. In addition, the information-sharing guideline refreshers that were initiated in 2021 were also carried out during 2022.

The Leadership Forum for supervisors across FCA, Communities of Practice with SAC and CO colleagues, and supervisor peer groups in SAC were organized to share information, best practices, and learnings. The e-learning platform Fabo was further utilized.

FCA communications, IT and HR units formed a task force to prepare an intranet renewal that would ultimately improve internal information-sharing within the organization.

Information-sharing and external learning continued in various working groups, forums, clusters and coordination meetings.

The internal Knowledge Management Task Force was dismantled in mid-2022. Knowledge management has been and is being mainstreamed into operations, so there was no longer a need for the task force. Knowledge management-related issues are being brought out in other internal collaboration platforms.

During 2022, FCA's Research Coordination Group continued to provide a coordination and learning platform for all research-related processes in the organization. The group held three official meetings and followed about twenty different research studies. Information about the finalized studies was shared in the FCA Yammer group. The Coordination Group also monitored FCA's organizational information management, identified research funding opportunities, and followed broader research trends in the field of development cooperation and humanitarian aid. FCA's internal research capacity was supported by the group through guidance and advice.

FCA signed a memorandum of understanding with the University of Helsinki, which will support joint planning and implementation of research projects in the future. Close collaboration continued with the University of Jyväskylä. FCA also launched its research website, which presents FCA's own research as well as research carried out in cooperation with students and researchers.



**During 2022, FCA's Research Coordination Group continued to provide a coordination and learning platform for all research-related processes in the organization.**





## PART 4

# FINANCING OF THE GLOBAL PROGRAMME IN 2022

## FCA'S MAIN FUNDING SOURCES AND FINANCING IN 2022

FCA's Global Programme financing was based on main four funding sources: global institutional donors, Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Finland, church and private funding. We continued to strengthen our donor relations and build new partnerships at the global and national levels.

In 2022, FCA expended a total of 67.9 M€ on aid and other operations. The income for the period was 67.7 M€. The result of the financial period was -0.2 M€. At the end of 2022, total equity was 17.4 M€. Advances received for Disaster Fund, Women's Bank Fund and Donation Fund totaled 12.5 M€ on the balance sheet.

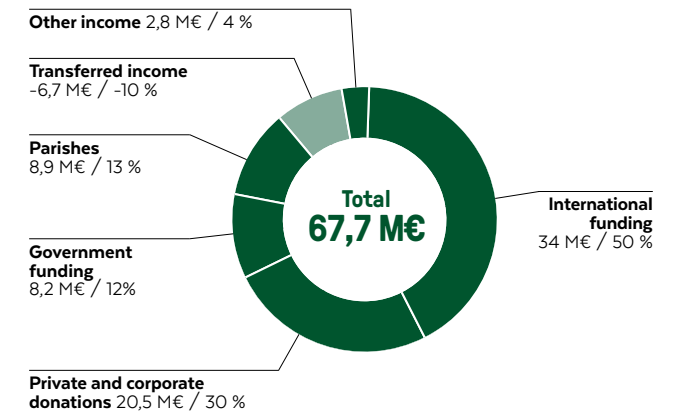
The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (MFA) funding totaled 8.2 M€. Funds from the MFA made up 12.1% of FCA's total income.

Support received from the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran parishes, including proceeds from the Common Responsibility Campaign and operational subsidies from the Church Council totaled 8.9 M€ and was 13.0% of the total income.

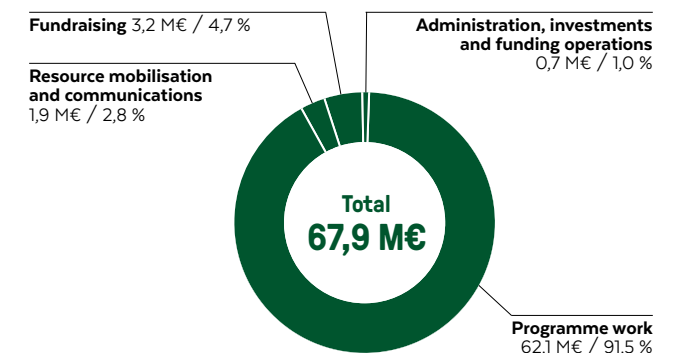
Income from international funding sources (e.g., EU, ECHO, ACT, US Gov, UN organizations) was 34.0 M€ and 50.1% of the total income. Income from the private sector was 20.5 M€, representing 30.3% of total income. From Private donations -6.7 M€ was transferred to 2023 (-9.9 %).

In 2022, FCA used 91% of the funds on programme work and 9% on programme support, including communications, fundraising, stakeholder relations and general administration.

### 2022 Income



### 2022 Programme work and support functions



### Signature

Helsinki 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023

Finn Church Aid

**Tomi Järvinen**  
Executive Director



LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACT (Alliance)	Action by Churches Together	FCAI	Finn Church Aid Investment Ltd
ADR	Alternative Depute Resolution	FELM	Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission
AECF	Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund	FGS	Federal Government of Somalia
AEP	Accelerated Education Programme	FinCEED	The Finnish Centre of Expertise in Education and Development
AU	African Union		
BAWAN	Bay Women Association Network	FINGO	Finnish Development NGOs
BDS	Business Development Service	FWEAN	Federation of Woman Entrepreneurs’ Associations of Nepal
CAMCO	Cambodia Country Office		
CAR	Central African Republic	GBV	Gender-Based Violence
CARCO	Central African Republic Country Office	GEC	Global Education Cluster
CBC	Competence Based Curriculum	GGGI	Global Green Growth Institute
CBO	Community-based organization	GPE	Global Partnership for Education
CBI	Cash-Based Intervention	HIA	Hungarian Inter Church Aid
CCA	Climate Change Action/Adaptation	HR	Humanitarian Rights
CDRC	Commune Dispute Resolution Committees	ICCO	Inter-church Organization for Development Cooperation
CE	Circular Economy	ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
CEC	Community Education Committee	ICERD	The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women		
	Community Empowerment and Resilience Association	ICESC	International Covenant of the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
CERA		ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
CERD	Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	IDP	Internally Displaced Person
		ILO	International Labour Organisation
CGC	Career Guidance and Counselling	INEE	Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies
CHS	Core Humanitarian Standards	INGO	International Non-Governmental Organisation
CI	Creative Industries	IOPT	Israel and the Palestinian Territories
CM	Changemaker	IRW	Islamic Relief Worldwide
CMI	Martti Ahtisaari Peace Foundation	KECO	Kenya Country Office
CEC	Community Education Committees	LDC	Least Developed Countries
CO	Country Office	LGRA	Local Governance and Reconciliation Activity
COP	Community of Practice	LL2E	Linking Learning to Earning
CP	Country Programme	LWD	Life with Dignity (Cambodia)
CR	Common Responsibility	LWF	Lutheran World Federation
CRC	Common Responsibility Campaign	MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
CRC	Convention of the Rights of the Child	M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
CRPD	Convention of the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities	MEAL	Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning
		MERO	Middle East Regional Office
CRD	Center for Research and Dialogue	MFA	Ministry for Foreign Affairs (Finland)
CRM	Complaints Response Mechanisms	MHMS	Menstrual Health and Sexual Reproductive Health Rights
CSE	Conflict Sensitive Education	MM	Mobile Mentoring
CSO	Civil Society Organization	MMOF	Missing Middle Opportunity Forum
CWCC	Cambodia Women’s Crisis Center	MoEYS	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport
CwD	Children with Disabilities	MoLVT	Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training
DAF	Disability Aid foundation	MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
DCA	Dan Church Aid	MPCT	Multipurpose Cash Transfers
DCCs	District Cadastral Committees	MYACO	Myanmar Country Office
DCF	District Council Formation	NCA	Norwegian Church Aid
DPC	Digital Competency Programmes	NEA	National Education Agency
DFI	Development Finance Institution	NEPCO	Nepal Country Office
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction	NETW	Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers
EAPPI	Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme on Palestine and Israel	NFE	Non-Formal Education
		NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
EAs	Ecumenical Accompaniers (Finland)	NRM	Natural Resource Management
ECD	Early Childhood Development	OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN)
ECD(E)	Early Childhood Development and Education	ODA	Official Development Assistance
ECHO	European Commission Humanitarian Aid Department	OOSC	Out-of-School Children
		PANEL	Participation, Accountability, Non-discrimination and Equality, Empowerment, Legality
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council (in United Nations)		International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development
ECW	Education Cannot Wait	PaRD	
EiE	Education in Emergencies	PME	Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation
EISA	Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa	PMER	Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting
		PSS	Psychosocial support
ELCF	Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland	PTA	Parent-Teacher Association
EPRP	Emergency Preparedness Response Plan	PwD	People with Disabilities
ESSP	Education Sector Strategic Plan	R2L	Right to Livelihood
EU	European Union	R2P	Right to Peace
FCA	Finn Church Aid	R2QE	Right to Quality Education
FCAA	Finn Church Aid Americas		

RBA	Rights Based Approach
RRT	Rapid Response Team
SAC	Service and Accountability Center (FCA Helsinki Office)
SC	School Counsellor
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
SMC	School Management Committees
SME	Small and Medium Sized Enterprise
SNE	Special Needs Education
SOCO	Somalia Country Office
SSCC	South Sudan Council of Churches
SSF	Somalia Stability Fund
SSUCO	South Sudan Country Office
SWS	South West State
THACO	FCA Thailand Office
TICC	Teachers in Conflict Settings Trainings
ToT	Training of Trainers
TVET	Technical Vocational Education and Training
TWB	Teachers Without Borders
UGACO	Uganda Country Office
UKRCO	Ukraine Country Office
UMYDF	Uganda Muslim Youth Development Forum
UN HR	United Nations Human Rights (mechanisms)

UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNGEI	UN Girls’ Education Initiative
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
UNSCR	United Nation’s Security Council Resolution
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
VOD	Vocational Orientation Department
VSLA	Village Savings and Loan Association
WAC	Women’s Agricultural Cooperatives
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WoB	Women’s Bank
WCC	World Council of Churches
WFP	World Food Programme
WPS	Women Peace and Security (United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325)
YPS	Youth, Peace and Security (United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250)

OUR WORK IS FUNDED BY:







**Finn Church Aid**

Kirkon Ulkomaanapu / Finn Church Aid  
Eteläranta 8, FI-00131 Helsinki

Tel. +358 020 787 1200  
Email: [fca@kua.fi](mailto:fca@kua.fi)  
[finnchurchaid.fi](http://finnchurchaid.fi)