



# Social Responsibility in Action: Supporting Children's Rights with SOS CV

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Anna-Maija Aguilera-Pesä

Head of International Work

SOS-Children Villages Finland

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# Who we are

We are the world's largest organization focused on ensuring that children and young people without parental care or at risk of losing it grow up with care, relationship and support they need to become their strongest self.



# Why we are here



**1 billion children** experience neglect, physical, sexual or emotional violence every year<sup>1</sup>

Every year the number of children in need **is on the rise** due to the impact of poverty, geo-political conflicts and natural disasters.



An estimated **333 million children** worldwide are living in extreme poverty<sup>2</sup>



**15 million children** have lost both of their parents<sup>3</sup>

**138 million children** in child labour

Estimated **251 million children** are out of school



<sup>1</sup> World Health Organization (June 2020), [Factsheet](#).

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.unicef.org/social-policy/child-poverty>.

<sup>3</sup> UNICEF (2016). The State of the World's Children 2016. A fair chance for every child.

<sup>4</sup> [Imperial College London](#).

# SOS CV International operates in 136 countries around the world

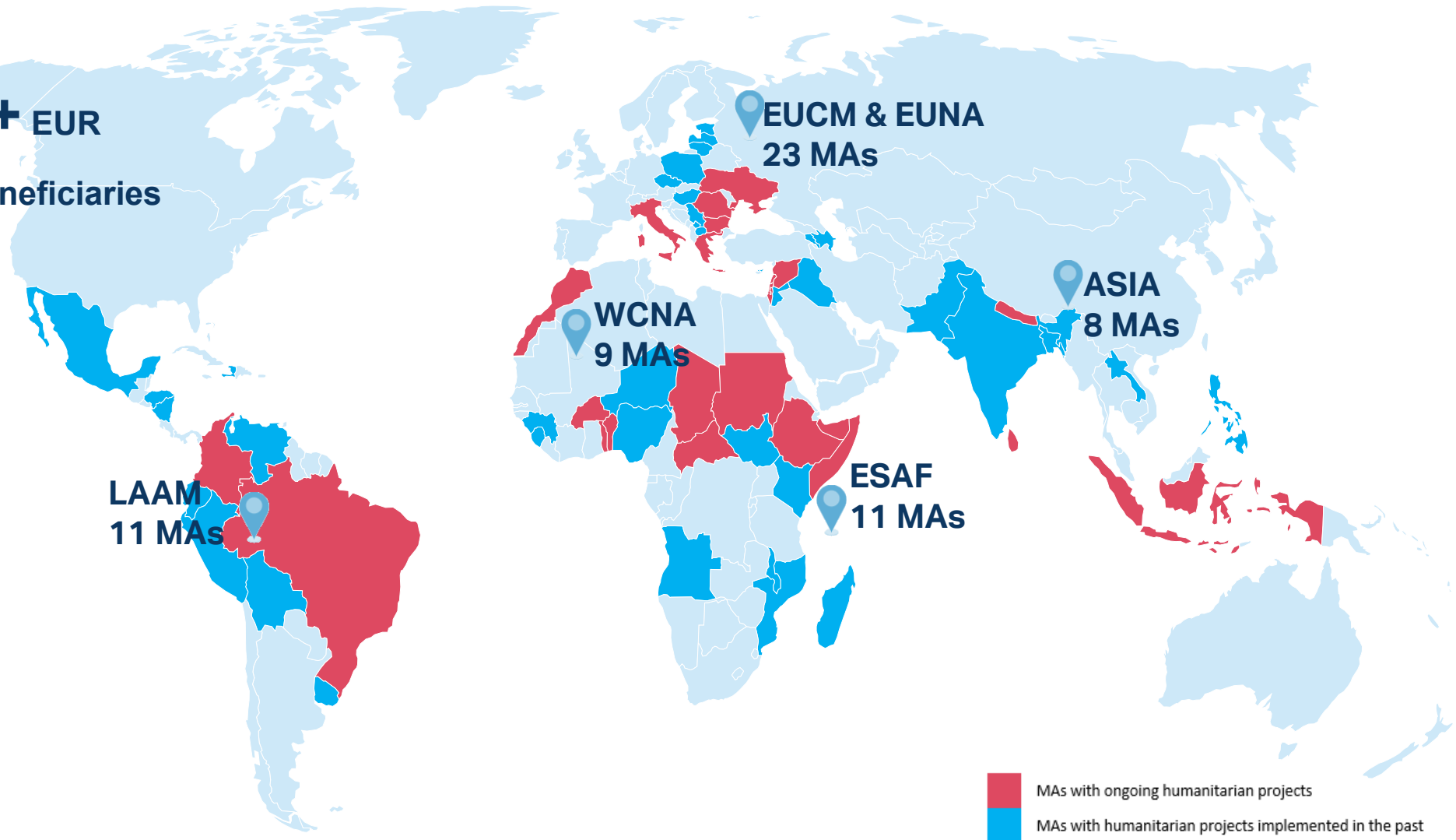


Founded in Austria in 1949.

In Finland since 1962.

# Overview of our humanitarian work

**200 M+ EUR**  
**2 M+ beneficiaries**





# Humanitarian crisis are always child protection crisis

*We respond to the urgent needs of children and families in times of conflict, natural disaster or mass displacement. As in all our programmes, our focus is on caring for children, protecting their rights and keeping families together – but in a crisis context.*

## Our Impact:

In 2024, the number of children in need of humanitarian assistance worldwide rose by 20%.<sup>1</sup> We have a total of **101 humanitarian project in 33 countries**, including: conflict in Sudan, war in Gaza and Ukraine. Of the **2,26 million people** we reached through humanitarian action, **57%** were children under the age of 18.

## Our principles:

SOS Children's Villages provides humanitarian assistance in accordance with international humanitarian law and the Humanitarian Imperative. Our conduct is guided by the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence. We hold a [Humanitarian Partnership Certificate](#) with DG ECHO, are an official member of the [Core Humanitarian Standards \(CHS\) Alliance](#) and have been [CHS certified](#) by the Humanitarian Quality Assurance Initiative (HQA).

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.savethechildren.net/news/new-analysis-afghanistan-tops-list-7-countries-where-children-were-most-need-2022>



# SOS CV International's global impact in 2024



- **63,300** children and young people received a safe home in SOS Children's Villages, youth homes, and foster families.
- **526,400** children and adults supported through family strengthening programmes.



- **1,050,300** children and young people educated in SOS kindergartens, schools, and vocational centres.



- **2,268,200** people received emergency aid through 32 relief programmes.
- **113,100** people received care from SOS health centres.

In 2024, SOS Children's Villages supported around 4 million children and families worldwide



# International Work at SOS Children's Villages Finland



## **WORLDWIDE CHILD SPONSORSHIP**

Donations through Finland's Child Sponsorship support children globally around the world.



## **HUMANITARIAN AID**

Support to SOS CV International's humanitarian aid programmes, where the need is most urgent.



## **INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES**

Projects with MFA and corporate support in Africa & Asia. Strengthen local communities, train parents, promote youth employment, support children's rights.



## **ADVOCACY WORK**

Actively promote the rights of most vulnerable children in the world.



# Our Global Programme Work in Finland

- **Global reach through SOS CV federation membership**  
Strong networks and shared expertise enable impactful programmes.
- **Where we work**  
Tanzania, Ethiopia, Gambia, India – with a growing project portfolio.
- **What we focus on**  
Ending poverty  
Advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)  
Ensuring access to quality education  
Promoting equality
- **How we work**  
Sustainable development – long-term change, not quick fixes.  
Locally driven solutions shaped by communities' needs.  
Rights-based approach – children's rights at the centre.  
Risk-aware & results-oriented – measurable impact for children and families



# We work with the SDGs





# And with our work we contribute to..



# SDG 3: Increasing SRHR Awareness



## Problem

Lack of knowledge about sexual and reproductive health and difficulties accessing services.

## Impact

Health risks, such as STIs and unintended pregnancies, which in turn can affect personal and family livelihoods.

## Proposed solutions

Implement SRHR education and provide training and employment opportunities for young mothers and improve health care services





Examples of our impact in

# Tanzania

## Breaking cycles of poverty

- 600 young mothers in Iringa trained in skills and employment pathways.
- Today, 53% are already self-sufficient – with nearly 100% expected by project end.

## Educating youth, preventing risks

- 17,800+ young people trained on SRHR in schools.
- Teenage pregnancies have dropped by ~70% since the project began.

## Lasting impact

- Young mothers become role models for their children and communities.
- Schools are safer spaces where young people can learn and thrive.



# SDG 4: Child's right to quality education

8 DECENT WORK AND  
ECONOMIC GROWTH



4 QUALITY  
EDUCATION



1 NO  
POVERTY



Problem

Children are forced to drop out of school to support their families financially

Impact

Cycle of intergenerational poverty continues, when children do not receive an education.

Proposed solution

Enable children to attend school. Increase employers' and childrens' awareness of children's right to quality education



# Ethiopia- Education transforms lives

## Children learning

- **1,500 vulnerable children** supported to stay in school
- Dropout rate reduced to **almost 0%**
- **2,250 children** received remedial lessons

## Parents empowered

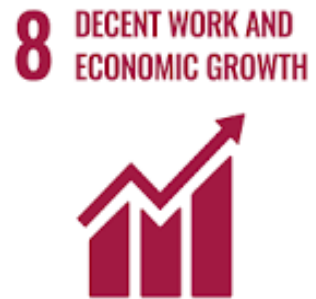
- **300 parents** trained in positive parenting and children's rights
- **53% trained in entrepreneurship** – many started small businesses

## Schools improved

- Infrastructure upgraded to ensure **safe and accessible learning**
- Children now study in an environment where they can **thrive**



# SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth for young women.



Problem

Impact

Proposed solution

Poor working conditions and limited opportunities for young women

Gender roles and discrimination lead to discrimination and exploitation, leaving young women in vulnerable position.

Education services, skills development and increased awareness of career opportunities



# Empowering young women for a brighter future in the Gambia

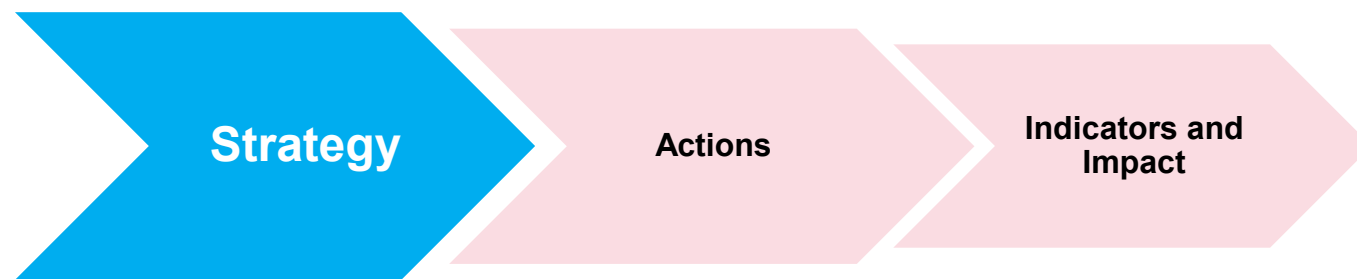
- **550 young people in vulnerable situations** supported – majority girls and young women – to access education and employment.
- **75% of participants** received training that enables them to sustain themselves in the future.
- **38% of participants** are now small entrepreneurs – some accessed funding with project support.
- **14 resource centres established** – offering IT skills, CV writing, and job application support.
- **7,000 young people, mostly women and girls** have already benefited from these centres.





# From SDG goals to action and reporting

SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT **GOALS**



Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)

# How we partner





# Ways to collaborate

- We tailor each of our partnerships to support the interests of each partner in order to create co-operations that tangibly improve the lives of vulnerable children and families.
- We form strategic partnerships that contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, putting children and young people at the centre of all our actions.
- We help partners deliver impact and support the business's brand, values, goals and people.

01

## Financial support and donations

- Scale up proven, existing programmes in education, family strengthening, and youth employment.
- Donate to Humanitarian response

02

## Employee Engagement

- Staff volunteering, mentoring, or fundraising campaigns.

03

## Knowledge and experience sharing

- Companies contribute skills in areas like digitalization, entrepreneurship etc.
- Corporate know-how helps build local capacity and ensure sustainable results

04

## Strategic partnerships

Co-create innovative solutions that align business goals with children's rights and SDGs.





# The benefits of partnering with us



## **Enhance your company's sustainability journey**

access evidence-based insights, and practical tools to embed children's rights into your business operations and reporting.



**You create lasting positive impact** in the lives of children and contribute to UN Sustainable Development Goals



**Strengthen your reputation and leadership position** by partnering with a respected and global organization with offices in 136 countries.



**Motivate and involve employees and customers**, creating opportunities for them to contribute and grow through meaningful engagement.

# — Every partnership is unique and shaped together



Looking forward to hearing your thoughts and feedback!