



Acting for Change International

2022

Annual Report



Table of contents



Overview	1
Note from our founder	2
Thank you	3
Our Mission	4
Our Syria-Türkiye Office	5
Our Centre in Zaatari Village	7
The Art and Mural Project	10
Remote Work Webinar	12
Our Team	13
Financial Overview	14





Our impact in 2022

655

hours of teaching

121

Children received classes

39

Families received food staples

5

local teacher employed

Note from our founder



As I review our work from last year, I am filled with an overwhelming sense of pride and gratitude. I am immensely proud of our exceptional team, whose unwavering dedication is propelling Acting for Change International to new heights. Their tireless efforts have paved the way for our organisation's continuous growth and the positive impact we are making in the places where we work.

However, we would not be where we are today without the invaluable support of our partners. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of them for standing by our side, constancy in their commitment to our cause. Their belief in our projects and support has been instrumental in our ability to extend assistance to those most vulnerable.

Acting for Change international stands deeply committed to fostering meaningful change and alleviating the hardships faced by individuals across the globe. In Jordan, Türkiye, and Syria, our projects have had a profound impact on the lives of countless individuals. Through our collaborative efforts, we have provided essential aid, and opportunities for growth to those who have been displaced and affected by conflict. Together, we are breaking down barriers, transcending boundaries, and extending a lifeline of hope to those who need it the most.

As we move forward, let us continue to amplify our collective voice, ignite compassion, and catalyse change. Let us strive to create a world where no one is left behind, where every individual has access to the opportunities they deserve. Together, we have the power to transform lives, shape futures, and build a more inclusive and equitable world.

To our remarkable team and our invaluable partners, I offer my deepest appreciation. Your support and relentless efforts serve as a source of inspiration for all of us. Let us forge ahead, united in our mission, as we create a legacy of compassion and impact that will endure for generations to come.

Thank you.

Kotaiba Alabdullah



Thank you



REFUG
EASE

We would like to thank our partner RefugEase for their continuous financial and organisational support throughout 2022.

RefugEase is a UK-based registered charity that is dedicated to helping refugees who are fleeing war and conflict.

www.refugease.org

We would like to thank our partner design for good for running the Art and Mural Project at our centre in Zaatari and their organisational support throughout 2022.

Design for Good is a collaborative platform seeking design solutions to humanitarian issues.

www.design-forgood.org



We would also like to thank everyone who supported us during 2022, whether it was volunteering on ground, giving organisational advice, donating or expressing their support.

Our work would not have been possible without you.

Our Mission



At Acting for Change International, we firmly believe that all people have the right to decent living conditions and opportunities and we work to address important gaps in humanitarian and development assistance.

- Empowering refugees and the host community in a holistic way
- Providing children and youth with education and opportunity
- Building capacity, to build resilience
- Providing aid to meet basic needs

Our vision is a world where all individuals, regardless of their circumstances, have access to education and the resources needed to achieve their full potential. We strive to create a future where every child can go to school and learn without the worry of hunger or illness, where every family can access the basic necessities of life, and where every community can thrive through self-sufficiency and sustainable development. By providing education, community development and aid support, we aim to empower individuals and communities to break the cycle of poverty and build a brighter future for themselves and their children.



Our Syria-Türkiye Office



In February 2022, AfCI opened its new office in Gaziantep, Türkiye to support refugee families living in informal settlements in the Turkish-Syrian border region. We also obtained the permission to cross the humanitarian corridor and deliver aid to northern Syria. The team on the ground consists of volunteers who are Syrian refugees themselves. They know the situation well and have developed close ties with the affected communities. In the first step, we aimed to provide humanitarian support to 100 families in Syria and 50 families in Türkiye.

Due to funding difficulties we had to stop further operations after our Ramadan fundraising campaign.



The war in Syria has caused immense human suffering throughout the last 12 years. While the attention has shifted to other crises around the world, millions of Syrian refugees still struggle to meet their basic needs. UNHCR estimates that 14.6 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance, in neighbouring countries as well as in Syria itself.

Our Syria-Türkiye Office



Thank you
for donating
£500!

Our Ramadan Fundraiser

Throughout the month of Ramadan, we organised a fundraiser to purchase food packages for families in need. Our team on the ground purchased essential and durable food items such as sugar, rice, cooking oil and lentils at the local markets.

At the beginning of May, they prepared the packages and delivered them straight to the families' houses. Thanks to the donations to our fundraiser and some additional donations, we were able to deliver big bags full of staples to 39 families.

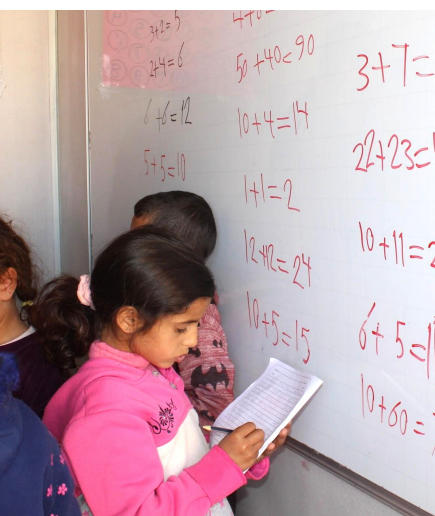


Our Centre in Zaatari Village



In 2022, our literacy centre in Zaatari Village remained the main focus of our actions. The formal education in Zaatari Village operates in a dual shift whereby the Jordanian students attend school in the morning and the younger Syrian children attend for several hours in the afternoons. Our centre aims to facilitate the integration of students into the government school and to cover the years of education missed as a result of the Syrian conflict. Furthermore, the centre creates a positive educational environment where the students are free to express themselves and pursue their interests. Many of the students were able to bridge their previous educational gaps in 2022.

At our centre, we provide Arabic, Maths and English classes as well as sciences and social studies. The students learn how to read and write both Arabic and Latin letters using age-appropriate teaching methods. All classes are taught by local teachers from Zaatari Village, coordinated and monitored by a head teacher. Most teachers have been with us for multiple years and know the students and their families well.



Our Centre in Zaatari Village



After our usual semester break in January, we restarted our classes at our centre at the beginning of February. There was no further disruption of operations of the centre due to Covid-19 in 2022 and we ran two full semesters with in-person classes. Thanks to the generous increase of our funding from our donor RefugEase, we were able to open the centre five days a week instead of three, thus increasing the hours of teaching. In 2022, we taught a total of 655 hours to an average of 95 students.

We met with a number of student's parents to educate them about the importance of education and to strengthen the link between the centre and the parents. Our support from the community and the parents remains strong.



Leave no one behind

In May, our amazing volunteer from last year, Hannah Owens came back to the centre to shoot four short films which will contribute to a film mosaic about the Leave No One Behind Agenda (LNOB). LNOB is the central, transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Based on four families in Zaatari Village, the short films showcase a different perspective on urban refugees, architecture and displacement narratives. The Film Mosaic aims at documenting solutions to different forms of discrimination, creating an understanding of the diversity of the reality in which the LNOB agenda must be resolved, and generating new knowledge and insight about architectural designs that promote the fight against inequality.

We will enter these films into a film competition at the Copenhagen Architecture festival in 2023. Fingers crossed!



Our Centre in Zaatari Village



After our summer break, we were overwhelmed by the number of students that came to register for the next semester in September. We had more than 120 students joining us which meant we needed to adapt the classes to take in more students of different levels. Overall, the process went smoothly and the new students settled in well. Yet, accommodating more than 100 students remains a challenge to due to the size of the classrooms.

In December, we had a visit to the centre from psychology students and their professor from the Jordan University of Science and Technology. The university students held a workshop with our students to raise awareness of the effects of bullying.

The semester ended shortly after with the final exams in all subjects.



The Art and Mural Project



In February, Iulia Cistelean, a London-based humanitarian architectural designer working with displaced communities and founder of design for good, came to our centre. She was awarded the Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship and travelled through the Middle East in the spring of 2022. Her research project “Life Between Shelters” aims to define the role architecture plays in the context of refugee camps and transitional spaces. We assisted her in interviewing families in Zaatari and visiting their houses to investigate the informal practice of refugee-led responses to displacement.



Collective Art Workshops

As part of her project, Iulia held a workshop at our centre during which the students explored the concept of 'home' and 'happiness' through art. Creating art is a great way for our students to express their feelings and for us to understand how they visualise these two very important feelings. The art workshops were organised in four groups by age and involved also teachers and the local community.

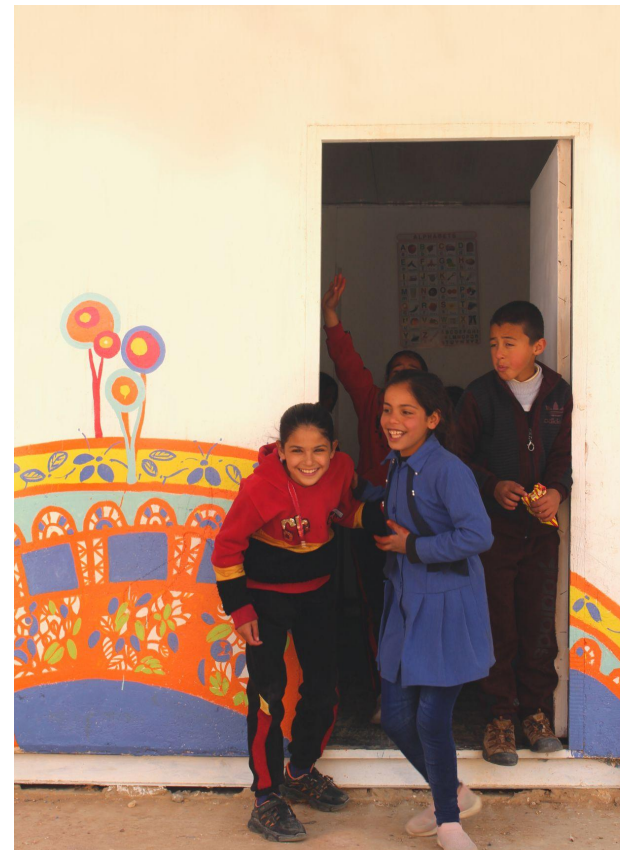


The Art and Mural Project



Collective Mural Design

After the art workshops, we painted the key elements of the workshops as a mural on the caravans. The mural included the students' art visualising the themes of home, identity and happiness resulting in an organic and playful landscape of colour. The changing nature of the landscape aims to visualise the children's journey and transition to a new identity. Elements associated with the concept of belonging such as housing typologies, flowers, trees, vehicles and play installations fill the caravan walls, enhancing a familiar and safe environment. The mural was designed under the height of 1.2m to enable students of all ages to contribute.



Remote Work Webinar



In November, we organised a webinar on remote working possibilities for refugees and underprivileged communities. We partnered with NiyA and The Launchpad Collective, two UK-based organisations who specialise in training and connecting refugees with possible employers. The webinar covered how to access free online training in the tech and data field, how to connect with companies and a success story of a former participant. Thanks to our network in the Middle East and Türkiye, we were able to reach out to and register more than 80 participants.

The webinar was well received by the participants and the follow-up survey showed only positive feedback. It also showed that there is a high demand of job-trainings and work opportunities for refugees and other underprivileged groups. Most participants were actively searching for jobs and expressed interests in trainings and remote working.

A FREE Online Talk

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR WORK FROM HOME?

Join us to learn about a career in tech/data!

Banu
Community Lead

Sarah
DevOps Engineer

Osama
Technology Consultant

28 NOVEMBER 2022, 9 PM (Jordan and Turkey)
REGISTER HERE: [BIT.LY/TLCWORKINTECH](https://bit.ly/tlcworkintech)

the launchpad collective
Working Together. For Dignity

NiYA

the launchpad collective
Working Together. For Dignity

We would like to thank NiyA and The Launchpad Collective for organising this event and all the great work they are doing to help refugees build a better future for themselves. Visit their websites below to learn more about their work and how then can help you if you are looking for work or to employ refugees.



www.niya.ai



www.wearetlc.org.uk

Our Team



The AFCI team works on the ground in Zaatari Village and remotely. Our operations in Syria / Türkiye are run by volunteers.

Kotaiba Alabdullah
Founder



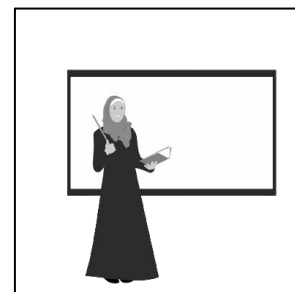
Anna Prescott
Founder

Ali Okab Allom
Director AFCI Jordan



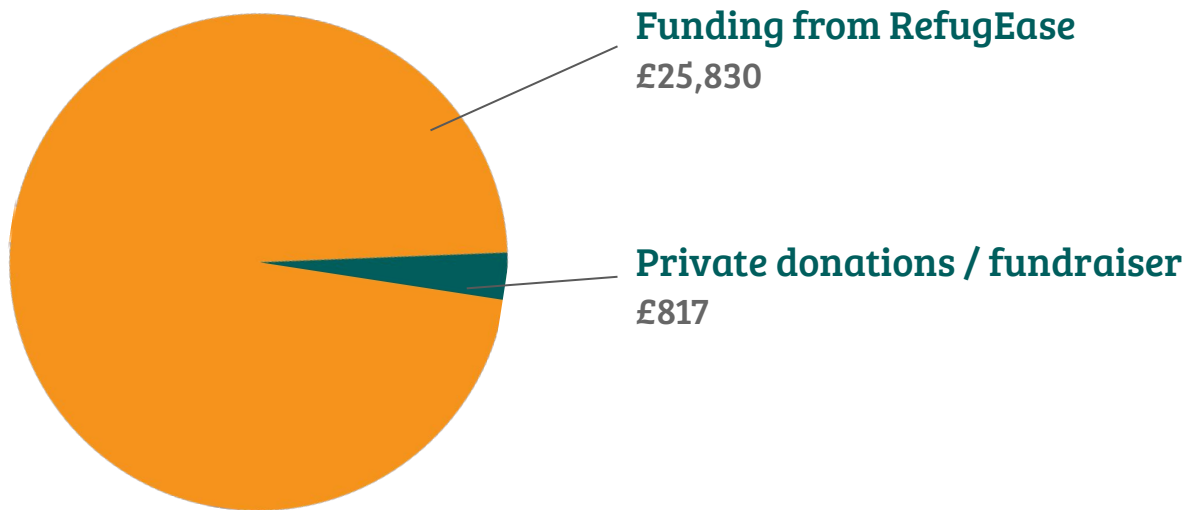
Lena Hoffmeister
Partnerships and Communication Officer

Five local teachers



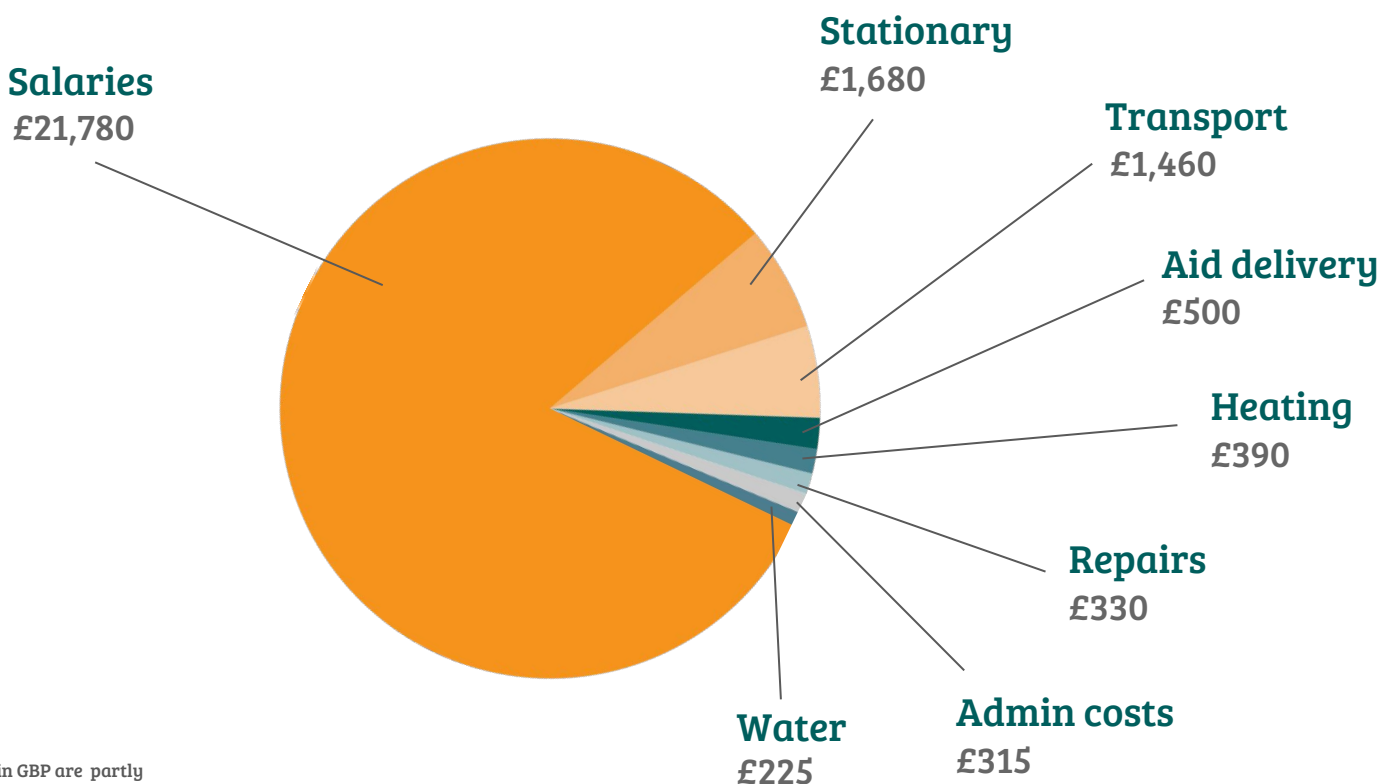


Total Income



The amounts in GBP are partly calculated based on the average exchange rate from JOD to GBP in 2022.

Total Expenses



The amounts in GBP are partly calculated based on the average exchange rate from JOD to GBP in 2022.



www.actingforchangeinternational.org



If you have any questions regarding this report or our work,
please contact us at
supportus@actingforchangeinternational.org

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