



Children change the world



Rädda Barnen

Annual Report 2021

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About the report

Save the Children Sweden's annual report for 2021 comprises a Report on Operations, an Operational Report and Impact Report, and a Sustainability Report.

- In the Operational Report and the integrated Impact Report, we talk about our goals and methods, how we steer the operation, and about the results and impact of the operation during the year.
- The Sustainability Report describes Save the Children Sweden's ambition for the operation to be socially, economically and environmentally sustainable.
- In the Report on Operations, we talk about Save the Children Sweden's organisation, changes during the year and financial results.

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For other photos, information is provided next to each one.

Some of the children's names have been changed to protect their privacy.

Quotes without references come from Save the Children's policy documents and reports.

Foreword

Pandemic, conflict or climate crisis – we are where children need us most

2021 was another year of a pandemic that gripped the world, humankind and our communities. A year when the effects of Covid-19 could be felt in all kinds of ways in our everyday lives. A year when non-profit organisations were needed more than ever. For a member organisation like Save the Children Sweden, which is built on solidarity and meetings with people, and above all with children, the social restrictions were a real challenge. Even so, we glided into a kind of normal and adapted to the prevailing circumstances. Working digitally was essential, and we found constructive new ways to meet, conduct activities, and ensure a children's rights perspective in the social debate.

While Swedish society gradually opened up towards the end of the year, the pandemic was far from over globally. Very few countries were able to protect their populations and economies with support packages as we could here in Sweden. During the year, we could see how consequences that increased disparities and poverty affected children, in the form of hunger, less time in school, higher childhood mortality and more child marriages. Unfortunately, it is often the same countries and the same children that are hit hardest by the pandemic, the climate crisis, and war and conflict. Our efforts to ensure that no one is left out, to secure the rights of the most vulnerable children, have never been more important, or indeed more difficult. Protracted lockdowns of communities and schools have a huge impact on children and young people's mental health. One knock-on effect of a lack of basic education is a lost generation, which risks not being able to get itself out of extreme poverty. Equal access to education is one of the most important cornerstones in assuring a positive childhood for children around the world.

In many cases, lockdowns have also reduced the scope for civil society organisations to act. We have seen a worrying trend, whereby more authoritarian regimes are using the coronavirus as one of several excuses to further restrict freedom of association and freedom of speech. Save the Children's local partners worldwide are having to act in increasingly complex environments, where advocacy for children's rights could be seen as a threat to power. Despite all this, we are tremendously proud and impressed at how, alongside our partners, we have found ways to continue our efforts to improve children's rights in all of these areas.

Around the world, we could also see the horrific consequences of war and conflict on all children who wake up in a war zone every day, but also for people many thousands of miles from the conflict zone. One obvious example is the way high food and fuel prices risk triggering the worst hunger situation of modern times, and are already affecting millions of children and young people primarily in Eastern Africa. As well as providing assistance on site, we have also repeatedly highlighted to politicians why hunger occurs, and the importance of preventive measures. War, conflict, climate crisis and the pandemic have made aid more important than it has been in a long time, and as a global movement we have seen worrying tendencies among countries to reduce their aid. We were therefore delighted in 2021 to see Sweden's government living up to its commitment of allocating one per cent of our joint income to aid. But to be of benefit, the aid has to go to the people who need it most. We maintain an ongoing dialogue with decision-makers and the government to boost the children's rights perspective in Sweden's foreign and international aid policy. In turn, our partners are on site in recipient countries to demand accountability and make sure the aid money really does promote children's rights and is not lost to corruption.

Cooperation across borders is increasing in importance. In June, the EU adopted a Child Guarantee to combat child poverty and social exclusion. The guarantee aims to provide a minimum level of protection for every child in the EU, which Save the Children Sweden initiated and developed alongside the European Commission – a feat of which we are tremendously proud. It is now up to Sweden's government to ensure that the Child Guarantee becomes a reality also in Sweden. We are endeavouring to influence this work in the right direction, partly based on our fifteenth Child Poverty Report, which once again confirmed that child poverty is still far too widespread in our nation.

In Sweden, our efforts continued to help the most vulnerable children: child migrants, children subjected to violence, and children in socio-economic deprivation. We also expanded our gaze and saw some parallel challenges, such as the consequences of climate change – the single biggest threat to children's rights. Dealing with this crisis is a crucial issue for the future of all children. One important tool is the climate report we released during the autumn. Prepared in cooperation with climate scientists in Brussels, the report conveys a weighty and worrying message, to say the least. Another means is our advisory role in the Aurora Trial, whereby young people in collaboration with lawyers, psychologists and scientists are lobbying to persuade the Swedish state to take more forceful action against climate change. Save the Children Sweden aims to be where the children and young people are, and where climate efforts are of real significance. Developing a future field assistant in the gaming world is another approach. The digital field assistant will be there in children's digital environments around the clock, in order to detect, contact and provide support for children and young people who encounter problems or demonstrate risk behaviour online. Inclusion and empowerment are key concepts in our work on children's rights. But not all children in Sweden have the same circumstances. We want to give all children the same opportunities to grow. For us, it is crucial that diversity and non-discrimination permeate everything we do in all parts of the organisation, from the individual employee and member, to the local associations and

districts, and the admin department. Therefore, we also conducted a general equality study to carefully scrutinise our organisation.

At the end of the year, the organisation adopted new strategies for the next three years, both in the global movement and at the national level. The synchronised strategies all focus on the idea of One Save the Children. As Sweden's biggest independent child rights organisation, we will continue to foster the power that comes from being innovative, resilient and courageous – and of course always base everything we do on the voices of children and what has the greatest impact for them. Save the Children Sweden will continue to be a source of security for children, and our work to make the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child a reality for all children continues – whatever is happening in the world. I would like to say a big thank you to all our amazing members, donors, partners, volunteers and personnel who make our important work possible.

Here and now, for the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helena Thybell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Helena Thybell

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jens Orback". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, with the first name being more prominent.

Jens Orback

Operational Report and Impact Report

We work for children's rights

Save the Children is the world's largest independent child rights organisation, and it carries out sustainable efforts – whether acute in disasters or long term. Everything we do is based on children's rights, and from the child's perspective and their reality. Save the Children takes action where it most benefits children – in Sweden and around the world. Thanks to our size, we can make an immediate and lasting difference in the world, every day.

Since Save the Children is politically and religiously unaffiliated, we often have access to vulnerable areas that others cannot get to. This means that we can respond rapidly and flexibly where children's needs are greatest. Our organisation is more than 100 years old, but is constantly developing so that we can be a reliable source of support for children – whether in long-term societal changes or emergency situations.

“We help in time and over time”

The Child Convention and child empowerment

Our work starts from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC): every child's right to survival, protection and education. Since 1 January 2020, the UNCRC has been law in Sweden, which is a victory for the lobbying Save the Children Sweden carried out together with other child rights organisations for a very long time. But we will continue to work for children's rights until the UNCRC has been met in Sweden and all nations of the world.

We also want children to be active participants in our work and to have more of a say on issues that affect their lives. We therefore work alongside the children, listen to their stories and the solutions they suggest, so that we can support them in the best possible way.



“We want to make room for children’s voices, and to be their voice when they cannot make themselves heard”

A local and a global organisation

Save the Children – a membership movement

In Sweden, Save the Children is a membership movement with around 57,755 members in local associations, districts and at the national level who make the decisions that shape Save the Children Sweden’s work and operations.

The Swedish organisation’s 147 local associations run activities for children in tough situations, children who have moved to Sweden, are growing up in socio-economic deprivation or are exposed to violence. Local associations and districts also carry out advocacy work, fundraising, campaigns and training.

A global organisation in half the world’s countries

There are 30 Save the Children organisations around the world. Together they make up one of the world’s leading organisations for children’s rights, with operations in 118 countries. Our actions always aim to create lasting change over time. Since we are a global organisation, we can respond quickly in disaster situations. We are often the first to arrive and the last to leave, always with the goal of creating lasting long-term change.

Save the Children Sweden contributes to international efforts for children with funding from Swedish partners, the EU and UN, by lobbying the Swedish government and other decision-makers, and through knowledge and global method development.

“We want to make the Convention on the Rights of the Child a reality for every child”

Photo: Albaraa Mansoor/Save the Children



Objectives

In its Ambition for Children 2030, Save the Children’s global movement has set three long-term objectives, or ‘breakthroughs’:

- Survive – No child dies from preventable causes before their fifth birthday.
- Learn – All children learn from a quality basic education
- Be protected – Violence against children is no longer tolerated

In the Swedish operation, we also work towards the following goals:

- Child migrants shall have their rights fulfilled.
- All children, regardless of socio-economic factors, shall have the same opportunities to take part in society, have a meaningful leisure time, influence their life circumstances and have access to good public services.

Read more about these goals in the chapter on Results 2021.

Measurement and monitoring

Save the Children governs and controls the operation to make sure that we achieve our goals, and that we:

- have an efficient operation that is fit for purpose and achieves its goals,
- have accurate, reliable reporting and accounting,
- comply with laws and regulations and use our funds wisely.

We must be able to show that the money is used effectively, that it does not get lost in the process, and that the operation lives up to the global strategy and the goals decided on by the General Assembly.

We therefore monitor and quality assure our efforts, in order to learn more and continue developing what we do. In our analyses, we always consider the information we receive from children, and we strive constantly to develop opportunities for children to have their voices heard.

Save the Children works on a broad front, with activities covering everything from emergency humanitarian work to long-term development and advocacy work, where the effects are only noticeable after a long time. This means that we need to measure and monitor our operations in different ways, both quantitatively and qualitatively, to ensure that our efforts are making an impact.

An important aspect of this entails identifying and managing risks in the operation.

In our impact measurements, we want to start from children's own thoughts on the kind of effects they want to see. We therefore take measurements of how children feel that Save the Children has achieved the operation's goals.

Model for impact measurement:

- Immediate results: e.g. number of people trained.
- Short-term results: e.g. what benefits the people we trained feel the training brought them.
- Long-term effects: e.g. shift in children's life situation from our operations or policy changes.

As well as the goals in the Ambition for Children 2030, we also have:

- Strategic goals for a longer period. The next strategy period is 2022–2024.
- Annual overall goals. These define key metrics, deliveries and risks that show the roadmap for the operation.

All this is monitored continuously in Save the Children's operations. Five times a year, we conduct a broader operational follow-up in which we analyse development. The results for the most recent period are assessed and explained in relation to the goals for the year, and for the longer strategic period.

Our impact measurement should show that we are using the money where it has the most benefit for children, and that as much as possible goes into activities that have an impact for children. Usually, there are many donors involved in financing different parts of the operation. But we are working continuously to establish a system where donors' demands or feedback reach right out into the projects. When it comes to long-term social change, we evaluate everything regularly, but not annually.

“We plan how we should monitor risks”

Tools for qualitative measurement

There are various tools for measuring short- and long-term impact. Save the Children gathers data from different central systems so that we can compare our results to our own goals and the demands donors have placed on the operation. In this way we can for example monitor how many children our operations have helped, and which activities have been carried out.

Qualitative tools

- Active learning is an ongoing feature in the operation, in dialogue between operations managers and participants.
- Surveys, research, reports and digital measurements are constantly ongoing.
- The international Save the Children Resource Centre gathers reports from the various operations around the world. From there, they can be shared onwards and used for measurement purposes. Based on these results, we can carry on developing new and existing activities, prioritise our resources, and secure partnerships and funding for implementation.
- Mina Svar: The 'My Answers' app is an impact measurement tool that captures children and young people's own experiences of their life situation. In 2021 we used it to begin measuring, monitoring and improving Save the

Children Sweden's efforts in socio-economically deprived areas in Sweden, and we are developing the app for broader application.

- Reports from Sweden and around the world that highlight needs among the target groups and solutions that Save the Children is working on. Some examples are Ung Röst, the Child Poverty report, and Stop the War on Children.
- Young Voices: Through surveys and focus groups, we look at how children's rights under the UNCRC are being met in practice. 45,000 children and young people around the world have been asked to take part in national Young Voices surveys in 14 countries. In 2021 Save the Children in Kosovo and El Salvador completed the Young Voices study, where children also responded to questions on child rights linked to the environment. A similar study is being conducted in Sweden, called Ung Röst, asking 8,000 children and young people how they perceive their lives and life circumstances in the areas of influence, school and leisure time, health, safety and security, as well as faith in the future.
- Pandemic study: the 2020 survey into the effects of the pandemic, both nationally and globally, was an important source of data when planning operations for 2021.
- *Kärleken är fri/Love is Free*, a support chat service, enables children and young people to talk to Save the Children Sweden about honour-related oppression, violence, restrictions, rights, love, forced marriage and female genital mutilation. Statistics are kept on the number of cases and the subjects covered in the chats, as well as age and gender where given. All chats are quality assured before being deleted to ensure that Save the Children is responding to the chats well. More in-depth support is available to anyone who needs it. Work is under way to develop a tool to measure the effects of support activities, and it will be deployed during 2022.

Our methods

Our goal is always to achieve long-term results at scale. We do this through direct action for children, by conveying expert knowledge, and by influencing policy that impacts on children for generations to come. This makes us strong! We can obtain the right knowledge and information through our efforts, making us a reliable expert that can have a real influence on society. Indeed, it is this very combination that makes us strong.

Direct action

Through our direct action, we meet and work with children and young people to ensure that their rights are being fulfilled. Much of our direct action is taken by local partner organisations and civil society. We are involved in building a strong local civil society for child rights, and increasing local ownership to ensure our efforts are sustainable over time.

Save the Children contributes to life-saving efforts in disasters around the world through humanitarian work. We respond quickly to provide life-saving medical care and measures to improve safety and security. The children and their families must have food, clean water and a roof over their heads. We also work preventively to prepare children and their families as well as possible for natural disasters.

We have local knowledge, relationships with people in the area and the preparedness to immediately begin helping children and families in need. We cooperate with national and local actors and organisations that lead the humanitarian response in each country.

Working with partners

Save the Children's cooperation with local civil society is fundamental to its work both in Sweden and internationally. We would never be able to reach children to the degree we do without our local partner organisations. We draw on local expertise in the countries and our partners' experience and resources. By strengthening their capacity and ownership locally, we create even better conditions for long-term, sustainable results for children.

Save the Children also works to strengthen its partners' capacity through funding and capacity development. The long-term aim is that the local actors can stand on their own two feet, which is why in many response situations it is the name of the local partner that is visible, and not Save the Children's.

We also cooperate with companies, which not only make financial contributions and show commitment but can also help children in their business activities. Save the Children has its own company, Save the Children Centre for Child Rights and Business, which starts from the Children's Rights and Business Principles. The company helps businesses to analyse their operation and establish new working methods to ensure children's rights in their supply chains.

Child participation

Children's right to participation is one of the guiding principles of the UNCRC.¹ Despite this, children have very limited opportunities to have a say in matters that affect their lives.

In our international operation, we work with thousands of child rights defenders who converse with those in power, decision-makers, the public and the media. It is our responsibility as adults to listen to children and protect their right to organise and campaign.

It is of course also important that children have a say in Save the Children's activities. We therefore often consult with children, and we create channels for children to voice their opinion and hold us responsible in what we do. In this context, cooperation with the Save the Children Sweden Youth Council is also important.

Knowledge

We share knowledge and experience with those who have an influence over children's life circumstances, such as teachers, parent and social workers. In Sweden, Save the Children strives to improve knowledge among various players in society of children living in socio-economic deprivation. We are active in socio-economically deprived areas, so that together with the children and other players in society we can reduce discrimination and strengthen children's influence over issues that affect them.

Advocacy

We carry out advocacy directed at decision-makers to change communities and ensure that children's rights are respected and fulfilled. We provoke debate, shape opinion and propose laws to strengthen children's legal protection.

Save the Children works to persuade states to take responsibility for ensuring that children's rights are respected, protected and implemented. Laws are needed that bolster child rights, as are independent child ombudsmen and official statistics on children. We lobby to ensure that the public institutions which work with children and their rights collaborate, that they enjoy positive cooperation with organisations in the civil society, and that they allocate resources to enable the Convention on the Rights of the Child to be implemented.

Our local partners on site:

- Reach the children.
- Have local knowledge, expertise, relationships with people and organisations in the area.
- Are on site at an early stage.
- Create long-term, sustainable results for children.

“We do what is needed, here and now for a brighter future”

Governance of Save the Children Sweden

General Assembly

Save the Children Sweden's General Assembly takes place every other year and is the highest decision-making body. The assembly resolves on the operation's focus, and representatives of the local and district associations elect the Board of Trustees.

¹ UNCRC Article 12: All children have the right to have their view heard and for it to be taken seriously

Board of Trustees

The Board's remit includes:

- Promoting Save the Children Sweden's development in line with its statutes and the decisions of the General Assembly.
- Responsibility for planning, executing and evaluating Save the Children Sweden's entire operation.
- Responsibility for Save the Children Sweden's work within the global collaboration association and Save the Children International, based on the operational focus.
- Establishing the operational plan and budget.

In 2021, the Board held four minuted meetings.

Board members 2021:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Function</i>	<i>Background</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Committees</i>
Jens Orback	Stockholm	Chair	Executive Director Global Challenges. Former Minister for Gender Equality and Secretary General of the Olof Palme International Center.	4/4	EC
Cecilia Abrahamsson	Stockholm	Deputy Chair	Communicator	4/4	EC, AC
Lars Axelsson	Stockholm	Member	Head of Marketing	3/4	AMC
Oliwer Karlsson	Stockholm	Member	Gender Specialist, youth influence	4/4	EC
Ingela Schmidt	Solna	Member	Chief Information Security Officer	4/4	AC
Josephine Bladh	Gothenburg	Member	Leadership Consultant	4/4	
Maria Schillaci	Stockholm	Member	Child Psychologist	4/4	
Monica Burman	Umeå	Member	Professor of Legal Science	4/4	AC
Monica Selin	Trollhättan	Member	Former Regional Councillor, Rehabilitation Assistant	3/4	AMC
Anders Ferbe	Stockholm	Member	Senior Advisor	4/4	EC, AMC
Raymond Mankowitz	Stockholm	Member	Director of Communications	4/4	
Hanna Thessén	Stockholm	Member	Chair, Save the Children Sweden Youth Council	3/4	(SCSYC)
Samrand Faik	Stockholm	Deputy from October	Student	1/1	(SCSYC)
Josefine Stenbeck	Gothenburg	Deputy until the end of September	Student	2/3	(SCSYC)

Nominating committee:

Ewa Back (Chair), Tomas Rydsmo, Britta Öström, Gunnel Eneroth, Maliha Khan and Henrik Holmquist.

Auditors:

Regular: Erik Albenius, Authorised Public Accountant, PwC AB and Gay Ljungberg, Elected Auditor. Deputies: Cecilia Luther, Authorised Public Accountant, PwC AB and Annika Draws, Elected Deputy.

Committees 2021:

Executive Committee (EC)

Prepares the Board of Trustees' meetings and reviews the Secretary General's terms of pay and employment.

Audit Committee (AC)

Monitors that Save the Children Sweden's accounting policies comply with generally accepted accounting principles and are applied in a proper manner. Ensures that internal control and risk management (both financial and operational) are dealt with in a satisfactory manner. Takes part in planning and follow-up of internal auditing, and monitors how auditor comments and recommendations are dealt with in the organisation.

Asset Management Committee (AMC)

Supports the organisation with fund management of both long-term assets and short-term liquidity. Reviews the policy on fund management and evaluates the results of fund management. Conducts ethical reviews and evaluates whether fund management complies with the management policy.

Remuneration

Chair: SEK 23,650/mth. Deputy Chair: SEK 5,912/mth.

Other members may be compensated for loss of earnings. No pension provision is made for members of the Board.

The Save the Children Sweden Secretariat

Save the Children Sweden's head office is in Bromma, Stockholm County, and there are a further 11 offices nationwide. In total Save the Children Sweden has 370 (357) employees in Sweden (average).

The Secretariat includes a wide range of different professional roles and categories, and there are managers both with personnel responsibility (department managers, section managers and group managers) and without personnel responsibility (area directors, assistant regional managers and skills development managers).

Senior Management Team

- Helena Thybell, Secretary General
- Jon Björk, COO and Deputy Secretary General.
- Ekin Ergün Björstedt, Head of Financing and Partnership.
- Cecilia Chatterjee-Martinsen, Head of the International Programme.
- Maria Frisk, Head of the Sweden Programme.
- Freddie Hellström, Financial Manager until the end of August.
- Bertil Jungmar, Financial Manager from August.
- Anna Nordström, Head of HR.
- Ulf Rickardsson, Staff Manager.
- Caroline Thunved, Head of Communications and Fundraising.

The Secretary General's employment terms

Monthly salary: SEK 95,000. Her term runs 12 August 2019 – 12 August 2024. Notice period: six months if initiated by the Secretary General and 12 months if initiated by Save the Children Sweden. In the event of notice of termination with no obligation to work, deductions are made if other employment is found during the notice period. Occupational pension provisions: in line with collective agreements, amounting to SEK 121,764 in 2021.

Helena Thybell had the following other assignments in 2021:

- Board of Folk och Försvar (for Save the Children Sweden. Unpaid.)
- Wildhood Foundation. Unpaid.)



*Save the Children Sweden and SCSYC school material on child rights and racism.
Title: 'However different we are.'*

Results 2021

How many we've reached!

Save the Children's² direct efforts for children around the world in 2021 reached:

- 43 million children (22 million girls and 21 million boys).
- 31.8 million adults.



Save the Children reached:

- 26 million children with efforts in health and nutrition.
- 18 million children with efforts in disaster relief.
- 12.2 million children with efforts in education.



For example:

- 14.7 million children in Eastern and Southern Africa.
- 8.5 million children in Western and Central Africa.
- 8.2 million children in Southeast Asia.
- 400,000 children were reached in a Covid-19 vaccine campaign.
- 273,000 children were vaccinated against measles in DRC.



Number reached in Sweden:

Save the Children reached some 34,940 unique individuals in Sweden via direct operations. Of these, about 18,490 were children and young people.

- 1,330 0–5 years, 7,280 6–12 years, 5,690 13–17 years, 4,180 older than 18 years.
- We have supported and given training to about 3,310 parents and 12,900 other important adults who work with or manage children daily, such as teachers, sports club leaders and sociologists. This means that we reach far more children and young people indirectly.
- Save the Children has organised about 119,700 participation opportunities for these 34,900 people. This means that on average each person has attended 3.4 sessions.
- We have reached many more people through reports, online training, YouTube videos, brochures, social media, etc. On approximately 2,076,000 occasions, people have actively engaged with Save the Children's information efforts.

² Figures from Save the Children International's annual Total Reach Report. Save the Children Sweden, and all other Save the Children organisations around the world, contribute to these efforts. Read more about Save the Children Sweden's contribution in the report on operations.

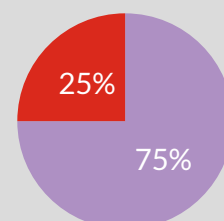
Where we worked!

with funding from Save the Children Sweden

Africa

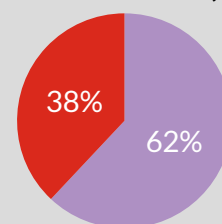
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- DRC
- Ivory Coast
- Ethiopia
- Gambia
- Mali
- Mozambique
- Nigeria
- Rwanda
- Senegal
- Somalia
- Sudan
- South Sudan
- South Africa
- Tanzania
- Zambia

Western and Central Africa: MSEK 38 (34)³



Development cooperation
Humanitarian work

Eastern and Southern Africa: MSEK 341 (274)



Development cooperation
Humanitarian work

The year was blighted by the effects of Covid-19 and school and community closures, as well as restrictions on movement within and between countries in parts of Africa. The tendency to restrict the scope for civil society organisations to act has increased in certain countries. Save the Children has worked to bolster structures on a pan-African level, to convince nations to fulfil their commitments in the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.

Efforts to protect children in areas of armed conflict continued. The unstable situation in Mozambique, Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan has led to special measures to protect children against violence and abuse, and to facilitate their education and access to food and healthcare.

The conflict in Tigray has not only affected Save the Children’s operation in Ethiopia, but has also led to disaster relief in neighbouring Sudan.

Tentative positive development was observed in Tanzania in 2021, where under the new government civil society now has greater freedom of movement and the political dialogue has opened up.

Examples of our work during the year:

Sahel, Western Africa: Round table discussions (SIPRI) on the need for efforts for child rights, peacebuilding and the humanitarian situation in the Sahel, a region blighted by armed conflict and instability.

Mali: The nation's security crisis, Covid-19 and climate change have led to record numbers of people in need of humanitarian aid. Save the Children has provided school meals and emergency funding for vulnerable households. 84% of recipients used the funding for school fees.

Burkina Faso: Projects to protect children in the nation's escalating conflict. Efforts include cash funding, education, efforts for humanitarian accessibility in crisis areas, and building capacity for peacebuilding and social cohesion.

Democratic Republic of the Congo: Work against hazardous child labour in mineral production. The aim is to ensure that more children can go to school, and that families and children get tools to break the negative poverty spiral that child labour and small-scale mining entail.

Ethiopia: Save the Children and local partners are lobbying companies and authorities to consider the standard of living for children and families in the country's growing textile industry and children's rights, and ensure that young workers are given reasonable working conditions that promote their development.

Sudan: Save the Children's support for civil society organisations helped ensure, for example, that female genital mutilation was prohibited by law.

Guinea Bissau: During the year, a comprehensive framework was adopted for children's right to safety and protection.

Gambia: The child-led organisation supported by Save the Children's partners carried out advocacy to increase protection for children against violence in school and at home. The quality of social services to protect children and report abuse was followed up.

Southern Africa: Efforts to coordinate the governments' and authorities' ability to protect children moving across borders. In Eswatini, a law was adopted on the status of refugees, whereby child migrants were defined as a separate group. The age of sexual consent was raised from 16 to 18 years.

Rwanda: 93% of the participants in Save the Children's and the partner organisation's parent groups to stop adults using corporal punishment on children reported that they had stopped using this as a parenting method. The previous measured level was 21%.

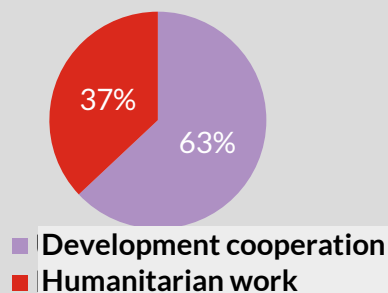
*Fana, aged 10, in Save the Children's Child Friendly Space in Ethiopia.
Photo: Sacha Myers/Save the Children.*



Asia

- Afghanistan
- Bangladesh
- Philippines
- Myanmar
- India
- Indonesia
- Pakistan
- Vietnam

Asia: MSEK 128 (105)



During 2021, the effects of Covid-19 continued to impact on operations, but the programme’s working methods were modified to ensure that activities could go ahead. Operations are carried out alongside local organisations, and we continued to work for children’s rights on a national and regional level. Save the Children continues to support children’s right to safety and protection, as well as training in humanitarian work.

Examples of our work during the year:

Bangladesh: Save the Children carried out humanitarian efforts among Rohingya refugees in what remains a very tough situation.

Afghanistan: Conditions changed dramatically with the Taliban’s takeover. Save the Children did however manage to resume operations relatively quickly and also to begin new humanitarian efforts in the country, something which is a priority for the entire global Save the Children movement.

Myanmar: The political situation changed with the military coup of early 2021, with ongoing conflicts in several parts of the country. Save the Children has adapted its programmes in the country, and is working with Thailand to support child migrants as well.

Philippines: Save the Children has supported the sister organisation that intends to become a full member of the global Save the Children family. It carries out intensive efforts relating to child rights and participation in advocacy and reporting processes. Proposals to ban corporal punishment by law were stopped by the president, and alternative solutions must therefore be developed that can protect children and young people. Save the Children in the Philippines has also begun developing an environmental and climate project based on children’s participation at the local level.

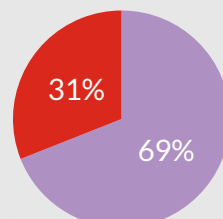


Save the Children/Allison Joyce

Europe

- Albania
- Kosovo
- Moldova
- Ukraine
- Serbia
- North Macedonia

Europe: MSEK 33 (34)



■ Development cooperation
■ Humanitarian work

Examples of our work during the year:

Serbia: The scope for civil society weakened here while other countries saw more positive development, where civil society organisations were able to help efforts during the pandemic and support the development of social support systems, health initiatives and remote teaching, thus reaching children, young people and their families in vulnerable situations. Advocacy work has continued to bring about better legal protection and change the situation for children and young people.

Kosovo: Efforts to relieve the effects of the pandemic and strengthen the voices of children and young people, with a focus on vulnerable groups of children and their families. Save the Children and its partners worked to boost compliance with legislation against corporal punishment, and to ensure that decision-makers and authorities work alongside civil society on child rights, and challenge traditional conceptions of children and young people. For example, children's experiences have been highlighted to increase understanding of children's development and their ability to contribute to change. Efforts to promote child participation have been bolstered by advocacy and campaigns highlighting the child's perspective, which reflect and also challenge socio-cultural norms.

Moldova: NGOs have developed legal proposals to alter relations with civil society.

Save the Children's work in Ukraine continued in 2021, but since war broke out in February 2022 operations have changed dramatically, as we once again have a refugee crisis in Europe. War-related efforts are not covered in this 2021 report, but will be a prominent feature of our activities in 2022.

Photo: Camelia Iordache/Save the Children Romania.



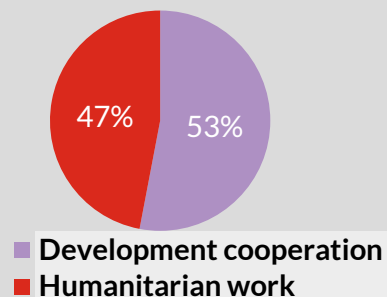
Latin America

- Argentina
- Brazil
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Dominican Republic
- El Salvador
- Guatemala
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Venezuela
- Mexico
- Nicaragua



Save the Children/
Allison Joyce

Latin America: MSEK 38 (34)



Latin America has been hard hit by the effects of Covid-19, but the programmes could be adapted and went ahead in any case. Half of the children in Latin America live in poverty, and there is a great need to listen to children and amplify their voices in advocating for child rights. Advocacy in the region focused on the UNCRC, bolstering systems for children’s right to safety and protection, investing in children and young people, and legislating against corporal punishment. Save the Children focused on protection for migrating children and young people, particularly girls. There is low awareness of how vulnerable they are, and there are few specially adapted efforts.

By supporting NGOs in their skills and experience exchange, work on child rights in Latin America has been strengthened. This is despite the difficulties due to pandemic restrictions and the tougher climate for NGOs to work with human rights. Save the Children identifies and supports child-led organisations in the region. During 2021, representatives have taken part in various forums for advocacy and have highlighted issues in digital networks.

Examples of our work during the year:

Venezuela: The vulnerable situation for refugees and migrants in neighbouring countries persists. A national office has been opened, thus boosting capacity.

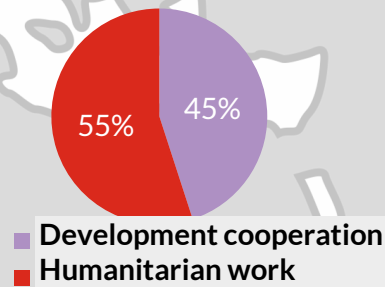
Colombia: Humanitarian aid via Sida to increase children’s opportunities for education, and to relieve the effects of pandemic lockdowns.

Haiti: Support following the huge earthquake in August. Save the Children is also working to develop a cash funding system to help families get by in disaster situations.

Middle East

- Iraq
- Yemen
- Lebanon
- Palestine
- Syria

Middle East: MSEK 167 (204)



Examples of our work during the year:

Iraq: Collaboration with three partners. E.g. vocational training, humanitarian support and cash funding.

Lebanon: 2021 saw the start of a programme for sustainable livelihoods, e.g. strengthening social safety nets for Lebanese and Syrian refugees.

Yemen: The humanitarian crisis continues, as the war has led to a collapse of the economy and social services. Reforms of how children and young people are treated in the legal system have been pushed through following advocacy by Save the Children's partners, and guidelines on caring for children without families have been adopted. Save the Children continues to work for children's right to safety, protection and education.

Palestine: efforts for children's access to education and safe schools continued. Save the Children provided psychosocial support for children and families affected by violence and imprisonment, and supported child councils as a way of involving children in society. We influenced child-friendly laws and efforts to document and report serious violations against children. Palestinian development organisations received support in growing their capacity.



Photo: Save the Children

During the year children were killed and injured, families were displaced and schools were destroyed in a conflict between Israeli forces and armed groups in the Gaza Strip. Save the Children supported affected children and families, e.g. through psychosocial support and assistance so that children could return to school.

Syria: Covid, sanctions and a severe drought have exacerbated the situation for children and their families in conflict areas. Save the Children has assisted with education, initiatives for health, diet, water and sanitation, focusing on children's safety and protection.

Sweden

MSEK 189 (184), of which MSEK 16 humanitarian work

In Sweden, Save the Children is a non-governmental organisation with 57,755 members in 147 local associations nationwide. Members and staff spread information about children's life circumstances, lobby those in power to effect change, and support children and young people where they are. We run activities for children and young people who arrive unaccompanied in Sweden, for meaningful leisure time, along with efforts for children who have been exposed to violence. During the year operations were affected by pandemic restrictions, difficulties in recruiting volunteers, and concern among the target groups. Despite this, most operations were able to go ahead as planned, with some adaptations. The results have exceeded expectations. Save the Children Sweden has ensured continuity and a presence in activities throughout the pandemic. Consequently, we have been able to carry on making a difference to children.

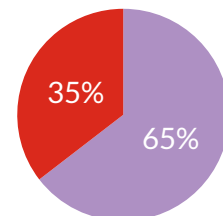
Examples of activities

- In a national project called Ung Kraft/Young Power, in eight locations, we have supported hundreds of young people who arrived unaccompanied in Sweden to find jobs and learn about the labour market. In the Min framtid/My Future project, 21% of participants found some kind of employment.
- A new activity for young fathers and a breakfast club for children has started as part of the På Lika Villkor/On Equal Terms project.
- There have been various efforts for children's right to meaningful leisure time across Sweden; interviews with activity leaders and surveys among children show that children feel the activities help to increase their influence over their everyday lives and boost their self-esteem.
- Children's voices and needs linked to neglect and location were highlighted in a children's book, monologue, checklists and support material. Civil servants and foster parents gained a greater understanding of trauma and how it affects a child's development.
- Children in refuges have greater meaning in their leisure time thanks to the Pusselbiten/Puzzle Piece project.

During the year, 976 teachers and other school staff have taken part in five-day skills development programmes in trauma-awareness care. Seventy-five other training courses have enhanced skills among key adults who come across children in their daily work. This is organised by Rädde Barnen Valfärd AB.

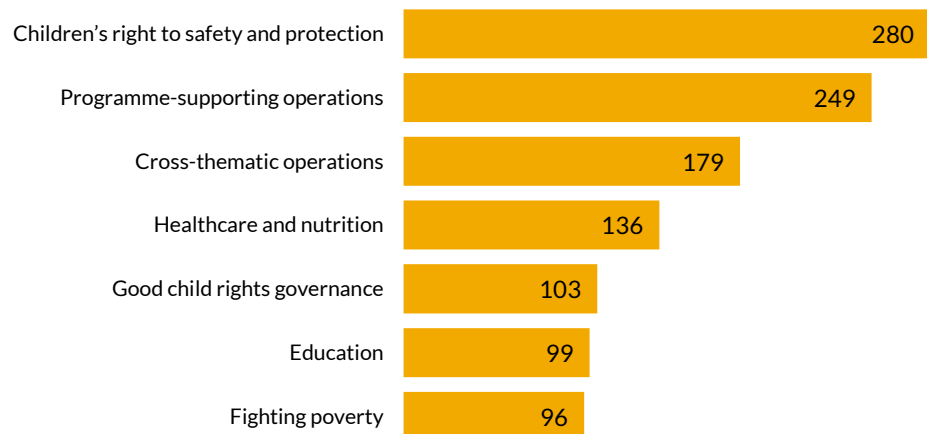


In total



- Development cooperation
- Humanitarian work

Operating costs for programme activities internationally and in Sweden (MSEK)



Some examples

Our programme operations encompass just over SEK 1 billion, and we financed activities in about 120 countries in 2021. Since Save the Children Sweden is part of a global organisation, we can achieve more than we could on our own. Here are some of the results from our work in Sweden and internationally.⁴

We start from our three overriding global breakthroughs – that children should survive, learn and be protected – as well as the complementary objectives for Sweden – that child migrants shall have their rights fulfilled, and minimising child marginalisation. We also report some of our results in collaborations with partners.

Survive

– No child dies from preventable causes before their fifth birthday

Every year, 5.2 million children under the age of five die of preventable causes. Marginalised children are most vulnerable because they lack access to healthcare, vaccines, medicine or nutritious food. Things are particularly bad in wars, conflicts and emergency situations, or in poor or disadvantaged areas. We train health workers who can treat common childhood diseases and thereby reduce infant mortality. The most vulnerable families have an opportunity to give their children the right kind of food, expectant mothers and babies receive care, and we work with families and entire communities to ensure that the special health needs of young people are met. All children have the right to eat enough and go to the doctor. Children should not die from illnesses and malnutrition that can easily be remedied. We make sure that children, however remotely they live, have food, healthcare and medicine.

We also work with local and national authorities to strengthen society's systems, so that no child has to die from preventable causes.

Save the Children's humanitarian work

- Emergency help – Roofs over heads, food, clean water, healthcare, medicines.
- Safety – Lone children are protected, families are reunited, and children are given psychosocial support in dealing with traumatic experiences.
- Education – Places for education are established and children are given school materials.
- Preventive work – With entire communities and in preparing the children themselves.

All children have the right to aid in wars and disasters. Children should never be left alone without protection when their everyday lives are shattered. We respond quickly and provide lifesaving healthcare, protect lone children, reunite families and set up temporary schools. And we stay for as long as the children need us. There are many severe disasters happening worldwide. We prioritise our resources where the need is greatest, and where we can make the biggest difference to the children and their families. We work to ensure that children can be children, and are protected from violence and abuse. The biggest humanitarian disasters in 2021 were the ones in Afghanistan, Yemen, Ethiopia (Tigray) and Syria.

Since Save the Children works with long-term development projects in many countries, we are often already in place when a disaster occurs. We have local knowledge and a relationship with people and organisations in the area, and can thus immediately begin helping children and families in need.

Save the Children Sweden contributes funding and expertise to the international movement's joint efforts in conflicts and disasters. We provide emergency assistance, build child-friendly spaces and protect lone children, and work to reunite families. We provide psychosocial support and build temporary schools, and we work long-term with entire communities to help prevent and prepare for future disasters.

⁴ Some of the children's names have been changed for safeguarding purposes.

“Healthy children grow up and change the world”

Global: An extraordinary crisis

The war in Yemen is into its seventh year, and the hunger crisis has worsened during the year. Five million children are on the verge of starvation, and 80% of the population is dependent on humanitarian aid. Save the Children is the largest organisation providing humanitarian relief in the country. The situation has been declared an extraordinary crisis. The violence has displaced three million people, and hospitals, schools, water pipes and sewers have been destroyed. The economy has collapsed and the country's ports and airports are blockaded. It is quite simply impossible to get food. In addition, Covid-19 has hit Yemen hard. Even before the pandemic, the healthcare system was severely overburdened by patients suffering from acute malnourishment, cholera and diphtheria. During 2021, Save the Children Sweden provided life-saving healthcare relief. Supported by Sida and other institutions and companies, we carried out measures for food aid, water and sanitation, health, protection and promotion of child rights through local partners.

Save the Children is lobbying for an end to war, and to halt Sweden's arms deliveries to the warring parties.



Leyla is 11 years old and lives in a camp for domestic refugees in Lahij, south-west Yemen, with her younger brother and parents. She says that back in Hodeidah, further up the coast, they had their own house.

“Last year we had a home, a fridge, a toilet and water, but here we have nothing. The hardest thing is not having any water, money or clothes.”

She doesn't feel safe in the camp, where the family live in a simple tent.

“There's no security here and the accommodation is poor. I can't feel safe in this tent.”

Photo: Hadil Saeed/Save the Children.



Many children suffer from acute malnourishment in Yemen. At the Save the Children health centres, the youngest are given high-energy nut cream. Photo: Jonathan Hyams/Save the Children.

Global: Swedish children in Syria come home

Children and parents associated with IS are detained in camps in north-eastern Syria indefinitely without trial. The children risk being injured both physically and mentally, and they are not having their most fundamental rights met. The children in the camp have survived IS's reign of terror, many have seen their parents and siblings die and they may have been injured themselves. There is very little access to healthcare, clean water, nutritious food, protection and schooling in the camps. The UN Special Rapporteur says that conditions in the camps meet the criteria for torture, inhuman and degrading treatment under international law.

Sweden's government finally made a decision in 2021 that it must actively assist Swedish children and women expelled by the Kurdish autonomy and help them to return home. This is something Save the Children Sweden has long been working for. Since 2017 we have lobbied the government and the political parties, written reports, arranged seminars and run campaigns to raise awareness and political pressure, because the violation of these children's rights must end. Together with the membership movement and other parts of civil society, and also international networks, we worked hard to bring about the change that has now been made.

Save the Children Sweden has learnt a lot from what has happened. In future, society must better prepare itself to be able to protect children at risk of recruitment attempts and human trafficking in violent and extremist groups.

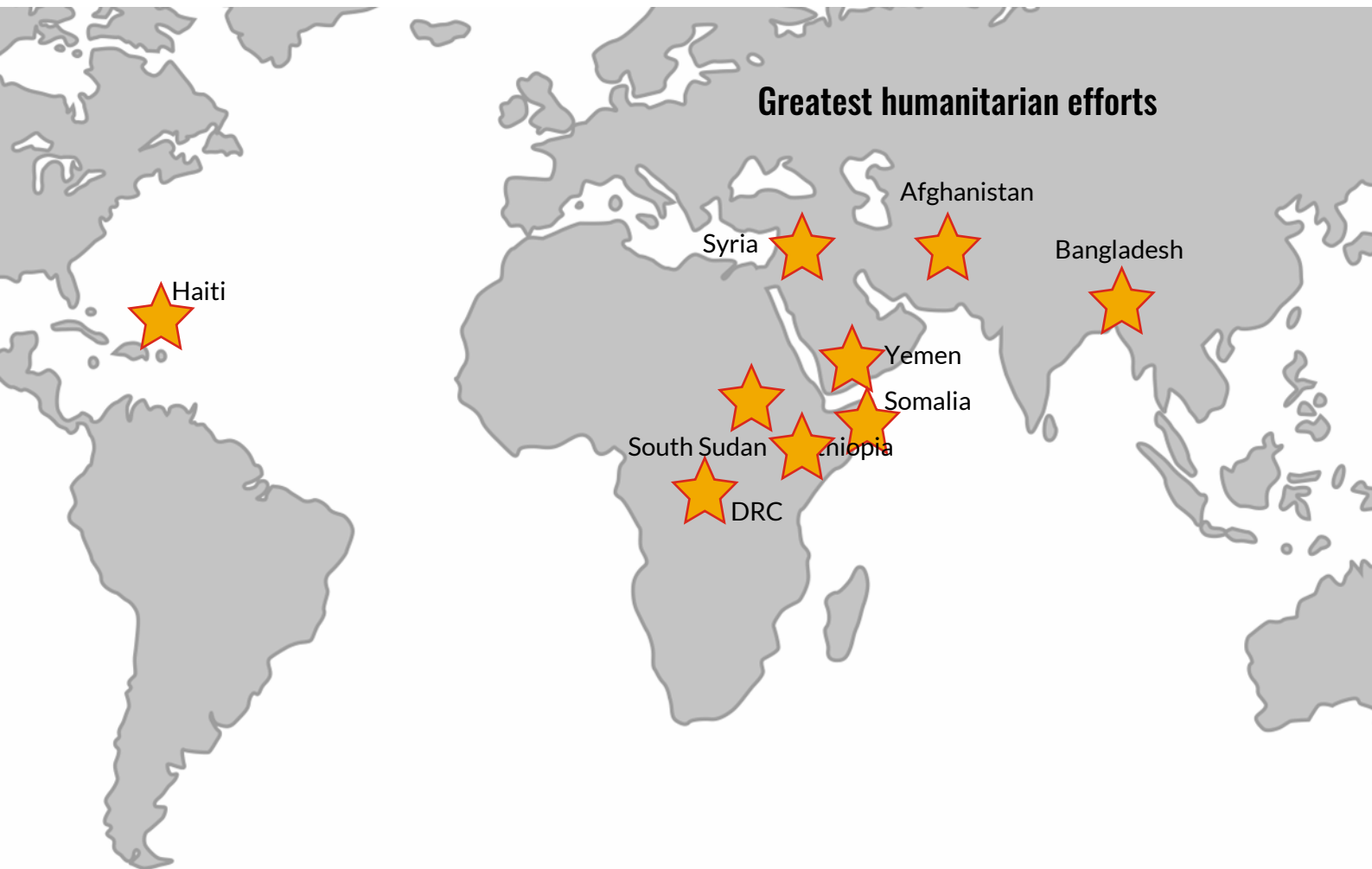
Results

During 2021, Save the Children worked globally with humanitarian efforts in a total of 80 countries. In many countries the health systems were already under pressure from the coronavirus pandemic, and the need for help was overwhelming. 2021 has been one of the most intense and demanding years in over 100 years of Save the Children, with increasing conflict, drought and the pandemic.

- Thirty-one million people, 18 million of them children, were reached by humanitarian aid. The most humanitarian aid was provided in Eastern and Southern Africa, followed by Western and Central Africa.
- Four million children were assisted in the DRC.
- In Ethiopia, where the conflict in Tigray has led to displacement, starvation and drought, efforts reached more than 3 million people, half of them children.
- The continued crisis in Yemen calls for ongoing efforts; 2.3 million people were reached, of whom 1.2 million were children.
- Drought and difficulties in accessing food in the Horn of Africa, Somalia and southern Sudan led to efforts for a total of 4.2 million people, 2.3 million of whom were children.
- The conflicts in Afghanistan and Syria, and the Rohingya refugee situation in Bangladesh, also necessitated huge efforts during the year.

In 2021, Save the Children International's Emergency Health Unit (EHU) reached more than 1.1 million children and adults affected by conflicts, natural disasters and disease in Latin America and Africa. The unit provided life-saving medical assistance, health information and vaccinations against e.g. Covid-19, measles and cholera. 3,100 health workers were trained and capacity was increased.

2,471 children received medical assistance in connection with the earthquake in Haiti, and 455,831 children in Ethiopia were reached by six mobile health teams operating in 15 areas in Tigray.



Learning

– All children learn from a quality basic education

Millions of children receive no education solely because of who they are or where they live. This can be due to disaster or poverty, but also discrimination of children because of gender, disability or ethnicity. Almost 400 million children of elementary school age don't know how to read or write. Some 10 million refugee children risk missing out on an education. Twenty-five million children will never go to school – and two-thirds of these children are girls.

Without a basic education, it is hard to break the vicious circle of poverty. Save the Children works with communities and authorities to ensure all children are given the support they need to learn to read and write. We provide support so that children can have study materials, and families receive help in supporting their children's education. We train teachers and provide places for children in safe school environments.

We provide support so that children in vulnerable life circumstances, children with disabilities and children belonging to ethnic minorities have an education. An important part of this work is to ensure that children in conflicts and disasters and refugee children have access to a good education in safe environments in recipient countries and refugee camps.

In Sweden, Save the Children Sweden strives to create equal conditions for study and learning. We do this in several ways such as collaborations with schools in socio-economically deprived areas, by providing targeted student aid to children and young people, and also through various anti-discrimination projects.

Global: Support for education in Afghanistan

Damsa, aged 10, can once again go to school thanks to Save the Children's locally based education programme in Afghanistan.

"I love my class and my classmates," she says.

After the Taliban takeover, Damsa was forced to stay home from school. It was far too unsafe to walk there and the school was closed. Damsa cried and wanted to go, but instead her parents home schooled her.

The increasing unease in the country has diminished children's access to education. Even before the pandemic not all children could go to school, and when Covid-19 came along over 20% of girls and 10% of boys went without schooling.

Save the Children is working in Afghanistan to enable girls and boys to have an education in both the short and long term.

As well as its own, locally based education programmes, Save the Children provides more long-term support for the state education system, ensuring that it can develop and eventually accept some of the many children who cannot currently go to school.

When Damsa could finally return to the school run by Save the Children after it re-opened, she was so happy she couldn't sleep the night before.

"I just couldn't wait to see my teacher and classmates again!" she says.

Damsa has plans for the future:

"I want to be a teacher and help my people," she explains.

Damsa, aged 10, has been able to return to school thanks to Save the Children's programme in Afghanistan.*

Photo: Zubair Mohammad Shairzay/Save the Children.



Sweden: Children shared experiences of racism in school

Save the Children Sweden is constantly hearing stories from children about how they are subjected to racism during breaks, in staff rooms, classrooms and common rooms. It affects their capacity and motivation in doing school work, as well as their dreams and future opportunities.

In a 2021 report entitled *Adults – what do they do?*, children in Sweden shared their experiences of racism, discrimination and harassment, and how they feel these are dealt with by adults. The report shows that racism is a part of many children's everyday lives, and that adults in schools need to learn to see racism, prevent it from happening and take action when it does.

The report is part of the EU-funded project *Young Voices on Discrimination*, and is based on survey responses from 1,117 students and interviews with 33 children. Both children and young people took part in work on the report.

The focus in the report was on ethnicity, skin colour, culture, language and religion, and on what adults in schools do, or don't do, to prevent racism from happening.



From the report

- Half of the Year 5 pupils have witnessed racism at school. 48% say they have heard or seen something racist at their school on one or more occasions. Of these, 33% have seen racism on one occasion, and 15% have seen racism on several occasions.
- One in five pupils with a foreign background (19%) replies that they have at some point in the past year felt concerned about being teased because of their skin colour, because they have a foreign-sounding name, that they don't speak Swedish very well, or because of what they eat.
- Of those who have experienced discrimination or harassment, 69% have been targeted by other children. At the same time, 14% of the children say that adults have discriminated against or harassed them; the main people are school staff (10%), but also leaders of leisure activities, police/security staff, healthcare staff and social services staff.

[Read more in the report](#)

Results

Global: Save the Children carried out educational activities for 12.2 million children during 2021.

We work to ensure that more children have access to an education, and that their education is adapted to their needs. During the year, we have identified and combatted discrimination and other obstacles so that all children can go to school and learn on equal terms. There has been a particular focus on children with disabilities, and how the education needs to be adapted to allow them to access and benefit from it. Experiences were collected in a tool kit to support educational activities both within Save the Children and for other parties: [Inclusive Education Resources and tool kit](#). The tool kit is based on Save the Children's many years of experience, and will fill in the gaps identified in previous tools and guidelines. This will further strengthen all children's right to an education.

Sweden: One result of the work on the *Adults – what do they do?* report (see above), in which 1,117 children answered questions on racism at school, was a number of recommendations from Save the Children Sweden to the government, the Swedish National Agency for Education, and schools themselves. The report was covered in 13 news features in the media, and specific teaching materials and tools have been distributed to schools and children.

In association with schools in socio-economically deprived areas, the schools say that participants in Save the Children Sweden's activities are showing great progress in areas such as civics and Swedish. Moreover, teachers say that the forums for male and female students are having a positive impact on student behaviour and attitudes.

“Children with knowledge become wise adults”

Be Protected

– violence against children is no longer tolerated

Save the Children combats all forms of violence against children. We work preventively, and also to protect children who have been subjected to different kinds of violence. This includes advocacy to change laws and policies, and to introduce and strengthen existing protective systems for children. Save the Children strengthens families and other caregivers, teachers, healthcare personnel, police and military staff to ensure that they take their responsibility and protect children against all forms of violence.

It is about changing attitudes and teaching adults the importance of not using any form of violence against children. Ultimately, though, it is about getting adults to understand that children have the same right to protection as adults. Save the Children works in various areas, such as banning corporal punishment, stopping harmful child labour, and to protect children from human trafficking and sexual abuse. An important part of this work is to offer psychological support to children who have suffered traumatic experiences.

In societies blighted by armed conflict and other disasters, children are at higher risk of violence, and particularly sexual violence. We support monitoring and report mechanisms regarding serious violations, and advocate protection laws and policies. Part of the work relates to family reunification, preventing children from being recruited to armed forces, and reintegrating child soldiers into society.

In Sweden we support newly arrived children and young people, e.g. with child-friendly places, leisure activities, study support, and support sessions. We support sports associations nationwide in establishing procedures for fighting and dealing with harassment, abuse and discrimination. We also run operations against honour-based violence and oppression, and there is a phone service to call if anyone is concerned about a child or young person in an extremist environment. At Save the Children Sweden's Centre for Support & Treatment, children and parents can access psychological treatment and advice.

Global: Child councils spread knowledge to protect children

Amina lives in Zanzibar, Tanzania. She is a defender of child rights and anti-violence through a network of child councils, which Save the Children supports. It is run by children and includes children in more than 250 villages. The children can discuss issues related to children, and work for change.

The child councils inform people in rural areas about child rights, and how important it is for the community that adults take responsibility and ensure that children's rights are respected by everyone.

Amina says that children have low awareness of their rights and are often afraid to report when they're subjected to some kind of violence, such as corporal punishment or sexual abuse. Both women and children are subjected to discrimination and violence, and huge efforts are needed to combat this.

“The child councils are very important in the struggle against violence, child marriage and pregnancy among young girls,” she says.

Amina's father Makame supports his daughter's commitment. When he found out that there was a child council in their village, he spoke to Amina and her siblings and took them there.

“I've been on the child council for a few years and have learnt a lot. It gives us children a chance to learn about our rights and talk about issues that are relevant to us,” says Amina, adding that she feels this has made her stronger.

“The training have given me self-confidence. As a young girl I wasn't confident enough to stand up and talk in front of people, but now I can do it without a problem.”



Amina lives in Zanzibar and is involved in child rights in one of the child councils supported by Save the Children. She now wants to train as a child rights lawyer. Photo: Secilia Bosco/Save the Children Tanzania.

Amina has visited schools to teach children about their rights and tell them where they can report violence. They have also educated parents about the importance of protecting children.

“Violence towards children happens in the home, in school and elsewhere,” she says. “I am grateful that my parents have supported me and that Save the Children teaches us about child rights.”

Amina has dreams of becoming a child rights lawyer, and hopes for a brighter future for herself and her girlfriends in Zanzibar. She wants to lobby the government to properly enforce the laws that exist to penalise child abusers.

Sweden:

***Respect! My body!* week gave more children the courage to speak out**

Save the Children Sweden’s *Stopp! Min kropp!/Respect! My body!* is a guide developed for parents and other important adults with tips and advice on how to talk to children at different ages about their bodies, boundaries, and sexual abuse. There is also school material aimed at ages 7–9.

In autumn 2021, Save the Children Sweden organised the first *Respect! My body!* week, which focused on how to talk to children at different ages about their bodies, boundaries, and sexual abuse. It was a digital event with episodes for children to watch in class and seminars for adults on themes such as school, the internet and out of school. In the episodes, we shared tips and challenges, and heard children ask questions to known and unknown adults. The event attracted a great many participants and generated extensive involvement in the membership movement.

A survey of primary schools showed that 99% of respondents perceived an impact among the children, above all that the children’s awareness had increased after *Respect! My body!* week.

One social services worker told us, “We’ve had an increase in reports of concern in our municipality during the autumn. Several schools said they had worked with *Respect! My body!* week and that pupils had started talking about their experiences.

One of the aims of the material is to give adults the courage to talk to children about their bodies and boundaries. From as early an age as possible, children need to be aware of their body's value and how to say or indicate yes and no. Adults can help children to say if someone is doing something with their bodies that they don't like or understand. It reassures them, and gives them a sense of what feels good and right, both now and later on in life. It also makes it easier for victims to speak out.



Results

Global: During 2021, Save the Children reached out with efforts to protect more than four million children against violence. In total, these efforts also reached seven million adults.

At the end of 2021, 63 countries around the world had introduced a legal ban on corporal punishment. This is an increase of more than 50 countries since Save the Children and its worldwide partners started a global campaign against corporal punishment in 2001.

While more and more countries are banning corporal punishment against children, it is still both legal and acceptable to subject children to physical and mental punishment and other abusive treatment in the majority of the world's nations. Every day, children suffer violence in the home, at school and in institutions around the world. The Covid-19 pandemic of the past two years has led to far-reaching lockdowns of society in many countries. In some cases, children have had to stay home from school for several months. This has put tremendous strain on many families, and children have been even more exposed to different kinds of violence in the home.

This is evident from reports by Save the Children International, but information from helplines also indicates a greater strain and more of a need for children to get help and support.

In certain countries, girls in particular have not returned to school after lockdowns ended. Instead many have been forced into child marriage, and it is feared that this trend will increase in the next few years.

Sweden: To protect children against violence, the threat of violence and trauma after violence, we have worked directly with children and young people, and with parents and other important adults in children's lives. We have reached about 11,500 people with direct support and training in 2021. Save the Children chalked up a great success in July 2021 when legislation was introduced against a new crime: exposing children to crime. The new law means it is now a criminal offence to let children see or hear violence in the home. We have been lobbying on this issue for many years and have headed up a coalition of like-minded organisations. We also played our part in the inclusion of major resources for realising the proposals in an enhanced child rights perspective on refugees in Sweden's national budget in autumn 2021.

**“Safe children grow
into safe adults”**

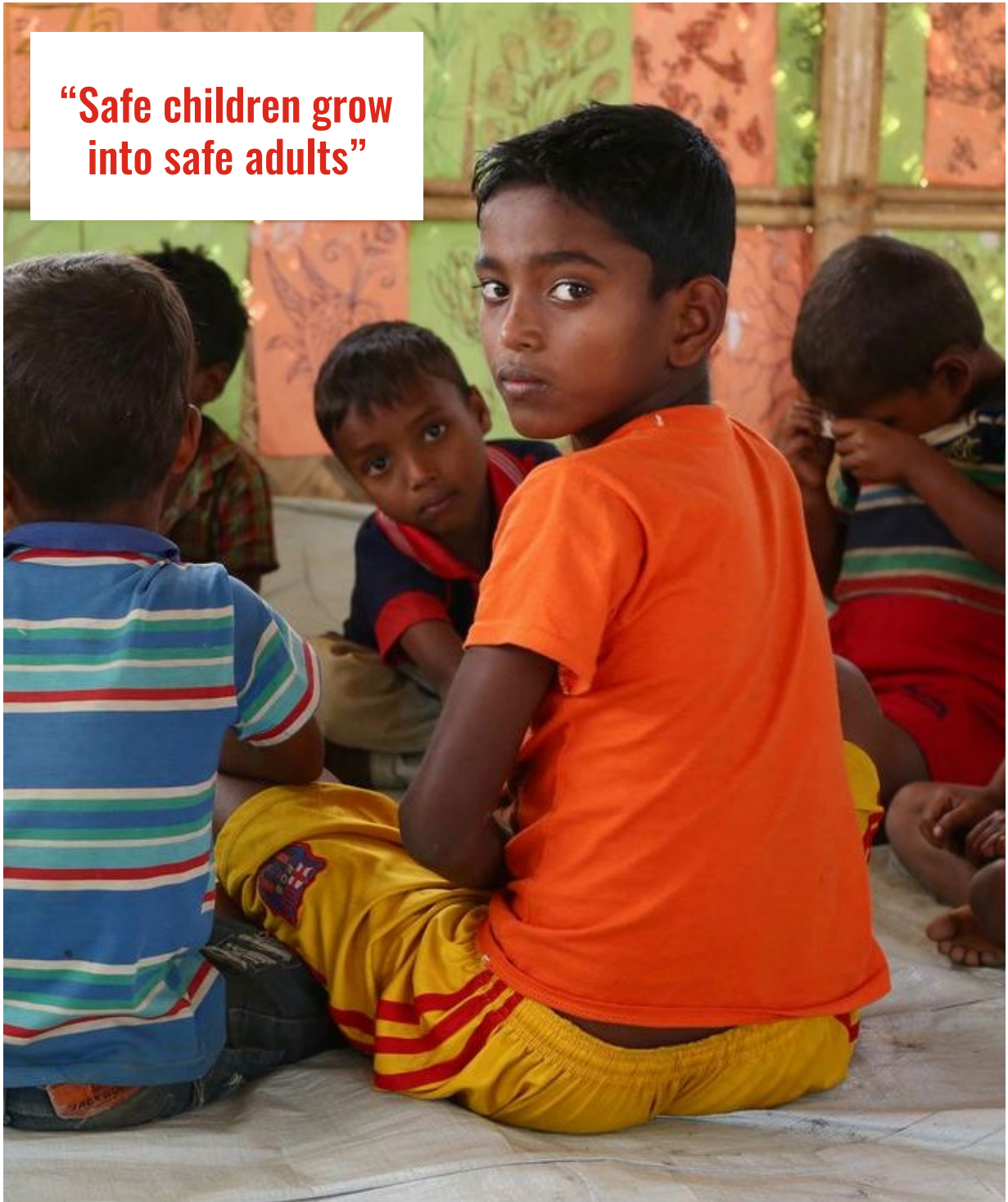


Photo: Antonia Roupell/Save the Children

Child migrants

– shall have their rights fulfilled.

Many of the children who are or have been refugees have been through some extremely tough experiences. They have been forced to leave their homes, friends and families because of war, they may have seen family members killed, and they have lived in tremendously vulnerable circumstances both before and during their displacement. This can lead to poor mental health and a feeling of not being safe. Consequently, a positive reception with good support is particularly important for child migrants. Save the Children works to support displaced children and families, both in Sweden and internationally. In our global efforts, we focus on enhancing access to school, healthcare and social services so that they also include displaced children, and on strengthening cooperation between nations to ensure that children have their rights fulfilled when crossing international borders.

In Sweden, Save the Children works both with families migrating into Sweden, and with children and young people who arrive alone. We support people who are seeking asylum, people with residence permits and people with no papers, all based on their individual circumstances. Some of the activities we offer are child-friendly spaces at e.g. asylum centres, parent support, and referrals to health and other social services.

Global: Support for families emigrating to Peru

Janet was forced to leave Venezuela with her three children a couple of years ago, due to the tough economic conditions there. She now lives in Lima, Peru. In Venezuela she was a teacher, but it has been hard to find a job in Peru. The biggest difficulty is that she has no family or friends who can take care of her young children while she works. The Covid-19 pandemic made the situation worse, as school lessons were online and everyone had to stay at home because of the virus.

Her daughter Nina doesn't like remote learning, and misses school and her classmates.

"I really miss school, spending time with my school friends and doing homework in a group. When I grow up I want to be an engineer."

Janet is currently making and selling a dessert that's easy to prepare and needs no oven. Her days are filled with housework, home-schooling her two children, preparing the desserts, marketing on social media and delivering orders.

"Because of the pandemic, we don't go out. When I deliver the desserts, I leave the children alone. Also, there are no local parks around here, and everywhere is full of people," says Janet.

Thanks to a Facebook group, Janet heard about Save the Children's work to help families that had emigrated to Peru and were finding things tough. She got in touch and has now received help from the project. On two occasions she has received cash benefits to cover basic costs like rent and medical appointments.

"I'm so grateful to have had this social and medical help. When you emigrate and leave your country, you feel alone without any family, but I don't feel so alone anymore."

Save the Children has also supported Janet in her plans to start a business that can generate an income. She has also had dietary advice so she can feed her children a balanced diet. Her youngest son has behavioural issues, and she has had support in dealing with them through Save the Children's psychological advice.

"He's four, and it can be hard to get him to sit at the computer for Zoom lessons. He cries and quarrels with his sister. It's been very tough," says Janet.

Despite the difficulties, Janet has been able to start getting her life back together and learn new things.

“My dream is to work in my profession again in future, or maybe even to start a business so I can give my children a better life.”

Janet, 40, Francisco, 4, and Nina, 12, emigrated from Venezuela to Peru. The pandemic has been a major challenge, and Janet provides for her family by selling desserts. She has now received support from Save the Children to help get her life back together. Photo: Miguel Angel Arreategui Rodriguez/Save the Children



Sweden: *Pippi Power* gives girls meaningful leisure time

In the *Pippi Power* and *Pippi of Tomorrow* project, Save the Children Sweden is working to strengthen girls' access to a meaningful leisure time. Bolstering girls' knowledge and self-esteem, and giving them courage to try new things can open doors to a meaningful leisure time.

All children have the right to play, rest and leisure time under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. It increases their well-being and helps them to get through school and heal traumas. But far too many children have no access to leisure activities. Child migrants who have recently arrived in Sweden often have no leisure activities, whether due to costs, norms, prejudice or concerns about not fitting in. Language can also be an obstacle, as can a lack of knowledge of how clubs work in Sweden or the absence of networks.

This is something that particularly affects girls. Swedish Sports Confederation statistics show that of the girls taking part in the project, 31% have a foreign background and 47% a Swedish background. The corresponding figures for boys are 52% and 54%. Save the Children's efforts to bolster the girls take place in association with local organisations in the child's local environment.

The goals are:

- To boost the girls' empowerment and self-confidence, and knowledge of their right to take part in leisure activities.
- To reassure parents and teach them how important it is for children to have a meaningful leisure time.
- To support clubs and societies to ensure their activities are more accessible to the most vulnerable children.
- To increase skills and create tools so that more girls are involved in the activities.
- To boost knowledge of managing activities so that girls with experience of migration and/or socio-economic deprivation can have a meaningful leisure time.

One of the girls, a youth leader and a recent arrival in Sweden, says that the project means a great deal.

“There was one girl who was too afraid to try boxing. But we went and tried it out, and it was a great experience for the girls. Afterwards, the girls said they felt as strong as Pippi Longstocking.”

Results

Global: During 2021, we focused on the particular vulnerability of girl refugees and also began programme operations for girls in Serbia, Sweden and South Africa. The programmes aim to increase girls' participation, and provide access to education, the labour market and a meaningful leisure time. In South Africa, the programme focused in on newly arrived girls with their own children, as our 2020 research series *Girls on the Move* highlighted this as a particularly vulnerable group. In Serbia, a research study began into just how exposed to violence children fleeing through Serbia to Europe are.

Sweden: Save the Children supports children, families and unaccompanied young people arriving in Sweden, for example by offering meeting-places, family activities, parent support activities and treatment. In all we reached about 6,550 people in direct efforts during 2021, half of them children and young people. In a survey, 98% of adult respondents said the activities have boosted their well-being in their everyday lives; 60% say they feel “much better”.

“I see how my son glows when he's doing your activities, it's the time of the week he's at his happiest,” said one parent.

For many young people who have fled to Sweden, a job has been a condition for obtaining a permanent residence permit. In one project aiming to support young people in finding work, 21% of participants now have some kind of employment. In another project, 33% of people applying for a permanent residence permit now have one.

“Children's safety should go without saying”

Children shall have the same opportunities

– regardless of socio-economic factors

All children, regardless of socio-economic factors, shall have the same opportunities to take part in society, have a meaningful leisure time, influence their life circumstances and have access to good public services. The right to play, rest and leisure time are crucial to a good childhood. But today, many children are left out – whether due to obstacles such as costs, limiting norms, prejudice or something else. Save the Children works to ensure that children have a meaningful leisure time.

We also strive to reduce discrimination against children in socio-economically deprived areas, and to strengthen children's influence over issues that affect them. Alongside the private sector, local authorities and city centre dwellers, we want to improve children's conditions. Securing buy-in among local residents is a key aspect of this work. At different meeting-places there is a dialogue with children and parents, and activities are created that are owned and run by the children themselves. Save the Children Sweden provides tools to increase their involvement.

We also provide support and protection for children in difficult situations, and lobby decision-makers so that society takes its share of the responsibility.

Sweden: Children have the right to safe housing

In its advocacy, Save the Children Sweden has long prioritised the issue of children's right to safe housing. Early on in the pandemic, it became clear that this was a central issue for target groups in socio-economically deprived areas. Safe, secure housing is extremely important if children are to enjoy a reasonable standard of living.

This has been increasingly hard during the pandemic, as landlords have continued to carry out both formal and informal evictions.

Other problems are overcrowding, renovations that can lead to higher rents, unofficial sub- and sub-sub-letting, families with children living in small spaces, and short-term contracts. Intermediaries rent a property from the owner, and then charge higher rents and neglect regular maintenance.

Examples of Save the Children Sweden's advocacy work:

- We have held discussions with property owners. This has led to greater cooperation and opportunities for joint projects, such as co-creative design processes with young people.
- Seminars on homelessness. This issue has also been part of our national lobbying of the government.
- Reports to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the European Child Guarantee.



Photo: Saman Saidi/Save the Children



Summervibe, a summer programme for children aged 6–16, was arranged in Luleå, Sundsvall and Östersund in 2021. Photo: Save the Children/Save the Children Sweden (NB: Photo taken on a different occasion.)

Sweden:

Popular summer activities

Save the Children Sweden organised summer activities for children in Luleå, Sundsvall and Östersund including basketball, dance, parkour and motion bingo, as well as reading and music-making. 2021 was a tough year, especially for children as the pandemic restricted their leisure activities. Project manager Felicia Camara Ponturo:

“Summervibe is a summer programme focusing on movement and culture, and it’s free for all children aged six to sixteen. It’s about creating meaningful activities for children during the summer holidays, but also about joy and community. That’s why people were especially looking forward to the activities this year. You could clearly see the joy on the children’s faces, and we were full every day. It’s been truly amazing!”

Save the Children worked alongside other clubs and societies, and parents were also encouraged to come along and meet other parents.

“We hope the leaders come back every year so they can get to know the children and develop the programme based on the children’s needs,” says Felicia Camara Ponturo.

The pandemic increased poverty

A Save the Children survey of 25,000 children and parents in 37 countries shows that the families who were worst off before the pandemic are now in an even worse situation. The survey also indicates that households in socio-economic deprivation run a higher risk of losing income (82%).

Results

Save the Children Sweden supports children, young people and parents in socio-economic deprivation in Sweden. A total of about 12,560 people were reached, 10,690 of whom were children and young people. Children in primary and middle school, for example, can try out new leisure activities, and 99% of the children who were asked said they had learnt something from them. Forums are arranged for teenage boys and girls covering subjects such as racism, discrimination, gender equality, power and empowerment. As many as 79% of teenagers asked believe the activities mean they now have “better” or “much better” opportunities to change things in their own lives. Also, 89% say the activities are “quite important” or “very important” to them.

The Räd Barnen Valfärd youth centres in the Järva area of Stockholm received 25,393 visits. There was a higher percentage of girls than in 2020. During autumn 2021, the percentage of girls was between 26 and 39%.

Partnerships with businesses

Save the Children Sweden works with businesses to create better conditions for more children, and to increase knowledge about and engagement in child rights in the businesses. There are many ways that businesses can support the work of Save the Children Sweden. As well as making a contribution, businesses can enter into a strategic collaboration with us, focusing on long-term goals and having the greatest possible impact. It could be a specific project that a company can support both financially and with its skills, and we see businesses as a key part of our focus on cross-sector collaboration.

Through Räd Barnens AB's company The Centre for Child Rights and Business, we work as consultants with training, method development and promotion of children's rights in companies' value chains. Through new work approaches, businesses receive support in understanding and managing their direct and indirect impact on child rights. Save the Children Sweden's collaboration with businesses is an important part of our funding and our work for children.

Global: A future for child migrants

Pippi of Today is a collaboration between Astrid Lindgren AB and Save the Children Sweden, with the aim of raising awareness and funds for displaced girls.

Save the Children is on site in 120 countries to assure all children's right to education, safety and protection. In most countries this entails a particular focus on child migrants: children who have willingly or otherwise left their homes, with or without their families. Generally speaking girls are more exposed to violence, abuse, child marriage and exploitation, and are at greater risk of missing school.

Save the Children works to prevent unsafe migration, support children along the migration routes, and help them to integrate in their new home country. *Pippi of Today* contributes to a better future for child migrants, and highlights Pippi Longstocking as a role model and Astrid Lindgren's legacy as a defender of child rights.



Examples of activities:

- Food, roofs over heads, education and safe spaces where children can find refuge.
- Family reunification.
- Psychosocial support.
- Opinion-leading for safe migration routes and respect for children's rights, wherever they live in the world.
- Return programmes.
- Programmes for newly arrived children.

Read more:

[There's a Pippi Longstocking in every child](#)

[Pippi celebrates her birthday with global campaign](#)

Sweden: More psychological support time for children

Save the Children Sweden's Centre for Support & Treatment receives children and young people who have experienced tough situations and not had their support and treatment needs met by society.

Thanks to a partnership with Softronic AB to develop a new journal system for the centre's operation, child psychologists will be able to work even more efficiently and use their time where it is most needed: with the children.

"The exciting thing about this partnership is the chance to put our knowledge of the healthcare sector into practice at the Centre for Support & Treatment," says Mathias Kjellberg, COO at Softronic. "It feels good to be able to contribute something more than money, and we're now looking at similar approaches which we hope will do more good for the children of the world in future."

Softronic advocates 'GoodTech' – technology that does good in society.

"Many of our own employees appreciate how the company gets involved in the community. We hope we have helped in procuring a good long-term solution and a good provider, enabling the people at the Centre for Support & Treatment to focus on their core activities," says Mathias Kjellberg.

Sofia Bidö is a psychologist and head of operations at the Centre for Support & Treatment. She says that Softronic's invaluable knowledge and skills will help staff at the centre to make even better-informed decisions while also developing their own skills.

"The journal system is the very hub of any healthcare service. The system will relieve the centre's psychologists and psychotherapists and free up more time for treating children. We will also be able to better monitor and adapt our efforts to the needs of our target group," Sofia Bidö explains.

Results

Save the Children Sweden's business partners and collaborations in 2021

Accenture:

A partner in Save the Children Sweden's work in system innovation, and in developing future solutions for the children living in greatest deprivation. Social innovations in digitalisation and artificial intelligence for child rights. The collaboration focuses particularly on giving children and young people in Sweden a safe childhood on equal terms. One innovative project is e.g. the *Dream Project* to build a safer online environment for children.

Apoteket:

Sweden's state-run pharmacy company supports efforts for children and young people in socio-economically deprived areas. It engages its employees by contributing healthcare knowledge. Through store campaigns, Apoteket has raised money for Save the Children Sweden's work for children in conflict and disaster areas.

Astrid Lindgren AB:

The Pippi of Today campaign supports our efforts for girl migrants, and involves 13 Save the Children member nations and about 60 business partners. To date it has generated just over SEK 16 million to support efforts for girl migrants in more than 10 countries. The collaboration with Astrid Lindgren AB will continue in 2022–2024.

Bergendahls:

Supports Save the Children's activities via several of its retail companies – including City Gross, Granit, Glitter, EKO Stormarknad and KitchenTime – where they do most good for children, both in Sweden and internationally.

Discovery Network:

Collaboration to give children and young people in Sweden a safe childhood on equal terms. Employees inspire young people for their future career path.

Folkspel:

Supports Save the Children Sweden by selling e.g. Sverigelotten and Bingolotto lottery products and through involvement in safe sports programmes.

H&M Foundation:

Supports long-term development projects in India and Bangladesh, and education projects in Indonesia, China and Romania. Also provides disaster relief for South Sudan.

IKANO:

Works to get more young people into work and make a sustainable living. Save the Children Sweden works with Ikano, IKEA, Inter IKEA, City of Malmö and the Swedish Public Employment Service in a programme for young people far from the labour market.

IKEA:

Supports efforts for children and young people in socio-economically deprived areas in Sweden for a more fair and equal Sweden. Together, we stand up to ensure that all children have safe housing and a safe childhood environment, create conditions to assure the well-being of more young people, and enable them to feel involved in society and enter the labour market.

IKEA Foundation:

Supports Save the Children Sweden's long-term development work for the UN's Green Climate Fund for low-emission and climate-resilient development. IKEA Foundation also supports efforts in Asia and Africa to give children from ethnic minority groups, child migrants and children living in poverty access to equal education. Support for children in Ethiopia and Bangladesh who are particularly vulnerable to risks linked to migration. Supports training of personnel in the field to improve humanitarian efforts for children.

Norr:

The drinks company provides support for fluid replacement and zinc in efforts in Yemen, where 80% of the population need support to survive.

Santa Maria:

The spice company works for children's right to education in villages where families make a living from chilli production. Suppliers are also included as an important aspect in increasing knowledge of sustainable production among the chilli farmers.

Skandias stiftelse Idéer för livet:

The Skandia 'Ideas for Life' foundation supports efforts for children and young people in socio-economically deprived areas in Sweden, and work for children's right to a safe, inclusive future. The foundation contributes knowledge, strategies and contacts for an efficient approach.

Swedbank Robur:

Through the Humanfond equity fund, Swedbank Robur contributes to efforts for children in conflict and disaster areas. The money has saved the lives of children in extremely vulnerable situations, protected children against violence and abuse, and reunited families separated by disasters.

Swedish Postcode Lottery:

SEK 50 million, of which SEK 25 million basic annual funding and SEK 25 million for a four-year dream project: AI Driven Support for Children Online. The basic funding is of great use in our Centre for Support & Treatment at three locations in Sweden. The funding is also used in our work internationally, e.g. in Europe, Eastern and Southern Africa, parts of Asia, and for children in disaster areas. The Postcode Lottery also contributes 'matching money', which releases further funds from Sida for international programmes.

SYD:

Supports Save the Children Sweden's operations in Ivory Coast to enable more girls to carry on in school also when they have their period.

Söderberg & Partners:

The financial solutions company contributes to Save the Children Sweden's Centre for Support & Treatment. A place where children and young people who have gone through tough times can get psychological treatment when society has not met their need for support and treatment. The company also supports a children and climate project in the Philippines to build a platform for children to take action and bring about change.

Tim Bergling Foundation:

Together with the Tim Bergling Foundation, we create safe, creative meeting-places that empower children and young people.

Wallenius Lines:

The shipping company contributes to efforts for children in conflict and disaster areas. The funds enable Save the Children Sweden to act quickly and flexibly where the need is greatest.

Willys:

The deposits donated by hypermarket Willys' customers to Save the Children Sweden go to efforts for children and young people in socio-economically deprived areas in Sweden, and to efforts for safe sports. In 2021 the Willys deposit scheme raised more than SEK 4 million, including donations from Willys itself when it matched all its deposit donations in selected months. In addition, Willys has donated gift vouchers for food to Save the Children Sweden's operations.

Pro-bono services

Save the Children Sweden has also received pro bono services from **Vinge** law firm, as well as media space.

Sustainability Report

With the children's best interests in focus

Save the Children Sweden strives for a sustainable operation. We do this by focusing on children in everything we do. Every day we make the world a little more sustainable for children. And we are convinced that when we work in the children's best interests, we contribute to sustainable development in the world.

Every year, Save the Children Sweden reports on how it is working with social, economic and environmental sustainability, and what actions we are taking to reduce the negative impact our activities may have on these areas. In this report, we outline how far we have come in 2021.

Global goals and principles

Save the Children Sweden supports the 2030 Agenda and contributes to the global Sustainable Development Goals in its work. The ten principles of the UN Global Compact on human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption are also key points of departure. Alongside the Global Compact and UNICEF, Save the Children has drawn up child right principles for businesses, outlining what they can do to respect and support child rights in the workplace, the market and society.

Our values

The global Save the Children movement has jointly defined the values on which all our work is founded.

- **Accountability:** We take personal responsibility for using our resources efficiently, achieving measurable results.
- **Ambition:** We are demanding of ourselves and our colleagues.
- **Collaboration:** We respect and value each other, thrive on our diversity, and work with partners.
- **Creativity:** We are open to new ideas and embrace change.
- **Integrity:** We aspire to live to the highest standards of personal honesty and behaviour.

Our contribution to sustainable development mainly relates to social sustainability, since our efforts aim to create a sustainable future for children. But we also work with environmental sustainability for children; it is an integral part of all the other sustainability goals. Climate change is leading to more natural disasters, which particularly affects children when they are forced to flee, suffer illness or starvation, or miss school. Within the global Save the Children organisation, we place high demands on ourselves and our business partners when it comes to sustainable strategies. It is also second nature to us to practise what we preach, in order to live up to our own high standards and strive gradually to improve our sustainability efforts.

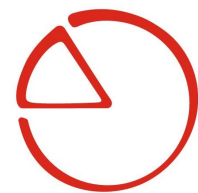
Social responsibility:

We take actions that lead to socially sustainable development for children and strengthen children's rights. We want to practise what we preach in our role as an employer, and take responsibility for ensuring our employees have good working conditions.



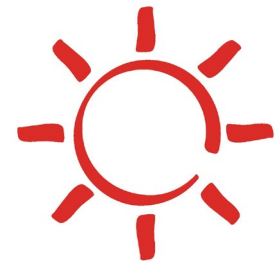
Economic responsibility:

We work efficiently, and ensure that funds go to the purposes that genuinely bring about change in children's lives. We have processes and tools that helps us to maintain stable finances and long-term economic sustainability.



Environmental responsibility:

In Save the Children Sweden's operations, we consider the environment and climate, and work to minimise the consequences of climate change for children. We minimise the adverse impact our operation can have on the environment, for example through our procurement policy, business travel guidelines, and our policy for environmental sustainability and climate transition.



In 2015, the UN Member States adopted the 2030 Agenda, a universal agenda for sustainable development encompassing 17 global goals to be achieved by 2030.



About the report

Save the Children Sweden's Sustainability Report is based on the Swedish Annual Accounts Act,⁵ which stipulates that it should contain disclosures on social conditions, personnel conditions, respect for human rights, the environment, anti-corruption and diversity. It should also outline risks in the operation and how they are managed, as well as indicators that show development over time.

We are also inspired by Global Reporting Initiative⁶ (GRI) guidelines. GRI is a widely accepted framework for sustainability reporting. The GRI Index on pages 63–64 shows where in the report we cover the GRI matters that we feel are relevant in reflecting Save the Children Sweden's sustainability work.

This report focuses primarily on Save the Children Sweden, but also touches on Save the Children's global organisation.

Sustainability Report 2021 in brief



⁵ Sustainability reporting, Amendment (2016:947) to the Annual Accounts Act (1995:1554).

The act relates to large companies/legal entities which, during the year, have had more than 250 employees, total assets above SEK 175 million and a net turnover in excess of SEK 350 million.

⁶ globalreporting.org

Dialogue with stakeholders

Children are the target group for all Save the Children operations, and are therefore the most important stakeholders. Save the Children's members are of course key stakeholders. The members maintain an ongoing dialogue in the operation, with children and business partners. Through this dialogue, we learn what the target groups feel it is most important we focus on in our sustainability work.

Save the Children's personnel are key in ensuring the operation functions properly, and we receive feedback from them in regular surveys and development sessions. In our operation we also conduct dialogue with various players in society and other stakeholders that have an impact on children's lives and development. This is one of the keys in helping us understand how Save the Children can contribute to sustainable development.

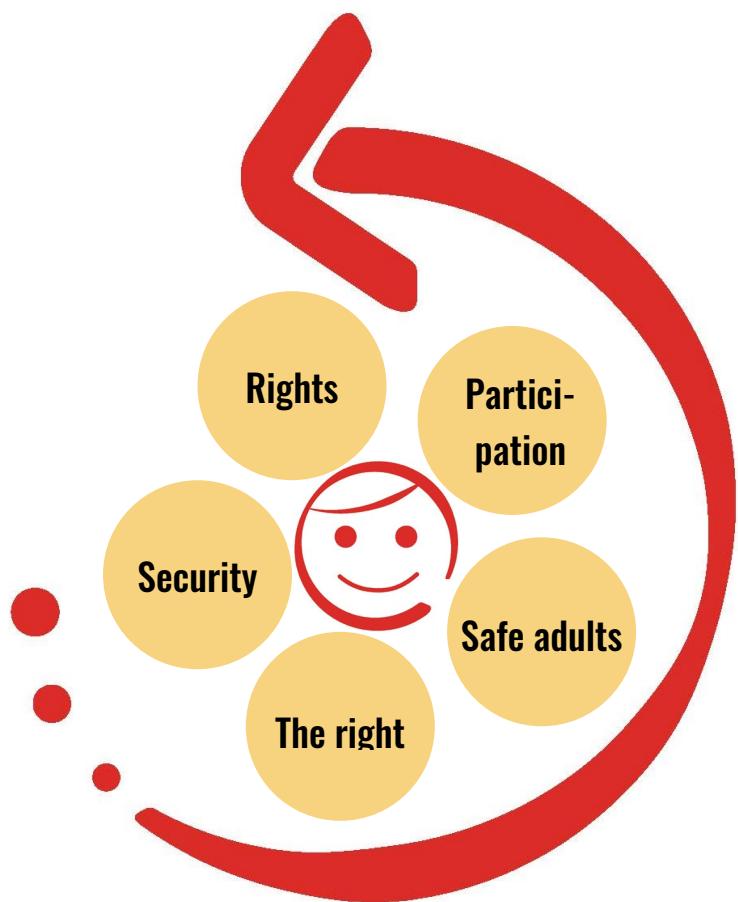
Save the Children's stakeholders

- Children
- Members
- Employees
- General public
- Private donors
- Institutional donors
- Companies
- Global Save the Children movement
- Civil society organisations
- Public sector

Save the Children's value chain

In working with other stakeholders, we all impact each other. Therefore, it is important that we have a shared foundation of values, or value chain, that starts from and focuses on the child.

- Our work is based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Our business partners share our core values.
- We share a commitment to children and their rights
- We communicate the risks that children may face, and how they can be avoided.
- We develop functioning collaboration models.



Social sustainability

Children's rights are the very essence of Save the Children's work for social sustainability. All of Save the Children's work for child rights worldwide – for safety and protection, learning and participation – is a contribution to sustainable development. We create sustainable long-term change in our collaboration with children, personnel, members, partners and donors.

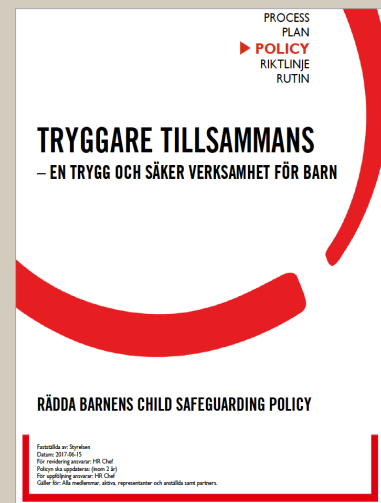
Save the Children's work starts from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and we have a rights-based working method. Children have rights that state, regional and municipal authorities have a responsibility to assure, and demanding they do so is a key part of our work. The direct action we take can never override the public sector's responsibility.

Save the Children also strives to be an attractive employer that can attract, retain and develop its employees. We work proactively on our culture to make the biggest possible difference for children. The entire organisation shall be characterised by openness, and all individuals shall be treated equally and with respect.

In this section, we look more closely at how we work to ensure our organisation is socially sustainable.

Policies and guidelines

- Anti-Corruption Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy
- HR Strategy
- Skills Development Strategy
- Child Safeguarding Policy
- Ethical Guidelines
- Privacy Policy
- Work Environment Policy
- Remuneration Policy
- Diversity & Inclusion Policy
- Harassment Prevention Guidelines
- Discrimination, Xenophobia & Racism Policy
- Policy for Protection Against Sexual Abuse & Sexual Exploitation
- Leadership Philosophy



Stronger organisational culture

During 2021, we continued our efforts to strengthen our culture. During co-worker week, Save the Children Sweden's values were the common thread, the aim being to establish them more firmly throughout the organisation. We also worked on culture and values at our manager forums, developed our work on setting conduct goals in the annual process for employee development sessions and goal follow-up, and paid particular attention to equality. The member organisation also has a new culture work group to enhance Save the Children's work on culture.

Child Safeguarding

Save the Children's work to ensure that children are safe and secure in our operation comes under the heading Child Safeguarding. We have a policy and procedures that apply to our entire organisation. This means for example that we have zero tolerance for harassment, abuse and exploitation of children. The policy describes Save the Children's promise and responsibility towards children, who is covered by the policy, measures taken for non-compliance, and how we report risks and incidents. Save the Children Sweden's efforts are a part of the global organisation's work on child safeguarding.

All personnel complete mandatory training in Safeguarding Essentials. In order to increase knowledge and awareness of risks and how incidents or suspicions are reported, there is also online training for the member movement and active volunteers. The training is mandatory for all elected representatives and active volunteers who come into contact with children in their activities.

- 428 people completed and passed the training in 2021.
- Two new training courses began during the year. One is for employees working in the direct support operation, while the other is external and targets leaders at the club level.
- Four (4) incidents were reported in the operation in Sweden in 2021. These were followed up according to Save the Children Sweden's procedure and guidelines.

Diversity and inclusion

Save the Children Sweden aspires to be an equal organisation. During 2021, an equality audit of our secretariat organisation was begun. It is based on the Swedish Discrimination Act's requirement for active measures, and we have decided to use equality data to identify structural differences in perceptions of the organisation that can be linked to the seven grounds for discrimination: sex, transgender identity or expression, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion or other belief, or age.

A survey was conducted during the year and the audit is continuing in 2022 with a desktop review, focus groups and interviews based on the results of the survey. During the year, adjustments have also been made to assure an unprejudiced recruitment process: the application procedure has been anonymised, with the personal cover letter being replaced by questions of importance to the role, and written referencing has been introduced.

Save the Children Sweden seeks an even gender distribution and is working actively for diversity among employees.

- Three (3) incidents related to discrimination were reported in the operation in Sweden in 2021. These were followed up according to Save the Children Sweden's procedure and guidelines.

“Save the Children accepts no form of discrimination or harassment”

Work environment

The aim of our Work Environment Policy is that no one should suffer injury or poor health due to their work. We conduct active work environment efforts in collaboration, supported by a work environment committee and health and safety officers.

The focus in 2021 was partly as an employer to act as skilfully and responsibly as possible in connection with the Covid-19 pandemic, and partly to continue working actively to ensure that Save the Children Sweden is a safe, secure organisation for children and adults alike. Covid-19 has continued to affect our work, and much of it has taken place remotely. During the spring we conducted a survey and a workshop to prepare for how we wished to work once the restrictions eased. Save the Children Sweden made a decision on flexible working, i.e. to allow people to work remotely, at the office or at the site of operations. Personnel can now discuss with their manager where they should work based on their duties and the organisation's needs.

When the restrictions eased in the autumn this new flexible solution was implemented, but new adaptations were required in December when there was a further wave of the pandemic.

Key metrics, sick leave	2019	2020	2021
Total sick leave	- *	2.4%	3.22%

* There were no overall sick leave statistics for 2019 due to a change of payroll outsourcing partner.

Safeguarding and crisis plan

Safeguarding refers to our various efforts, policy documents and resources within the framework of our work environment efforts and our work to increase equality, combat harassment, prevent and deal with sexual abuse and sexual exploitation, and to create a safe, secure and inclusive organisation for children and adults. Violence is escalating in environments where we are working to reach the most vulnerable children. In 2021 we therefore worked actively, with the support of outside expertise, to strengthen procedures and skills and build a strong culture of safety.

A crisis plan was adopted during the year with the aim of preventing crises and – should a crisis occur – ensuring it is managed well, so that Save the Children Sweden can emerge from the situation with renewed confidence. The crisis management group developed procedures and working methods during the year to deal with ten or so scenarios. On a number of occasions, outside support has been brought in to enhance the crisis management's efforts with specialist expertise.

“Our work environment shall be characterised by openness and all individuals shall be treated equally and with respect”

Key metrics: Engagement at the workplace

During the year, engagement measured as NPS* was around 7.7, which is on a par with the rest of the non-profit sector. The measurement was taken in the employee survey.

* Net Promoter Score.

Employees and organisation

Save the Children Sweden uses the digital Peakon tool to conduct monthly employee surveys and gain insights about leadership, work environment, engagement and motivation in the organisation. This has been particularly important during a year of remote working, as we have not met face-to-face to the same extent. Aspects we have gauged during the year include how Save the Children Sweden has acted as an employer during the pandemic, and there has been a particular focus on health, well-being and equality.

Organisational changes have been implemented to create a better work environment. The international programme has been restructured, and in the Sweden programme more managers have been appointed, partly to increase presence in leadership.

In association with health training company Sverigehälsan, a toolkit has been developed to increase health competence and stress management ability.

Photo: Tomas Ohlsson/Save the Children Sweden



Employment terms and collaboration

Save the Children Sweden has signed collective agreements for all employees who are members of the trade unions Akademikerförbundet, Unionen and Fremia. Akademikerförbundet and Unionen have local trade union clubs at Save the Children Sweden.

Our collaboration was evaluated during the year, and the parties agreed that there are good working relations between the unions and the employer.

Save the Children Sweden has both permanent employees and employees on fixed-term contracts. Due to the nature of the operation and the way it is financed, we have many employees on fixed-term contracts. When these people leave, we endeavour to retain the skills as far as possible.

Employee statistics

Key metric	2019	2020	2021
Total number of employees (average)	370	357	370
Permanent employees	70%	72%	86%
Percentage of employees at HQ	68%	62%	63%
Gender distribution women/men	78/22%	77/23%	78/22%
Gender distribution of senior officers women/men	69/31%	76/24%	75/25%
Percentage of external/internal recruitments*	62/38%	73/27%	58/42%
Personnel turnover, permanent employees	7.0%	6.7%	6.8%

* Internal recruitment refers to positions filled by existing employees or redeployment.

Remuneration structure

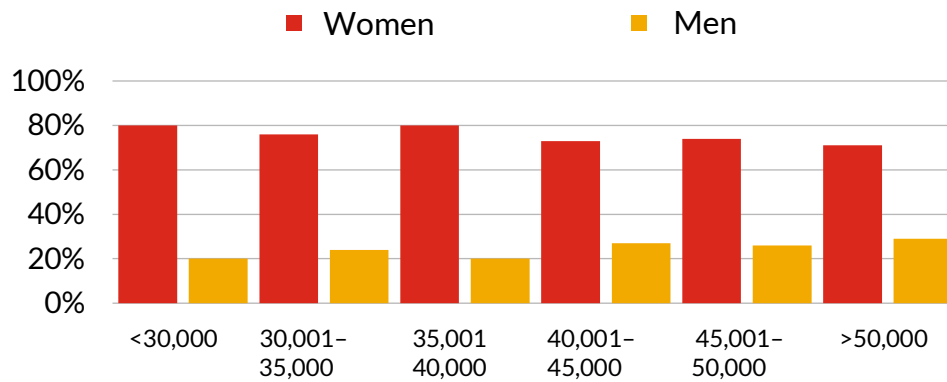
Save the Children Sweden's remuneration policy includes principles for remuneration based on our values and our central pay agreement. A new collective agreement and pay agreement were finalised in January 2021.

Salaries in 2020 were mapped, the aim being to ensure that Save the Children Sweden has no unjustified/unreasonable differences in pay. Various measures were taken as a result of the mapping process.

A pay structure project was begun in 2021 to ascertain how and when salaries are reviewed, adjusted and decided. Tools will be developed to support the process, such as an updated remuneration policy, a structure of roles at Save the Children Sweden, and remuneration structures in which each role has a recommended minimum and maximum salary (compared to salary levels in other relevant organisations).

The project is expected to be completed in spring 2022, when remuneration in 2021 will also be mapped.

Percentage breakdown of remuneration levels (SEK) women/men, 2021



Skills development

If Save the Children Sweden is to succeed in its operations and achieve its strategic goals, it must have the right skills at both the individual and organisational level. Skills development must therefore be proactive and long term oriented, start from the specific needs of the operation, organisation and individual, and be adapted to changes in the organisation and the wider world.

All employees have an opportunity, together with their manager, to create an individual, documented skills development plan. The plan is designed based on the goals the employee and manager set for the year, along with any wishes linked to more long-term career development.

Save the Children Sweden Academy

Many organisation-wide training activities take place within the Save the Children Sweden Academy, and they are based on the common needs of the organisation. Some training is mandatory depending on role and section, such as anti-corruption, protection against sexual abuse and sexual exploitation, personal safety, a safe, secure operation for children, and global onboarding training. They are all available as eLearning online. Generally speaking, courses that previously took place in a classroom setting were conducted digitally in 2021. Assessments show that this approach worked well and increased accessibility for employees across Sweden.

RB Talks

A new series of digital seminars called RB Talks was launched in 2021. It serves as a framework for all seminars that could be about ongoing projects, internal work, external events, or general topics of interest to personnel. RB Talks are arranged throughout the year and are recorded to make them available afterwards.

Leadership development

Save the Children Sweden is building a cohesive management team, and four manager forums were held during the year. The aim is to increase joint leadership and boost trust, increase inter-departmental collaboration and promote innovation. Some of the areas covered in 2021 were trust-based leadership, psychological safety and change management. Save the Children Sweden's leadership philosophy was also updated. Several new department managers are part of the management group, and the team has worked on its own team development. During the year, a leadership programme was developed for all managers and it will begin during 2022.

Demands on business partners

Save the Children Sweden's ethical guidelines protect and communicate children's rights and personal integrity, and promote non-discrimination. We shall safeguard good administration, combat corruption and not abuse our position of power.

Save the Children Sweden also imposes ethical demands on its suppliers and business partners. We therefore strive to sign agreements with companies that support international conventions on human rights, child rights and working conditions, and conventions relating to anti-corruption and to a refusal to invest in arms production. They must also follow Save the Children's Child Safeguarding Policy.

The companies must be able to show that they improve and respect the rights, circumstances and opportunities of children through their operations. We also want all of Save the Children Sweden's business partners to comply with and ideally actively work according to Children's Rights and Business Principles. These principles strive to help companies take social responsibility by respecting children's needs and rights in their own core operations, and thereby also to become strong proponents for child rights.

Brand and communication

Save the Children Sweden shall clearly communicate its values, and objectives, and show its results for children. We help donors to understand the difference between Save the Children Sweden and other organisations, and therefore continuously measure the public's knowledge and perception of us. There is a donor service that answers questions by phone and email. The aim is to respond to questions received within two days.

Market communication shall follow the Swedish Fundraising Association's Quality Code, which is an ethical standard to ensure that respect for donors and recipients of contributions is maintained. All fundraising in Save the Children Sweden's name is governed by our Fundraising Policy, which is continuously updated.

The Save the Children Centre for Child Rights and Business in Hong Kong helps companies to analyse risks in their supply chains. Photo: Mats Lignell/Save the Children.



The public's perception

An annual survey by Kantar Sifo measures the public's perception of Save the Children Sweden.⁷

- The percentage of respondents who believe that Save the Children Sweden's efforts lead to improved life conditions for children has risen significantly: 2019: 73% 2020: 74% 2021: 80%
- The percentage who have a positive attitude towards Save the Children Sweden has increased for the third consecutive year, a tendency that is also evident in other measurements. We are communicating based on a new strategy and have a stronger media presence in several channels: 2019: 66% 2020: 71% 2021: 74%
- Percentage of the public who deem Save the Children Sweden as an organisation to be⁸:

	2019	2020	2021
Courageous	34%	32%	41%
Compassionate	65%	62%	67%
Outspoken	42%	40%	46%
Pioneering	17%	15%	20%

Save the Children Sweden in the media

Save the Children Sweden saw a distinct increase in publicity in 2021, with around 20% more articles. The Quality Score in the media coverage increased from 22 to 29, and thereby also the number of reads.

- Both the Swedish and the European Child Poverty Reports were widely distributed and engaged local players and debaters.
- Negative publicity remains very low (the odd article).
- There is a clear increase in the share of publicity where children's perspectives are highlighted indirectly or generally. Other themes highlighted are school and poor mental health.
- Some of the more widely covered areas in Save the Children's international efforts are those in Afghanistan, Syria, Haiti, Yemen and Burundi, Myanmar and Mozambique, as well as IS children in Syria and child marriage.

Economic sustainability

Save the Children's operations depend entirely on people being able to trust that grants and contributions make an impact and do the greatest possible good for children. We must be able to show that we handle the funds in a responsible, ethical manner, and that they are used to achieve our goals. The money must get to where it's going and be of the most possible benefit to children. As an effective fundraising organisation, it is crucial that we are credible and dependable.

Save the Children manages its income and expenses in financial systems and processes, to ensure that all funds are correctly accounted for. We have firmly established policies, processes and tools for financial control and assessment, and guidelines for ethical investments.

Management and control to ensure that Save the Children:

- has an efficient operation that is fit for purpose and achieves its goals,
- has accurate, reliable reporting and accounting,
- complies with laws and regulations, and
- uses its funds wisely.

⁷ The survey was carried out in March 2022. The war in Ukraine has probably affected the results.

⁸ Characteristics in the global brand strategy. They differ from the Save the Children Sweden brand strategy.

Internal management and control

- **Management level:** The ultimate responsibility for managing risks lies with the line organisation, which is also responsible for management and control of the day-to-day operation carried out by the workforce.
- **Supporting and controlling level:** does not get involved in decisions affecting risks and risk-taking.
- **Independent internal audit:** Works on behalf of the Board, and scrutinises how the first and second levels perform their assignments. This helps us to improve internal control mechanisms. There are also elected auditors and external auditors for the organisation, as well as operation-specific auditors who examine individual projects and their financing on behalf of donors.

Responsible asset management

Save the Children Sweden has a contingency fund for unforeseen events to guarantee its long-term efforts. The management of these assets is governed by a policy with strict requirements on ethics, low risk and cost efficiency. Save the Children Sweden strives to be a responsible investor and its holdings shall be characterised by consideration for the environment, reasonable social conditions and good governance.

“Healthy, stable finances to guarantee long-term economic sustainability”

Policies and guidelines

- The Swedish Fundraising Association’s Quality Code
- Swedish Fundraising Control’s requirements for 90-accounts (fundraising accounts).
- Fundraising Policy
- Complaint management guidelines
- Asset Management Policy
- Auditing guidelines
- Lists of delegated powers and authorised signatories
- Policy for Save the Children Sweden’s collaboration with businesses
- Financial monitoring procedures
- Rules of Procedure for the Board of Save the Children Sweden’s national association
- Guidelines for voluntary work within Save the Children Sweden
- Policy for internal management and control
- Risk Management Policy
- Anti-Corruption Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Purchasing & Procurement Policy

Zero tolerance of corruption

Save the Children has systems and guidelines in place to prevent and combat all forms of fraud and corruption in all operations and all collaborations.

Corruption is a serious obstacle to peace and sustainable development, fighting poverty and respect for human rights. Corruption weakens trust in a society, risks eroding democracy and makes it harder to work for children.

Save the Children operates in many countries where there is a high risk of corruption. Having an organisational culture in which no corruption of any kind is ever accepted, is absolutely crucial to the operation and to our credibility.

We must therefore constantly work to prevent, combat and report all forms of suspected attempts and actual instances of fraud and corruption. Our work in this area is governed for example by our Anti-Corruption Policy and Whistleblowing Policy.

Save the Children Sweden's and International's employees are given ongoing anti-corruption training. Save the Children works actively to strengthen its approach to reporting, and ensure that we always report any suspicions of irregularity.

Incident reporting 2021

Reporting of suspected cases of corruption increased during 2021. With the Covid-19 pandemic, Save the Children International went over to a cloud-based system for fraud reporting and case management. This has simplified reporting for all personnel, and if needed investigations can be conducted remotely.

- Two suspected irregularities were reported within Save the Children's Swedish programme operations, and these can be categorised as theft and forgery.
- Within Save the Children's international programme operations, 52 suspected irregularities were reported, related to activities in Syria, Sudan, Iraq, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. These can be categorised as irregularities in procurement, mismanagement of work tasks, theft and security. Twelve incidents were ascertained to have substance.

Environmental sustainability

Climate and environmental issues are important in both Save the Children Sweden and the global movement. The impact of climate change is often greater and more severe for children than adults, and the children of today will have to deal with the consequences of our actions tomorrow.

For Save the Children, the climate transition is ultimately about children's fundamental right to survival and development. For this reason, we want to continue driving these issues in our programme operations, and doing what we can to reduce our own negative impact on the climate.

Reduce emissions by half!

During 2021, Save the Children Sweden and the global organisation decided to reduce their carbon dioxide emissions by at least 50% by the year 2030. Work has now begun to set a starting point for each country, and draft a plan for how this goal is to be achieved.

During 2021, Save the Children Sweden has also begun the process of preparing an environmental action plan. This will make environmental work easier with concrete goals and activities.

Policies and guidelines

- Purchasing & Procurement Policy
- Policy for environmental sustainability and climate transition
- Guidelines for business travel



Environmental requirements for purchasing and procurement

Save the Children has an established purchasing process, and a Purchasing & Procurement Policy to ensure clarity and cost efficiency in procurement.

The environmental aspect must always be considered in the final assessment of our procurements, alongside other important aspects such as price and ethics.

We also use positive purchasing criteria, which means that we primarily buy from companies that follow global guidelines such as the Global Compact (see more under *Demands on business partners*).

Travel and travel-free meetings

Save the Children Sweden is part of a global organisation that operates in more than half the countries of the world. We also have a large national operation with local offices across Sweden, and an active membership movement with 147 local associations. Normally, travel is a natural part of our daily operation, and avoiding it can be a challenge. Since the pandemic, however, we have had to make changes throughout our operation, travel has been reduced dramatically and the majority of our meetings have been digital.

During 2021, we have planned ahead to try and maintain a lower degree of travelling also after the pandemic. For instance we have proposed new guidelines for business travel, which more clearly set out how we should act, both to travel less and to use less air travel where travel is necessary.

For a long while, we have striven primarily to hold digital meetings rather than travelling, and we have continually invested in new technology and digital solutions, and also trained our personnel to make this easier. The pandemic has advanced the pace of this development. Our goal for 2021 was to bring carbon dioxide emissions linked to our air travel to below 400 tonnes. The actual result was far less, at just over 24 tonnes. A dramatic reduction. The challenge is to maintain a low level also once the pandemic restrictions have been lifted.

No. of flights

2021: 156	2020: 323	2019: 1,972
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No. of train journeys

2021: 994	2020: 981	2019: 2,434
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Travel costs

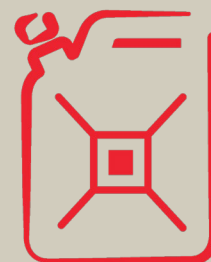
2021 (air+rail): 802,000:	2020: 808,000	2019: 10,120,000:
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Carbon dioxide emissions

Flights 24,343 kg.

Train journeys: 1.1 kg.

Paper and consumables: 45% green items.



Real estate

Save the Children Sweden rents its headquarters in Bromma, Stockholm from Vasakronan, and the contract includes an agreement on ecolabelled electricity. Our major regional offices in Gothenburg and Malmö also run on 100% renewable electricity.

We use organic and Fairtrade coffee, and all our offices have stations for separating recycling at source. In Bromma, Vasakronan offers services to and from the head office by electric boat during the summer months, something our personnel greatly appreciate.





During 2021 we moved to smaller offices in both Malmö and Luleå. We considered environmental aspects and therefore made minimal adaptations, preserved existing room locations and reused furniture. At the Malmö office, we also replaced all light bulbs with LED lighting and improved facilities for bicycle parking.

In assessing the move in Malmö, it emerged that better planning for reuse would have been a good idea as various items were discarded that could have been used elsewhere. With the Luleå move, excess furniture went to recycling or was used at other offices in the region.

Paper and consumables

Save the Children Sweden uses ecolabelled consumables as far as possible. We want to reduce consumption overall, and an activity-based working method and investing in technology and digitalisation are important aspects of this work.

Forty-five per cent of paper and consumable purchases during the year were 'green products'. This means that the product has an international ecolabel and/or that it is made of materials that are less harmful to the environment and/or from recycled or water-based materials.

The percentage of green products has decreased compared to 2020, because certain costly special products are not available in green alternatives.



Internal environment group

During 2021, an internal environment group was started by voluntary staff at Save the Children Sweden. The group meets every four weeks and comprises personnel from different parts of the operation. During the year, the group discussed how Save the Children Sweden can improve and develop its environmental work. The focus during the year was on e.g. drafting a proposal for new business travel guidelines.

Food and sustainability know-how

Svinnlab (literally 'The Waste Lab') is a project that started in 2021 in the Ålidhem area of Umeå, where many people live in socio-economic deprivation. Two cooking groups with children of different ages cooked and baked using surplus foods donated to Save the Children Sweden by Lidl. As many of the parents work shifts, it can be hard to plan regular times for the children's breakfast and evening meal. Some single parents have trouble covering the cost of the household's food needs.

The Waste Lab has taught the young people more about cooking, and there were also activities linked to ecological sustainability including a quiz, film screenings and waste sorting contests.

The Waste Lab also took part in a wider event in partnership with the culture opportunities provider Kulturskolan i Umeå and adult study association Studieförbundet, in which participants could taste some of the groups' baking. A fish pond for younger children had them 'catching' plastic from the ocean and swapping it for children's books.



*Cooking group at Save the Children Sweden's 'Waste Lab' in Ålidhem, Umeå.
Photo: Save the Children Sweden*

Red Alert campaign in the Philippines for climate action

During the year, Save the Children Sweden supported a Red Alert campaign in the Philippines in partnership with businesses. Red Alert is a campaign covering more than 15 countries across Asia, aiming to prevent climate and environmental disasters in Asia and the Pacific Rim. The campaign supports children and young people in making their voices heard regionally, nationally and internationally. The campaign also aims to encourage citizens to begin demanding that the government takes responsibility and implements urgent measures to deal with the climate issues.



*Devastation in the wake of Typhoon Rai in the Philippines, December 2021.
A consequence of climate change.
Photo: Save the Children.*

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Report on Operations



Photo: Tomas Ohlsson/Save the Children

Administration report

The operation in general

Save the Children is the world's largest independent child rights organisation and operates in more than half the world's countries. Save the Children works to ensure that children can live in security, have good health and receive an education. We want our initiatives to be sustainable – whether we're working in emergency situations or on long-term projects.

Save the Children uses a combination of direct action for children, expert knowledge and advocacy. We often work in partnership with others. Since we are a global organisation with operations worldwide, we can respond quickly in disaster situations. We are often the first to arrive and the last to leave, always with the goal of creating lasting long-term change.

Purpose and objectives

Save the Children Sweden is part of the global Save the Children movement for child rights. Together we aim to achieve three important breakthroughs for children by 2030. Our aim is that by 2030:

- No child dies from preventable causes before their fifth birthday
- All children learn from a quality basic education
- Violence against children is no longer tolerated

Save the Children Sweden has an eight-year operational focus up to the year 2024. It establishes that we shall contribute to the global ambition by focusing on:

- ensuring child migrants have their rights fulfilled
- reducing violence against children
- supporting child rights governance

Save the Children's focus areas

- We strive to stop dangerous child labour, to protect children from human traffickers, and to provide psychological support for children who have been involved in traumatic experiences.
- We train teachers and provide places for children in safe classrooms. We make sure that children, however remotely they live, have food, healthcare and medicine.
- In disaster situations, we respond quickly and provide lifesaving healthcare, protect lone children, reunite families and set up temporary schools.
- In Sweden we provide support and protection for children in difficult situations, and influence decision-makers so that society takes its share of the responsibility.

Organisation and members

Save the Children Sweden is a membership movement structured as the voluntary organisation Save the Children Sweden's national association (registered no. 802002-8638) with its headquarters in Stockholm county. The headquarters are in Alvik strand in Stockholm and the organisation has a further 11 offices in Borlänge, Gävle, Gothenburg, Karlstad, Luleå, Malmö, Norrköping, Umeå, Vänersborg, Växjö and Östersund.

- Number of employees in 2021: 370 (357).
- Number of members in 2021: 57,755.
- Number of local associations in 2021: 147.

The two limited companies of Save the Children Sweden's national association:

- Räd Barnens Service AB runs a consultancy business regarding children's rights and sustainability issues. There are currently two subsidiaries: CCR CSR (The Center for Child Rights and Corporate Social Responsibility) in Beijing and Hong Kong.
- Räd Barnens Vålfärd AB operates in the areas of care and education. From 2021, operation of youth centres is also included in the company's operational areas.

Governance of Save the Children Sweden

General Assembly and the Board

The General Assembly is the organisation's highest decision-making body and convenes every other year (most recently in 2020). The representatives at the General Assembly are elected by districts and local associations. The General Assembly decides the operational focus, adopts the report on operations and elects the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees is the executive body between General Assemblies. The Board of Trustees held four minuted meetings in 2021 and consists of a Chair, Deputy Chair and other members (see pages 12-13). The Save the Children Sweden Youth Council appoints one member and a personal deputy. The unions appoint two co-opted members, who have rights of attendance and expression.

The Board of Trustees' responsibilities include ensuring that all decisions taken are in line with Save the Children's Child Safeguarding Policy, and that the framework and policy are implemented and maintained by the membership movement. The person responsible since 15 September 2020 is Ingela Schmidt.

Three committees support the Board of Trustees' work:

- Executive Committee (EC)

Prepares the Board of Trustees' meetings and is responsible for regularly reviewing the Secretary General's terms of pay and employment.

- Audit Committee (AC)

Monitors that Save the Children Sweden's accounting policies comply with generally accepted accounting principles and are applied in a proper manner. The audit committee also monitors that internal control, including risk management relating to both financial and operational management, is conducted in a satisfactory manner, takes part in the planning and follow-up of internal audit work and oversees how internal and external auditors' findings and recommendations are addressed in the organisation.

- Asset Management Committee (AMC)

Supports the organisation with fund management of both long-term assets and short-term liquidity. Reviews the policy on fund management and evaluates the results of fund management. Conducts ethical reviews and evaluates whether fund management complies with the management policy.

Policy documents

Save the Children Sweden draws up strategies, process descriptions and plans for its operation. They set out the roadmap for how the organisation should act to achieve particular results, and they contain goals. The policies, guidelines and procedures have descriptions of how Save the Children Sweden should respond in certain situations. They talk about the operation's shared values and set limits on our conduct.

Internal control and audits

Internal control is part of ongoing financial and operational management. It is undertaken by the Board of Trustees, management and other staff so as to provide reasonable assurance as to whether goals, reporting, and compliance with laws and regulations have been achieved. The Board of Trustees' audit committee monitors that internal control of the national association is carried out in a satisfactory manner. An internal auditor supports the committee and reviews the operation in accordance with an annual plan.

The aim of the overall audit of Save the Children Sweden is to assure the organisation's stakeholders that its financial reporting provides a true and fair view of the operation. The principle is that follow-up and/or audits should take place in all subsequent stages. When other members, or partners of, Save the Children International carry out an operation on behalf of Save the Children Sweden, an external audit of the operation is performed if the overall sum exceeds a threshold of SEK 284,000.

Operations carried out by Swedish partners and those implemented through Save the Children International are subject to their own annual external audits. Save the Children Sweden applies the quality code developed by Swedish Fundraising Control (SIK).



*Above: Save the Children Sweden's operation at Sagåsen refugee shelter.
Photo: Tomas Ohlsson/Save the Children Sweden.*

*Right: Save the Children's operation at Restad Gård refugee shelter.
Photo: Tomas Ohlsson/Save the Children Sweden.*



Important events during the financial year

New strategy

In 2021, the Board of Trustees decided on a new strategy for Save the Children Sweden for the years 2022–2024 in order to dramatically increase the impact of our work for and with the children hardest hit by inequality and discrimination. Every day we shall make the world a little better for children. The strategy formulates four global goals for the next few years: A healthy start in life; Return to school; Freedom from violence; Safety net and resilience.

The strategy also lists seven areas where we need to make great strides in order to achieve our goals: Knowledge of effects; Data and digitalisation; Local power; Partnerships and business models; Advocacy; Agility and inclusion; Image of Save the Children Sweden.

Save the Children Sweden also decided on a new operational plan for 2022, which is based on the new strategy.

Organisational inquiry and membership strategy

The 2020 General Assembly decided to conduct an inquiry into the membership movement's organisation and finances. As a result, an in-depth inquiry was carried out in 2021. The aim is to draw up a proposal for a new organisation that can better help Save the Children Sweden become a bigger, stronger and more relevant player in child rights, where the focus is on children and young people's rights and participation.

Save the Children Sweden wants to become a stronger non-governmental movement by securing the organisation's democratic foundation and running a transparent operation. This means that Save the Children Sweden's organisation must be characterised by inclusion and flexibility, and it must strive to realise the vision of 'making the Convention on the Rights of the Child a reality for every child'.

Work on Save the Children Sweden's membership strategy continued during the year with the aim of strengthening the membership movement.

Photo: Saman Saidi/Save the Children



Expert resources for countries

The Save the Children movement has started work on transferring expert resources from its members and central offices to the countries where we are most heavily involved. The aim is for the knowledge to be more localised, enabling us to become more effective and give our partner organisations even better support.

Contracts and collaborations for Rätta Barnen Valfärd

During the year Rätta Barnen Valfärd took over the running of three youth centres in Spånga-Tensta (Stockholm) after winning a contract in 2020. The centres create opportunities for a safe environment and meaningful leisure time with stimulating activities for young people.

In 2021, Rätta Barnen Valfärd won a further contract within Region Stockholm, this time to run psychology clinics for expectant parents and children aged 0–5 in three areas that cover approximately half of Stockholm County. The bid was prepared in close collaboration with Save the Children Sweden's Centre for Support & Treatment, which has in-depth expertise in this area. However, the procurement was terminated by Region Stockholm and will go ahead again in 2022. This operation is of strategic importance to Save the Children Sweden and Rätta Barnen Valfärd. By reaching out to this target group with swift action at an early stage, we can help create a clear value chain for the families and care personnel alike. The work includes consulting personnel at midwife clinics and child welfare centres.

During the year, Rätta Barnen Valfärd also became part of a strategic collaboration with the Tim Bergling Foundation, together with Save the Children Sweden's national association. To start with, a music studio is being created at the House of Tensta youth centre. The aim is to promote good mental health among children and young people. The Tim Bergling Foundation was founded two years ago by Klas and Anita Bergling, the parents of Tim Bergling – or Avicii as the artist was known professionally. The aim is to create meeting-places for children and young people where, for example, music can be a tool for them to express their feelings. The meeting-places can act as a springboard for young people to develop creative interests in areas they would not normally have access to. The collaboration is kicking off with a national campaign about one of the biggest public health issues of our time, mental health, how it affects children and young people, and what we want to do to promote good mental health.

AI project

In other news this year, the Swedish Postcode Lottery has awarded SEK 25 million to Save the Children Sweden's dream project called 'AI-driven support for children online'. The project is about tackling poor mental health among children and young people in the gaming world.



Photo: Francesco Alesi/Save the Children

Key external factors

The global Covid-19 pandemic, climate change and conflicts are jeopardising several of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals for 2030, not least those that mean the most to children. Inequality has increased sharply in the world, and civil society and democratic forces have less scope to act. In many countries, including Sweden, the welfare we have taken for granted is being eroded or having conditions attached to it, and segregation and economic deprivation are on the rise.

Covid-19 has continued to affect our work in 2021, particularly in the international operation. Despite the major challenges, the global movement has been able to adapt its operation. The pandemic has thus not entailed a major downturn in the operation.

The USA's withdrawal from Afghanistan and the return of the Taliban have had major consequences for girls in the region, which has affected Save the Children Sweden's work.

Covid-19 has also affected the operation in Sweden. We have had to balance restrictions and the safety of our personnel and target groups in the operations we run. We have continued to adapt, as we did in 2020, but we have also seen some delays in our operations.

The armed conflict in northern Ethiopia resulted in a humanitarian crisis with large displacements of people and thousands of deaths. Save the Children had limited opportunities to carry out humanitarian work because access to the hardest hit areas was restricted.

The military coup in Myanmar also had a negative impact on Save the Children's programme operations in the country.



Photo: Jim Huylebroek/Save The Children



Photo: GMB Akash/Panos Pictures/Save the Children

Important events after the financial year

Mustering strength for Ukraine

In early 2022, Save the Children responded to a new crisis with fundraising, partnerships and direct action to help children in Ukraine and those who need to flee the country. Thanks to our international movement and disaster fund, we were quickly able to start work and provide support where it is needed. Private individuals and companies alike are showing a great willingness to provide support. We are involved in the reception of refugees, together with other partners, local associations and volunteers. In April 2022, the Swedish government announced a cut in its development aid budget to finance the increased cost of receiving refugees due to the war in Ukraine. It is not yet clear how this will affect Save the Children Sweden's international operations. Save the Children Sweden and other players oppose these budget cuts because they have an adverse effect on the world's very poorest and most vulnerable people, especially children.

Strong collaboration through Australia

In February, Save the Children Sweden invested in Save the Children Australia's company Inclusiv Education Ltd., and it now has a 15% holding in the company. The investment facilitates the development and growth of the company's global operation. Inclusiv Education is a start-up in educational technology. It aims to open up online education to target groups that have difficulty accessing it due to inadequate infrastructure or capacity. During the year, we will develop the operation and reach out to more children and teachers around the world with good education.

Ukrainian refugees at the Polish border. Photo: Giovanna di Benedetto/Save the Children.



Future development

In 2021, the Board of Trustees decided on a new strategy for Save the Children Sweden for the years 2022–2024 (see page 69). The new strategy is based on the fact that for the first time in decades the world is becoming worse, not better, for children. Covid-19, climate change and conflicts are major global challenges – the war that broke out in Ukraine in early 2022 is one of far too many examples where Save the Children Sweden needs to respond and muster strength quickly.

The climate threat

The deeper underlying changes to society that we highlighted last year are equally valid today. We have a world order that is under challenge and democratic governance is deteriorating. Civil society and freedom of speech are under heavy pressure in many countries. Also, the report presented by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in February 2022 is the UN's starkest warning yet that climate change is having a disastrous and far-reaching effect on people and ecosystems around the world.

However, there are glimmers of light in the darkness. Local forces around the world are growing strong. Digitalisation is providing more and more people with access to information, knowledge, opportunities for medical diagnosis and empowerment over means of payment. Save the Children is and will increasingly be an active part of this development, in partnership with private players and local organisations. Save the Children's work in the field of climate change includes raising awareness about the long-term effects of climate change on children's everyday lives and future.



*Climate change is accelerating. Syria has been affected by drought during the year. A mother and daughter look out over a river in the north-east part of the country that has almost dried up completely.
Photo: Muhannad Khaled/Save the Children.*

Stronger membership movement

Save the Children Sweden is a local movement, with members nationwide. In 2022–2024, the membership movement will be reinforced, as will Save the Children Sweden’s ability to cooperate and co-create solutions with others in local operations, for and with children. In Save the Children Sweden’s international operation, the priorities of local partners in civil society will come before those of global financiers.

Greater knowledge

Over the next few years, including after our current strategy period of 2022–2024, Save the Children Sweden will continue to test, develop, speed up and adapt a far larger proportion of its activities to new kinds of operations, partnerships and financing. During this period we will have improved access to concrete data about and from children themselves regarding their reality. More and better data for increased knowledge and learning. We will be able to establish with greater certainty than today which methods and initiatives work the best, and also be able to demonstrate even more clearly the impact of the operation on children. Being able to monitor and demonstrate the effect of the operation is necessary for us to be a relevant partner. It is key to engaging more people, which in turn is key to further increasing our impact.

Photo: Tomas Ohlsson/Save the Children



Risks

The consequences of Covid-19

The spread of infection has continued to be a major risk to the health of employees and target groups in 2021, and it requires ongoing monitoring in 2022. Save the Children Sweden is monitoring how measures to trace and limit the spread are affecting the target groups and the organisation’s ability to continue operating. There is a risk that infection control may also be used in future as a pretext for further limitations on democratic freedom, and that the limitations have consequences on mental health, for example.

Security threats

In the international operation, security threats are a clear and present risk. In Sweden too there are risks of threats and violence from radical, pro-violence players, and from organised crime in areas where Save the Children Sweden operates. Threats and trolling are a reality in both physical and digital forums, and Save the Children Sweden is actively striving to stop this behaviour impacting children and other people in our operation.

Funding

The risk of reduced funding is one of the long-term consequences of the pandemic. In 2021, closed operations have affected funding and we need to continue working on this in 2022. We also see a long-term trend of new funding and business models that we need to adapt to in order to respond. By working on our digitalisation, collecting the right data and involving the target groups in measuring the effects of our work, we will enhance our relevance as a current and future partner for financing our operation.

IT and information security

As the world and our operation become increasingly digital and data is collected about our operation and target groups, the risks associated with digital environments also increase. In the face of everything from social engineering to pure cyber intrusions and attacks, we need to actively work with knowledge, awareness and digital solutions that provide a stable environment from which to run our operation.

Environment and climate

Save the Children Sweden needs to address the consequences of environmental and climate risks for children and strive to minimise them. There is also a safety perspective to this. We can address these risks through our own impact on the environment and also by having operations that respond to this development. Including environmental and climate factors in our operation also makes us a relevant partner to work with.

Our approach to risk management

- Risk management is a key component of Save the Children Sweden's internal control. We have a common view of acceptable levels of risk taking in the international movement, which provides overall frameworks and helps us jointly take responsibility for the operation, brand, results and the impact for children.
- Based on this, an overall risk analysis is conducted annually which takes into account the goals we want to achieve, our internal circumstances and an analysis of the wider operating environment, in order to identify the most important risks for our operations to work on during the year.
- In addition, local risk analyses are carried out before entering into new agreements or starting up operations. These analyses are linked to the type of partner, area, form of operation, funding and donor requirements relating to the operation. The analyses are continuously monitored in the operation and coordinated with the overall risk analysis and risk management within the organisation.
- With analysis and follow-up as the basis, close dialogue is conducted with financiers, partners, management and the Board to ensure transparency and a common approach to risk management. Through active risk management we ensure that we can achieve our goals and make informed choices in the contexts in which we operate.



Photo: Save the Children Sweden

Other information

Information on sustainability

Save the Children Sweden submits a sustainability report within the framework of the integrated annual report.

Foundations

Seven foundations are managed by Save the Children Sweden, and their restricted capital amounted to a carrying amount of MSEK 32.3 (31.9) at year-end. Six of these foundations are co-managed while one is managed independently. The foundation capital is invested in accordance with each foundation's legal documents, which means reflecting the national association's investments in its long-term asset management to the greatest possible extent. The carrying amount of all of the foundations' investments totalled MSEK 31.9 (31.5), while the market value amounted to MSEK 76.2 (57.2).

Financial instruments

In accordance with the steering guidelines issued by the Swedish Fundraising Association, Save the Children Sweden has built up a contingency fund for unforeseen events so that it can guarantee long-term efforts to help children, also in times of crisis. The management policy has strict requirements on ethics, low risk and cost-effective management. The policy, which is available on our website, was prepared by the asset management committee and then adopted by the Board of Trustees.

Where possible, the equities portfolio shall be managed in index funds with passive management and a weighted balance between equities, interest-bearing investments and alternative investments. The companies in the funds in which Save the Children Sweden invests must operate in accordance with the international conventions signed by Sweden. The holdings in each fund are screened by the manager, who is responsible for making sure there are no unsuitable companies in the fund. Save the Children Sweden's holdings shall be characterised by consideration for the environment, reasonable social conditions and good governance.

Contributions in kind

Contributions in kind, i.e. any contributions other than money, have been received in collaboration with UNHCR and UNICEF and amounted to MSEK 13.2 (22.5). These contributions are not recognised in the income statement.

Results and position

Save the Children Sweden is a voluntary association and our operation does not aim to make a profit. As much of our income as possible should go to the children. We therefore always strive to keep our finances in balance. Through making necessary changes in the operation, in 2021 we managed to end the year in the black, despite another year of great uncertainty due to the pandemic. Save the Children Sweden is therefore financially equipped for the further uncertainty we are now seeing in the world.

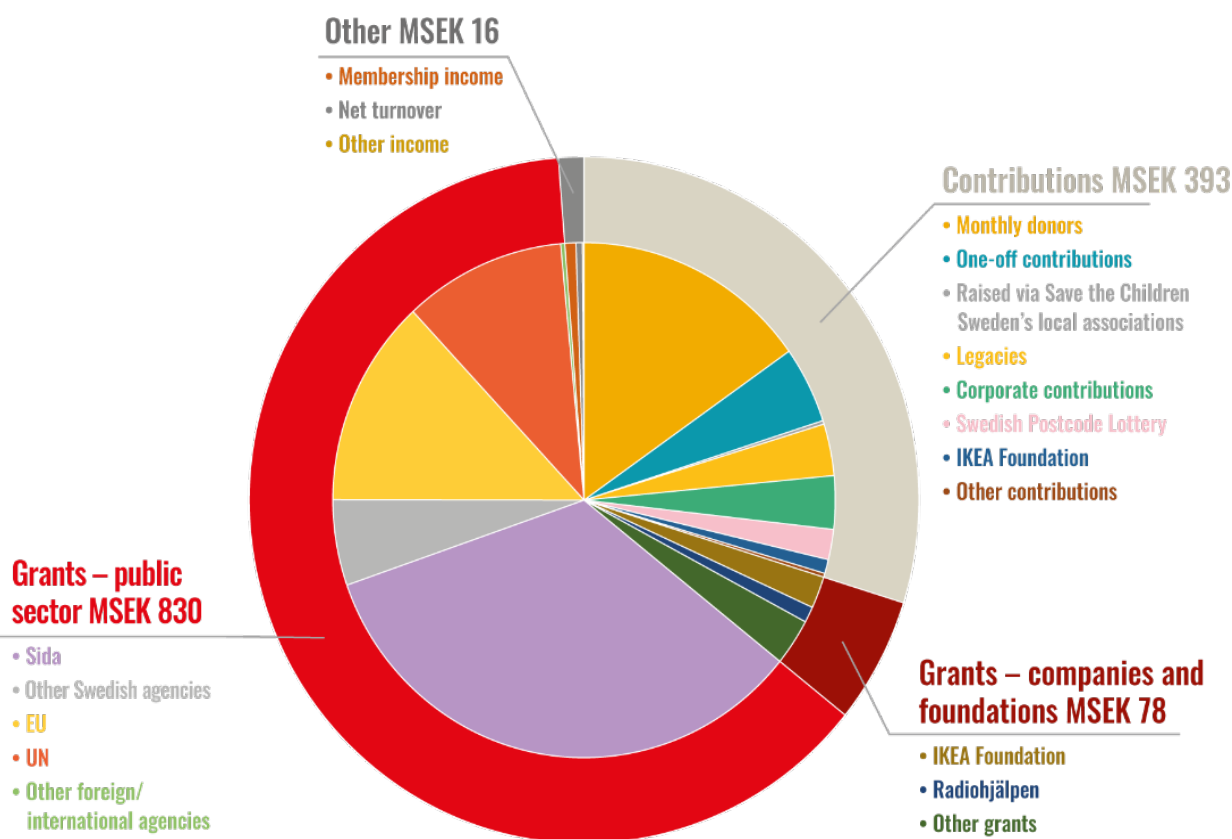
Operating income

MSEK 1,316.7 (1,230.9) +7.0%

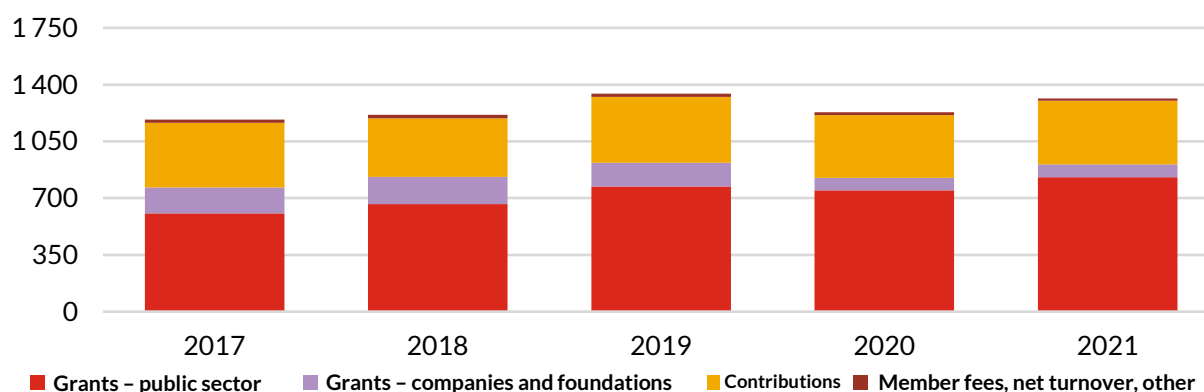
Save the Children Sweden's operations are made possible thanks to funding from private donors, public institutions and companies. Its operating income comprises membership fees, contributions, grants and other income. Sometimes donors set requirements for particular results, the content of the operation or the distribution of costs, and if these conditions are not met the funding has to be repaid. In these cases, the grant is recognised as costs arise for which the grant is being used. A contribution, however, has no specific terms attached. Thanks to the contributions we receive, Save the Children Sweden can act very quickly in the event of war or disaster, and bring about long-term sustainable changes for children. Contributions and grants are used for initiatives to help children both in Sweden and worldwide.

Operating income in 2021 amounted to MSEK 1,316.7, an increase of MSEK 85.8 compared with 2020, primarily due to grants which increased by MSEK 82.7. The main reason for this is an increase in grants from the EU coupled with the challenges in 2020 of running projects in different countries as planned due to the pandemic, where the projects could go ahead in 2021. Contributions from monthly donations decreased somewhat, which has been offset by increases in one-off contributions. Membership fees decreased slightly in 2021.

Operating income



The development of income (income statement and Note 4)



Operating costs

Project costs: Costs for achieving concrete results for children. They comprise programme costs for operations and member costs (support for the member organisation).

Fundraising costs: Costs for the staff and activities required to raise contributions from private individuals and companies.

Administrative costs: The costs required for Save the Children Sweden's administration, a percentage of the costs for premises, administrative systems, Board meetings and staff costs.

Project costs

MSEK 1,159.5 (1,076.2) +7.7%

The project costs for the programme activities have increased by MSEK 83.6 to MSEK 1,142.0 (1,058.4) compared with the previous year because the pandemic made it difficult to run projects in certain countries. These challenges are ongoing in various parts of the world, but were more evident in 2020 and 2021. Since we have been able to run projects, the project costs and the recognised grants associated with the projects have increased.

The project costs for the membership operation, MSEK 17.5, partly refer to the portion of the membership fees that go to local associations and districts, which is 40% of the membership income. Save the Children Sweden Youth Council receives MSEK 1.0. The rest of the membership fees, MSEK 5.9 plus a further MSEK 11.6, go on costs for the Board of Trustees, the General Assembly and the conference, on part-financing positions such as the secretary general, part of the general secretariat, board and member coordinators and member communicators, costs to support the membership movement's association work, and developing local operations in various ways. The costs decreased marginally compared with the previous year, which coincides with the slight decrease in income from membership fees.

Fundraising and administrative costs

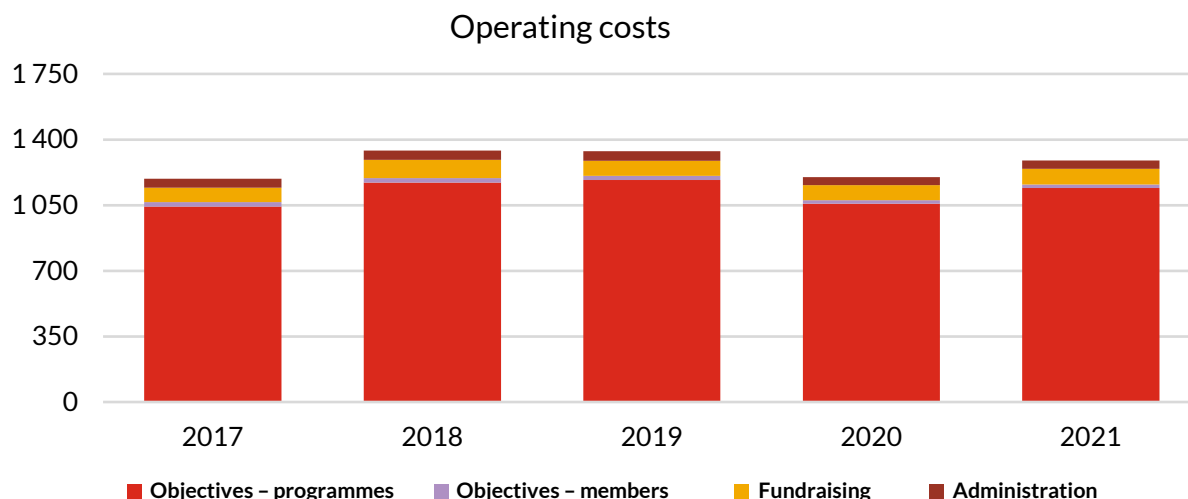
MSEK 128.4 (123.9) +3.6%

Fundraising and administrative costs equate to 10% of funds raised, which is largely unchanged on the previous year and is in line with the guidelines set by the Swedish Fundraising Association. In absolute terms, the costs have increased by MSEK 4.5 to MSEK 128.4 (123.9), which is in line with the increase in income.

Earnings from financial investments

MSEK -5.6 (79.6) -107%

A new model for managing and investing Save the Children Sweden's long-term capital was implemented in the previous year. The majority of the capital has subsequently been invested in selected equities and fixed-income funds. In



connection with the change in model, capital was re-invested, which led to a capital gain of MSEK 79.9 the previous year. Recognised dividends are reduced through the investment model, which is why they are lower in 2021 than before.

The performance has been good in 2021, even though there was a downturn at the beginning of 2022. The positive performance is not apparent in the income statement until withdrawals are made from the funds. In 2021, the carrying amount of shares in subsidiaries were adjusted downwards, which affects earnings from financial investments by MSEK -7.4. Earnings from financial investments amounted to MSEK -5.6 (79.6) after deductions for management costs, which were marginally lower in 2021.

Results

MSEK 23.2 (110.4) -79.0%

Result for the year amounted to MSEK 23.2 compared with MSEK 110.4 the previous year; the main difference being the MSEK 79.9 capital gain reported in 2020 which did not take place in 2021.

When appropriating the result for the year, consideration was given to the effect of contributions recognised as income during the year where the related project cost has not yet been incurred and to costs during the year where income was recognised in a previous year. The effect of provisions for future use decided on by the Board are also reported here along with such use of provisions from previous years. After this, the result totals MSEK 15.6 compared with MSEK 59.9 the previous year. See also the statement of changes in equity.

Income Statement

In SEK thousand	Note	Parent company		Group	
		2021	2020	2021	2020
Operating income					
Membership fees	3	9,337	9,778	9 337	9 778
Contributions	4	392,856	387,716	392 856	387 716
Grants	4	907,718	825,009	907 718	825 009
Net turnover		5,474	2,436	44,753	22,519
Other income		1,319	5,951	1,396	6,579
Total operating income		1 316 704	1 230 890	1 356 060	1 251 601
Operating costs					
Project costs					
Programme costs	5,6	-1,141,984	-1,058,407	-1,174,676	-1,080,333
Membership costs	5,6	-17,486	-17,830	-17 486	-17 830
		-1 159 470	-1 076 237	-1 192 162	-1 098 163
Fundraising and administrative costs					
Fundraising costs	5,6	-83,921	-80,688	-88,699	-83,754
Administrative costs	5,6	-44,491	-43,170	-45,931	-44,557
		-128 412	-123 858	-134 630	-128 311
Total operating costs		-1 287 882	-1 200 095	-1 326 792	-1 226 474
Net operating result		28 822	30 795	29 268	25 127
Earnings from financial investments					
Earnings from other securities and receivables that are non-current assets	7	-5,426	79,919	1,974	79 919
Earnings from securities and receivables that are current assets	7	227	185	251	154
Management costs		-444	-474	-444	-474
Total earnings from financial investments		-5 643	79 630	1 781	79 599
Tax on result for the year				-710	0
Result for the year		23 179	110 425	30 339	104 726

Appropriation of result for the year

Result for the year according to the income statement	23 179	110 425	30 339	104 726
Utilisation of appropriated funds from previous years	19,363	28,197	19 363	28 197
Provision for appropriated funds that have not been used during the year and unrestricted provisions in accordance with Board decisions	-26,980	-78,675	-26 980	-78 675
Remaining amount for year/change in capital brought forward	15 562	59 947	22 722	54 248

Balance Sheet

In SEK thousand (31 December)	Note	Parent company		Group	
		2021	2020	2021	2020
ASSETS					
Non-current assets					
<i>Intangible assets</i>					
Software	8	580	2,326	580	2 326
		580	2 326	580	2 326
<i>Tangible assets</i>					
Equipment, fixtures and fittings	9	4,497	7,742	4,610	7,836
		4 497	7 742	4 610	7 836
<i>Financial assets</i>					
Shares in Group companies	10	7,108	12,008	0	0
Other securities held as non-current assets	11	346,831	344,313	346 831	344 313
Other long-term receivables	12	19,409	21,040	19 409	21 040
		373 348	377 361	366 240	365 353
Total non-current assets		378 425	387 429	371 430	375 515
Current assets					
<i>Current receivables</i>					
Accounts receivable		9,019	3,314	14,449	7,349
Receivables from Group companies		553	811	0	0
Other receivables	13	120,722	79,409	121 480	81 269
Prepaid expenses and accrued income	14	56,391	43,823	56,493	43,823
		186 685	127 357	192 422	132 441
<i>Property etc. intended for sale</i>		3,260	681	3 260	681
<i>Investments in securities etc.</i>	15	966	359	966	359
<i>Cash and bank balances</i>		373,178	320,969	393,270	334,874
Total current assets		564 089	449 366	589 918	468 355
TOTAL ASSETS		942 514	836 795	961 348	843 870
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES					
<i>Equity</i>					
Managed funds		16,974	16,972	16 974	16 972
Rädda Barnen fund		150,000	150,000	150 000	150 000
Value adjustment fund		41,005	37,111	41 005	37 111
Capital for projects		93,169	89,448	93 169	89 448
Result brought forward		194,947	135,000	191 263	136,870
Translation difference		-	-	-48	16
Result for the year		15,562	59,947	22,722	54,248
		511 657	488 478	515 085	484 665
<i>Current liabilities</i>					
Accounts payable		22,578	35,749	23,507	36,112
Liabilities, received unutilised grants	16	361,149	271,537	361 149	271 537
Other liabilities		10 847	11,098	17 820	14 447
Accrued expenses and deferred income	17	36,283	29,933	43,787	37,109
		430 857	348 317	446 263	359 205
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		942 514	836 795	961 348	843 870

Statement of changes in equity

Parent company

	Managed funds	Rädda Barnen fund	Value adjustment fund	Capital for projects	Result brought forward	Result for the year	Total equity
Opening balance 1 Jan 21	16,972	150,000	37,111	89,448	135 000	59,947	488 478
Distribution of previous year's result					59,947	-59,947	0
Result for the year						23,179	23 179
Projects determined by the donor	2	-	-	20,741		-20 743	0
Projects determined by the Board	0		3,894	2,343		-6 237	0
Utilisation of appropriated funds from previous years	0	-	-	-19,363		19 363	0
Closing balance 31 Dec 21	16 974	150 000	41 005	93 169	194 947	15 562	511 657

Specification of capital for projects	Opening balance 1 Jan 21	Utilisation of previous year's reserve/provision	Reserves/provisions for the year	Closing balance 31 Dec 21
Projects determined by the donor				
Thematic	6,160	-877	5,348	10 631
Region and country	8,522	-269	1,922	10 175
Special projects	10,659	-3,576	13,471	20 554
Total projects determined by the donor	25 341	-4 722	20 741	41 360
Projects determined by the Board				
Strategic initiatives	27,902	-6,655	2,210	23 457
Digitalisation initiatives	8,500	-237		8 263
Currency hedge reserve	13,605	0	133	13 738
Other (global and internal support systems)	14,100	-7,749		6 351
Total projects determined by the Board	64 107	-14 641	2 343	51 809
Total capital for projects	89 448	-19 363	23 084	93 169

Group

	Managed funds	Rädda Barnen fund	Value adjustment fund	Capital for projects	Capital brought forward	Translation difference	Result for the year	Total equity
Opening balance 1 Jan 21	16,972	150,000	37,111	89,448	136 870	16	54 248	484 665
Distribution of previous year's result					54 264	-16	-54 248	0
Result for the year							30,339	30 339
Projects determined by the donor	2	-	-	20,741			-20 743	0
Projects determined by the Board	0		3,894	2,343			-6 237	0
Utilisation of appropriated funds from previous years	0	-	-	-19,363			19 363	0
Translation difference					129	-48		81
Result for the year	-	-	-	-				0
Closing balance 31 Dec 21	16 974	150 000	41 005	93 169	191 263	-48	22 722	515 085

Specification of capital for projects	Opening balance 1 Jan 21	Utilisation of previous year's reserve/provision	Reserves/provisions for the year	Closing balance 31 Dec 21
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Total projects determined by the Board	64 107	-14 641	2 343	51 809
Total capital for projects	89 448	-19 363	23 084	93 169

Cash flow statement

In SEK thousand	Parent company		Group	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Operating activities				
Payments from donors and members etc.	1,343,745	1,242,256	1,382,550	1,259,652
Payments to partners, employees and suppliers etc.	-1,289,095	-1,166,761	-1,323,410	-1,185,379
Cash flow from operating activities before interest and income tax	54 650	75 495	59 140	74 273
Interest received	858	1,711	882	1,680
Dividends received	1,345	5,720	1,345	5,720
Income tax paid			-710	
Cash flow from operating activities	56 853	82 926	60 657	81 673
Investing activities				
Investments in intangible assets	0	-359	-4	-359
Investments in tangible assets	-656	-300	-769	-300
Investments in financial assets	-5,018	-409,953	-2,518	-404,953
Sale of financial assets	1,631	421,127	1,631	421,127
Change in current financial investments	-1,021	-3,501	-1,021	-3,501
Cash flow from investing activities	-5 064	7 014	-2 681	12 014
Cash flow for the year	51 789	89 940	57 976	93 687
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	320 969	226,804	334 874	236,962
Exchange rate differences in cash and cash equivalents	420	4,225	420	4,225
Cash and cash equivalents at year-end	373 178	320 969	393 270	334 874

Notes to the income statement and balance sheet

Note 1

Note 1 Accounting policies and valuation methods

Save the Children Sweden's accounting policies and valuation methods comply with the Swedish Annual Accounts Act, BFNAR 2012:1 (K3) and the Swedish Fundraising Association's guidelines for annual reports. The policies and methods are unchanged compared with the previous year. All amounts are in thousands of Swedish kronor (KSEK) unless otherwise stated.

Operating income

Unless stated otherwise below, income is measured at the fair value of what has been received or is to be received.

Membership fees

Membership fees refer to receipts for membership of Save the Children Sweden. They are reported when they are received and recognised as income over the time period they refer to.

Contributions and grants

A transaction where Save the Children Sweden is given an asset or service that has a value without returning the equivalent value in exchange is a contribution or grant received. If the asset or service is received because Save the Children Sweden has met or will meet certain conditions and has an obligation to repay the counterparty if the conditions are not met, it is a grant received. If not, it is a contribution.

Contributions

Contributions are generally recognised as income when they are received. As a general rule they are measured at fair value. Contributions in the form of equipment and supplies that are forwarded on are not recognised as income but are reported in Note 4.

Grants

Grants are recognised as income once the conditions for receiving the grant have been met. Grants received are recognised as liabilities until the conditions for receiving the grant have been met. They are valued at the fair value that Save the Children Sweden has received or is to receive.

Net turnover

Net turnover refers to the sale of goods and services. It is usually recognised at the time of the sale.

Other income

Other income usually refers to rental income, which is recognised as income over the time period to which it refers. Other income also includes income not classed as ordinary income for Save the Children Sweden.

Operating costs

Save the Children Sweden's operating costs are recognised in accordance with the Swedish Fundraising Association's guidelines as project costs, fundraising costs and administrative costs. Costs for projects are divided into programme and membership costs. Costs for the various operations not only consist of direct costs but also of joint costs for the Board and management, communication and HR, financial administration, IT, internal service and customer services. Joint costs are distributed in line with an allocation system and added to the direct project costs,

Project costs

Refers to Save the Children Sweden's costs for carrying out its remit in accordance with the statutes. A distinction is made between costs for programme activities and for the membership operation.

Advocacy is included under programme activities.

Fundraising costs

Refers to costs incurred when generating contributions from private individuals and companies in the form of fundraising materials, printing costs, advertisements, staff costs and other costs related to fundraising activities. The Group also has marketing and sales costs incurred when generating income.

Administrative costs

The costs required for Save the Children Sweden's administration such as costs for Board meetings, audits, and a percentage of the costs for premises, administrative systems and staff costs.

Assets, liabilities and provisions

Assets, liabilities and provisions are measured at cost unless otherwise stated below. Receivables and liabilities in foreign currencies are measured at the closing day rate.

Intangible and tangible assets

Intangible and tangible assets are measured at cost less any amortisation/depreciation according to plan. Amortisation/depreciation is linear across the asset's estimated useful life. The following amortisation/depreciation periods are used: Software and system development costs: 3 years; Computer inventory: 3 years; Other inventory: 5 years

Financial assets

Securities that are part of Save the Children Sweden's long-term asset management are classified as non-current assets, while those that are part of the short-term financial management are classified as current assets. Non-current assets are written down if the market value for the whole portfolio is less than its cost and the decrease in value is judged to be long term. Securities that are classified as current assets are measured at the lowest of fair value and cost on the balance sheet date.

Donated assets

Property and tenant-owner housing donated to Save the Children Sweden are measured at their market value on the date they are received. They are recognised as current assets because the intention is to sell as soon as possible. Securities are recognised under Investments in securities etc. Listed securities are reported at their market value on the date they are registered for Save the Children Sweden.

Liabilities for received unutilised grants

Where Save the Children Sweden has received a grant but has not yet met the conditions, the grant is recognised as a liability.

Equity

Refers to the funds made available to Save the Children Sweden so that it can fulfil its aims and which have not been paid out on the balance sheet date. Funds appropriated by donors in permanent donation funds or for special purposes are reported separately. Räd Barnen fund is Save the Children Sweden's underlying capital, which is strengthened in some years by funds transferred from result brought forward. The value adjustment fund consists of the buffer for changes in value of investments and the equalisation amount regarding legacies. Contributions that have not yet been utilised and other appropriated funds are recognised under Capital for projects. See also the statement of changes in equity. The appropriated funds are normally used the following financial year. The translation difference in the Group refers to the effects of translating subsidiaries' accounts in foreign currencies into Swedish kronor. Result brought forward comprises funds transferred to Save the Children Sweden without restriction. The result for the year according to the income statement is the difference between costs and funds taken up as income. The change in result for the year refers to the amount after utilisation or reservations from/to other parts of equity.

Contingent liabilities

Save the Children Sweden discloses a contingent liability when it has a potential obligation which, as a result of actual events and whose occurrence will only be confirmed by one or more uncertain events in the future that are not completely within Save the Children Sweden's control, will materialise or will fail to materialise, or when Save the Children Sweden has an existing obligation as a result of actual events, but which is not recognised as a liability or

provision because it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be necessary to settle the obligation or because the size of the obligation cannot be calculated with sufficient reliability.

Cash flow statement

The cash flow statement has been prepared using the direct method.

The national association, districts and local associations

Districts and local associations produce their own accounts which are not consolidated into the national association's financial reporting as there is no parent company/subsidiary relationship.

Consolidated accounts

The consolidated accounts include subsidiaries in which the parent company directly or indirectly owns more than 50% of the votes, or has a controlling influence in some other way. The consolidated balance sheet is prepared according to the acquisition method, which means that the subsidiaries' equity on the acquisition date – i.e. the difference between the fair values of the assets and liabilities – is eliminated in its entirety. Group equity therefore only includes the portion of the subsidiaries' equity added after the acquisition.

Foreign subsidiaries are classified as independent subsidiaries, which is why the current rate method is applied to translate their accounts. This means that foreign subsidiaries' assets and liabilities are translated at the closing day rate. All items in the income statements are translated at the average exchange rate for the year. The translation difference is entered directly under Group equity.

Note 2

Accounting estimates

Save the Children Sweden makes estimates and assessments about the future. By definition the resulting accounting estimates rarely correspond to the actual outcome.

	Parent company		Group	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Note 3				
Membership fees	9,337	9,778	9,337	9,778

Membership fees range from SEK 75 for an individual to SEK 300 for a household. In line with a decision by the General Assembly, 25% of the membership fees are paid to Save the Children Sweden's local associations. SEK 2,293,000 of the membership income reported here was paid to local associations in line with the number of paying members on the voting list on 31 December 2021.

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	Parent company		Group	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Note 4				
Contributions and grants, funds raised				

Contributions recognised in the income statement

Funds raised

General public	263,364	267,493	263,364	267,493
Raised via Save the Children Sweden's local associations	2,950	1,322	2,950	1,322
Legacies	42,793	43,629	42,793	43,629
Companies	44,004	43,843	44,004	43,843
Swedish Postcode Lottery	25,000	27,500	25,000	27,500
IKEA Foundation	11,545	6	11,545	6
Other	3,200	3,923	3,200	3,923
Total contributions recognised in the income statement	392,856	387,716	392,856	387,716

Contributions not recognised in the income statement

Funds raised – estimated amounts

Contributions that are forwarded on	13,212	22,493	13,212	22,493
Total contributions not recognised in the income statement	13,212	22,493	13,212	22,493

In addition to the above, contributions have been received for which no value in SEK has been established. These relate to pro bono services, such as access to consulting services and expertise, and media space.

Grants recognised as income

<u>Funds raised (grants according to private law)</u>				
IKEA Foundation	26,353	38,338	26,353	38,338
Radiohjälpen	13,131	12,490	13,131	12,490
Other foundations	2,161	3,260	2,161	3,260
Swedish Postcode Lottery	4,141	7,678	4,141	7,678
Other companies	2,569	1,700	2,569	1,700
Other	29,732	13,325	29,732	13,325
<i>Total funds raised through grants</i>	<i>78,087</i>	<i>76,791</i>	<i>78,087</i>	<i>76,791</i>
<u>Public sector grants</u>				
Sida	446,114	432,898	446,114	432,898
Other Swedish agencies	70,836	70,746	70,836	70,746
EU	171,802	87,994	171,802	87,994
UN	137,371	137,632	137,371	137,632
Other foreign/international agencies	3,508	18,948	3,508	18,948
<i>Total public sector grants</i>	<i>829,631</i>	<i>748,218</i>	<i>829,631</i>	<i>748,218</i>
Total grants	907,718	825,009	907,718	825,009
Total funds raised:				
Contributions recognised in the income statement	392,856	387,716	392,856	387,716
Contributions not recognised in the income statement	13,212	22,493	13,212	22,493
Grants according to private law recognised as income	78,087	76,791	78,087	76,791
Total funds raised	484,155	487,000	484,155	487,000
Transferred contributions				
Contributions received	6,100	4,044	6,100	4,044
Contributions for own use	-4,060	-3,488	-4,060	-3,488
Total transferred contributions	2,040	556	2,040	556

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Note 5**Average number of employees, staff costs and Board fees**

	2021	2020	2021	2020
	Number	Number	Of whom men	Of whom men
Average number of employees, parent company				
Permanent employees, head office	214	189	50	39
Permanent employees, regional offices in Sweden	96	67	21	14
Employees on fixed-term contracts, head office	12	31	1	8
Employees on fixed-term contracts, regional offices in Sweden	38	59	10	14
Contract employees posted abroad	8	9	5	6
International employees	1		1	
EU employees	1	2	1	2
Total number of employees, parent company	370	357	89	83
Average number of employees, Group				
Swedish employees	392	369	95	84
Non-Swedish employees	16	13	3	2
Total number of employees, Group	408	382	98	86

Gender balance of Board members and senior officers for parent company and Group

	Parent company		Group	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	Number	Number	Of whom men	Of whom men
Board members	12	12	5	5
Senior Management Team	9	9	3	3
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Salaries, remuneration and payroll overheads				
Board and Secretary General	1,626	1,516	1,626	1,516
Other employees	180,992	172,127	200,271	184,313
Total salaries and remuneration	182,618	173,643	201,897	185,829
Payroll overheads	83,121	73,482	89,800	76,923
(of which pension costs excl. payroll tax)	(20,858)	(15,924)	(22,821)	(16,897)
Total for Sweden	265,739	247,125		
Contract employees posted abroad (incl. payroll overheads, accompanying family members and additional costs)	9,594	8,477	9,594	8,477

See the Administration Report for information on Board fees and pension costs, as well as the Secretary General's employment terms and pension costs.

Note 6

Leases

Save the Children Sweden mainly leases office premises and office equipment. Lease fees entered as costs amount to SEK 17,351,000 (18,489,000) for the parent company and SEK 18,300,000 (19,321,000) for the Group.

	Parent company		Group	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Future lease fees are due as follows:				
Within 1 year	15,849	12,727	16,855	13,477
1–5 years	47,438	42,485	47,629	42,485
Later than 5 years	1,563	913	1,563	913
Total	64,850	56,125	66,047	56,875

Note 7

Earnings from other securities and receivables that are non-current assets

	Parent company		Group	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Dividends	1,345	5,720	1,345	5,720
Interest	629	1,114	629	1,114
Capital gains from sales	0	73,085	0	73,085
Write-downs	-7,400	0	0	0
Total	-5,426	79,919	1,974	79,919

Earnings from securities and receivables that are current assets

	Parent company		Group	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Interest	221	230	245	199
Capital gains from sales	6	-45	6	-45
Total	227	185	251	154

Note 8

	Parent company	Group
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	2021		2020	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Software				
Opening cost	8,982	8,623	9,017	8,658
Capitalised expenses for the year	0	359	4	359
Sales and disposals	0	0	0	0
Closing accumulated cost	8,982	8,982	9,021	9,017
Opening amortisation	-6,656	-4,390	-6,691	-4,425
Amortisation for the year	-1,746	-2,266	-1,750	-2,266
Sales and disposals	0	0	0	0
Closing accumulated amortisation	-8,402	-6,656	-8,441	-6,691
Closing residual value according to plan	580	2,326	580	2,326

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Note 9

	Parent company		Group	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Equipment, fixtures and fittings				
Opening cost	17,311	17,011	17,704	17,404
Purchases for the year	656	300	769	300
Sales and disposals		0		0
Closing accumulated cost	17,967	17,311	18,473	17,704
Opening depreciation	-9,569	-5,550	-9,868	-5,849
Depreciation for the year	-3,901	-4,019	-3,995	-4,019
Sales and disposals		0		0
Closing accumulated depreciation	-13,470	-9,569	-13,863	-9,868
Closing residual value according to plan	4,497	7,742	4,610	7,836

Note 10

	Parent company		Group	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Shares in Group companies				
Opening cost	15,008	10,008	-	-
Acquisitions	2,500	5,000	-	-
Closing cost	17,508	15,008	-	-
Opening accumulated write-downs	-3,000	-3,000	-	-
Write-downs for the year	-7,400	0	-	-
Closing accumulated write-downs	-10,400	-3,000	-	-
Closing carrying amount	7,108	12,008	-	-

Specification of the organisation's shares in subsidiaries	No. of participations	In %	31 Dec	31 Dec
			2021 Carrying amount	2020 Carrying amount
Rädda Barnens Service Aktiebolag 556559-9643	100	100%	2,008	6,908
Rädda Barnen Valfärd AB 559174-1862	100	100%	5,100	5,100
Centre for Child rights and Corporate Social Responsibility (Beijing) Co, Ltd (CCR CSR)	100	100%	812	812
CCR CSR (HK) Limited	100	100%	0	0

Rädda Barnens Service Aktiebolag	31 Dec	31 Dec
Equity	2021	2020
Result for the year	4,092	1,506
Rädda Barnen Välfärd AB	31 Dec	31 Dec
Equity	2021	2020
Result for the year	7,886	5,743
	2,143	-283

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Note 11

	Parent company		Group	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Other securities held as non-current assets				
Opening cost	344,313	277,953	344,313	277,953
Acquisitions	2,518	404,945	2,518	404,945
Sales	0	-338,585	0	-338,585
Closing cost	346,831	344,313	346,831	344,313
	31 Dec 2021		31 Dec 2021	31 Dec 2020
	Carrying amount		Market value	Carrying amount
SPP Emerging Market Plus A	26,678		31,987	26,539
SPP Global Plus A	106,074		155,431	105,622
SPP Sverige Plus A	33,636		52,632	33,528
Total unit trusts	166,388		240,050	165,689
SPP Företagsobligationsfond Hållbar	36,736		36,527	36,019
SEB Sustainable High Yield	8,068		8,592	8,005
SEB Obligationsfond	103,841		102,883	103,449
Total interest-bearing securities	148,645		148,002	147,473
UB Skog	21,798		22,560	21,151
Thule Real Estate	10,000		13,771	10,000
Total alternative investments	31,798		36,331	31,151
Total **)	346,831		424,383	344,313

**) The total market value amounted to SEK 366,020,000 on 31 December 2020.

Note 12

	Parent company		Group	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Other long-term receivables				
Opening cost	21,040	30,489	21,040	30,489
Additional receivables	0	8	0	8
Repayments, less receivables	-1,631	-9,457	-1,631	-9,457
Closing carrying amount	19,409	21,040	19,409	21,040

Note 13

	Parent company		Group	
	31 Dec 2021	31 Dec 2020	31 Dec 2021	31 Dec 2020
Other receivables				
Partners, local associations and members of Save the Children International	39,250	32,817	39,250	32,817
Save the Children International	74,596	45,626	74,596	45,626
Staff	98	99	98	99
Other receivables	6,778	867	7,536	2,727

Total	120,722	79,409	121,480	81,269
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Note 14

	Parent company		Group	
	31 Dec 2021	31 Dec 2020	31 Dec 2021	31 Dec 2020
Prepaid expenses and accrued income				
Accrued grants	46,763	36,686	46,763	36,686
Accrued interest income	174	182	174	182
Other accrued income	3,604	1,323	3,604	1,323
Prepaid expenses	5,850	5,632	5,952	5,632
Total	56,391	43,823	56,493	43,823

Note 15

	31 Dec 2021	Parent company		Group	
		31 Dec 2021	31 Dec 2020	31 Dec 2021	31 Dec 2020
Investments in securities etc.	Carrying amount	Market value	Carrying amount	Carrying amount	Carrying amount
Shares and funds	966	1,066	175	966	175
Interest-bearing securities	0	0	184	0	184
Total	966	1,066	359	966	359

Note 16

	Parent company		Group	
	31 Dec 2021	31 Dec 2020	31 Dec 2021	31 Dec 2020
Liabilities, received unutilised grants				
Foundations, companies and organisations	57,419	65,016	57,419	65,016
Swedish agencies	211,190	138,378	211,190	138,378
EU, UN and other foreign agencies	92,540	68,143	92,540	68,143
Total	361,149	271,537	361,149	271,537

The liability mainly comprises prepaid grants for multi-year operations where the donor usually pays in advance.

The operations were implemented in 2022 or later in accordance with individual agreements.

The amount includes SEK 3,621,000 (3,167,000) to be repaid to the donor because the cost of a completed operation is less than the grant received.

Note 17

	Parent company		Group	
	31 Dec 2021	31 Dec 2020	31 Dec 2021	31 Dec 2020
Accrued expenses and deferred income				
Membership fees for next year	6,888	6,628	6,888	6,628
Accrued salaries and social security contributions	21,104	21,620	21,104	21,620
Other	8,291	1,685	15,795	8,861
Total	36,283	29,933	43,787	37,109

Note 18

	Parent company		Group	
	31 Dec 2021	31 Dec 2020	31 Dec 2021	31 Dec 2020
Contingent liabilities and contingent assets				
Settlement guarantee, Save the Children International	13,876	11,884	13,876	11,884

Note 19 Important events after the financial year

In early 2022, Save the Children Sweden responded to a new crisis with fundraising, partnerships and direct action to help children in Ukraine and those who need to flee the country. Thanks to our international movement and disaster fund, we were quickly able to start work and provide support where it is needed. Private individuals and companies alike are showing a great willingness to provide support. We are involved in the reception of refugees, together with other partners, local associations and volunteers. In April 2022, the Swedish government announced a cut in its development aid budget to finance the increased cost of receiving refugees due to the war in Ukraine. It is not yet clear how this will affect Save the Children Sweden's international operations. Save the Children Sweden and other players oppose these budget cuts because they have an adverse effect on the world's very poorest and most vulnerable people,

especially children. In February, Save the Children Sweden invested in Save the Children Australia's company Inclusive Education Ltd. (15% holding), which facilitates the development of the company's global operation. The company is a start-up in educational technology that provides online education to target groups that have difficulty accessing it. During the year, we will be able to reach more children and teachers around the world with good education.

Signatures of the report on operations

This report was signed digitally by the Board on 31 May 2022.

Stockholm, the date shown by our electronic signatures

Cecilia Abrahamsson, Erik Albenius, Lars Axelsson, Josephine Bladh, L Monica B Burman, Anders Ferbe, Oliwer Karlsson, Gay Ljungberg, Raymond Mankowitz, Jens Orback, Maria Susanna Schillaci, Ingela Schmidt, Monica Selin, Hanna Thessén and Helena Sara Louise Thybell.

The auditor's report was signed digitally on 31 May 2022.

Our auditor's report was submitted on the date shown by our electronic signature

Erik Albenius, authorised public accountant, and Gay Ljungberg.

The auditor's opinion on the statutory sustainability report was signed digitally on 31 May 2022.

The auditor's opinion on the statutory sustainability report was submitted on the date shown by my electronic signature

Erik Albenius, authorised public accountant.

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Save the Children Sweden Annual Report 2021

Auditor's report

Auditor's report

To the General Assembly of Save the Children Sweden's national association, corporate identity number 802002-8638
Report on the annual accounts and consolidated accounts

Opinions

We have audited the annual accounts and consolidated accounts of Save the Children Sweden's national association for the year 2021. The annual accounts and consolidated accounts of the association are included on pages 65–94 in this document.

In our opinion, the annual accounts and consolidated accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Annual Accounts Act and present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the parent association and group as of 31 December 2021 and their financial performance and cash flow for the year then ended in accordance with the Annual Accounts Act. The statutory administration report is consistent with the other parts of the annual accounts and consolidated accounts.

Basis for opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. The auditors' responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities* and *The elected representative auditor's responsibility* sections.

We are independent of the parent association and the group in accordance with professional ethics for accountants in Sweden. As authorised auditor, I have otherwise fulfilled my ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinions.

Other information than the annual accounts and consolidated accounts

This document also contains other information than the annual accounts and consolidated accounts. The other information consists of the Foreword (pages 4–5), the Sustainability Report (pages 45–64) and the Operational Report (pages 6–44). The Board and the Secretary General are responsible for this other information.

Our opinion on the annual accounts and consolidated accounts does not cover this other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion regarding this other information.

In connection with our audit of the annual accounts and consolidated accounts, our responsibility is to read the information identified above and consider whether the information is materially inconsistent with the annual accounts and consolidated accounts. In this procedure we also take into account our knowledge otherwise obtained in the audit and assess whether the information otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If we, based on the work performed concerning this information, conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Board and the Secretary General

The Board and the Secretary General are responsible for the preparation of the annual accounts and consolidated accounts and that they give a fair presentation in accordance with the Annual Accounts Act. The Board and the Secretary General are also responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the

preparation of annual accounts and consolidated accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the annual accounts and consolidated accounts, the Board and the Secretary General are responsible for the assessment of the association's ability to continue as a going concern. They disclose, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting. The going concern basis of accounting is however not applied if the Board and the Secretary General intend to liquidate the association, to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The authorised public accountant's responsibility

I have executed the audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA) and generally accepted auditing practice in Sweden. My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the annual accounts and consolidated accounts as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs and generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these annual accounts and consolidated accounts.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the annual accounts and consolidated accounts, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinions. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of the association's internal control relevant to my audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board and the Secretary General.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Board and the Secretary General's use of the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual accounts and consolidated accounts. I also draw a conclusion, based on the audit evidence obtained, as to whether any material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the association's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the annual accounts and consolidated accounts or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion about the annual accounts and consolidated accounts. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report.

However, future events or conditions may cause an association to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the annual accounts and consolidated accounts, including the disclosures, and whether the annual accounts and consolidated accounts represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient and appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the group to express an opinion on the consolidated accounts.

I must inform the Board of, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit. I must also inform of significant audit findings during my audit, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identified.

The elected representative auditor's responsibility

My responsibility is to execute an audit according to the Swedish Auditing Act and generally accepted auditing practice in Sweden. My objective is to achieve a reasonable degree of assurance as to whether the annual accounts and consolidated accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Annual Accounts Act and present fairly the results and position of the parent association and group.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

Opinions

In addition to our audit of the annual accounts and consolidated accounts, we have also audited the administration of Save the Children Sweden's national association for the year 2021.

We recommend to the General Assembly that the members of the Board be discharged from liability for the financial year.

Basis for opinions

We conducted the audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities* section. We are independent of the parent association and the group in accordance with professional ethics for accountants in Sweden. As an authorised public accountant, I have otherwise fulfilled my ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinions.

Responsibilities of the Board

The Board is responsible for the administration.

Auditor's responsibilities

Our objective concerning the audit of the administration, and thereby our opinion about discharge from liability, is to obtain audit evidence to assess with a reasonable degree of assurance whether any member of the Board in any material respect has undertaken any action or been guilty of any omission which can give rise to liability to the association.

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Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden will always detect actions or omissions that can give rise to liability to the association.

As part of an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden, the authorised public accountant exercises professional judgment and maintains professional scepticism throughout the audit. The examination of the administration is based primarily on the audit of the accounts. Additional audit procedures performed are based on the authorised public accountant's professional judgement and the judgement of other selected auditors with the starting point in risk and materiality. This means that we focus the examination on such actions, areas and relationships that are material for the operations and where deviations and violations would have particular importance for the association's situation. We examine and test decisions undertaken, support for decisions, actions taken and other circumstances that are relevant to our opinion concerning discharge from liability.

Stockholm, the date shown by our electronic signatures

Erik Albenius

Authorised public accountant

Gay Ljungberg

Save the Children Sweden Annual Report 2021

Auditor's opinion on the sustainability report

Auditor's opinion on the statutory sustainability report

To the General Assembly of Save the Children Sweden's national association, corporate identity number 802002-8638

Engagement and responsibility

It is the Board that is responsible for the sustainability report for the year 2021 on pages 45–64 and for ensuring that it has been prepared in accordance with the Annual Accounts Act.

The scope of the examination

My examination has been conducted in accordance with FAR recommendation RevR 12 *The auditor's opinion regarding the statutory sustainability*. This means that my examination of the sustainability report is different and substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing and generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. I believe that the examination has provided me with sufficient basis for my opinion.

Opinion

A sustainability report has been prepared.

Stockholm, the date shown by my electronic signatures

Erik Albenius

Authorised public accountant