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OUR VISION
GOAL believes in a world where poverty no longer exists, where vulnerable communities are resilient, where barriers to wellbeing are removed and where everyone has equal rights and opportunities.

OUR MISSION
GOAL works with the most vulnerable communities to help them respond to and recover from humanitarian crises, and to assist them in building transcendent solutions to mitigate poverty and vulnerability.

OUR VALUES

HUMANITARIANISM:
We believe in the essential dignity and respect of all human beings and in serving, supporting and advocating on behalf of marginalized people and those affected by poverty, crises and exclusion.

COURAGE:
We believe in standing with the communities we serve, listening, and taking the necessary risks, appropriately assessed, in order to respond effectively to people's needs.

INCLUSIVENESS:
We listen and believe in the power of collaboration to effect change in people's lives. We are welcoming and embrace diversity. We are committed to a culture of inclusion, cooperation and offer respect for everybody in our words and actions.

PARTNERSHIP:
We believe that GOAL's work is optimized when we work in partnership with communities, local civil society partners, peers, governments, donors and both the public and private sectors.

TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY:
Our actions and relationships with our stakeholders are characterized by honesty and openness in all our dealings. We hold ourselves and each other accountable and to operate to the highest professional and ethical standards.

HOW WE WORK
GOAL’s Theory of Change
If we engage communities, build on their inherent capacities and strengthen the systems in which they live and work, then poor and vulnerable households will achieve greater resilience and wellbeing.
2022 Global Reach 14,600,000

Ethiopia 3,669,000
Sudan 2,705,000
Sierra Leone 2,473,000
Syria 2,164,000
Zimbabwe 1,948,000
South Sudan 995,000
Uganda 234,000
Niger 150,000
Honduras 130,000
Haiti 60,000
Ireland 32,000
Türkiye 32,000
Ukraine 14,000
Colombia 9,000
A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

It's my great honor to present this record of GOAL's impact in 2022, my first opportunity to do so as Chair of GOAL USA. When I joined early in the year, it was not a decision I made lightly. Growing up in Ireland, I was certainly aware of GOAL, its work around the world, and its grassroots reach through campaigns such as the GOAL Mile and Jersey Day.

I would emigrate to the US as a teenager, attend university here, and embark on a professional journey that began in the trenches of telecoms sales and has taken me to heights I never imagined as founder of IEX, which is built to bring fairness and efficiency to equities trading through better, smarter technology.

In 2022, GOAL USA rolled out a new, ambitious, global strategy, titled ‘From Crisis to Resilience.’ It’s based on the belief that when the inherent capacities of the people we work with are developed, the systems in which they live and work are strengthened, resulting in a shift toward lasting resilience for people and communities. Human-to-human engagement is an essential part of the effort, as is addressing some of the world’s hardest problems at the systems level.

GOAL is of course rooted in Ireland, which is fundamental to its humanitarian spirit. Its impulse to innovate is bold, not at all reckless, built on evidence and hard-earned experience. Its commitment to transparency, accountability, and respect for all has built bonds of trust that are equally strong in the most remote and neglected communities, among its community of loyal donors, governments from the US to Ireland to the EU, its staff and volunteers, and the remarkably accomplished members of its boards.

Its impact is lasting and undeniable, touching millions of lives—which by the end of this report, will be obvious. In the last year alone, GOAL directly reached 14 million people across 14 countries. The stories and data we share here made my decision to join GOAL USA an easy one. I trust that they will make your decision to support—or continue to support—as easy.

In 2022, GOAL USA’s growing board of teams, and communities. I considered a leadership role on GOAL USA’s growing board through that lens, and in the end, it was not a hard decision.

I have learned many valuable and indelible lessons over the last nearly three decades, not only as a founder, but also as a member of teams, and communities. I considered a leadership role on GOAL USA’s growing board through that lens, and in the end, it was not a hard decision.

Though we report here on our impact in 2022, we must acknowledge a tragedy that unfolded in 2023. On February 6th, in the middle of the night as families slept, a massive earthquake struck Southern Türkiye and Northwest Syria. 46,000 people lost their lives that night, across 400 kms of destruction, tens of thousands were injured, and thousands more were made homeless. The disaster was also a profoundly personal one for GOAL, as 32 of our colleagues, who had served their communities with compassion and dedication, lost their lives, many of them perishing with their families. The trauma is immeasurable. Their memories will live on for decades to come, inspiring thousands of colleagues to push forward, even on the hardest of days.

To our courageous staff and volunteers; to my fellow Board members; to our private sector partners; to our donors and supporters at all levels, and especially those community members in the countries where we work, whose trust, effort, and knowledge empower our work: thank you.

Sincerely,

Ronan Ryan
Chairperson, GOAL USA
A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

2022 marked another year of crisis, conflict, displacement, and in some cases, extreme hunger, across the Global South. Indeed, at times, the year has been characterized by a deadly mix of crises, each as complex and convulsing as the next.

Barely had we stepped out into the post-COVID world when we were plunged into a fresh humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. As tanks and trains rolled in, heartbreaking scenes that revived age-old trauma across continental Europe were broadcast across the world. GOAL was on the ground within days of the initial invasion, tending to the needs of those displaced by the violence with the core essentials of water, food, clothing, hygiene items, cooking utensils, and temporary shelter. Thereafter, GOAL pivoted to offer psycho-social support, legal support and worked with a variety of city councils to adapt buildings for temporary habitation, while also delivering vital heaters and power generators to key sites.

Now again, at the time of finalizing the report, our attention is drawn to a disastrous power struggle engulfing Sudan, with hundreds of thousands of civilians sent fleeing and millions more hunkered down, amid violence, looting and lawlessness. Sudan’s fragile health system is reportedly collapsing, and food insecurity is rising in a country where 16 million people rely on humanitarian intervention. GOAL has over 250 local personnel in Sudan, whose safety and security are our top priority, while all international staff have been evacuated.

Thanks to the courage of our personnel, GOAL is continuing to deliver existing humanitarian aid program in North Darfur and South Kordofan.

The developments in Sudan compound an already deeply worrisome context in East Africa, with large parts of Ethiopia, Uganda, South Sudan, and Sudan experiencing five consecutive failed rainy seasons, with drought conditions the worst in 20 years. The UN confirmed that 82 million people are food insecure, with 7.2 million children in the region declared acutely malnourished. All of this amid steep inflation in food prices and agricultural inputs.

East Africa and Ukraine are just the most striking examples of darkening humanitarian trends in our work. 2022 marked the year in which we surpassed the grim milestone of over 100 million people displaced, driven from their homes at either the point of a gun, the path of a storm, or the paucity of their soil. Approximately half of all child deaths in 2022 were caused by malnutrition, while the number of women who have experienced physical or sexual violence in their lifetime surpassed one in three. It is clear the catena of conflict and climate change continue to wreak havoc across the Global South, with many of the assumed humanitarian advances now in retreat.

All the while, the important work of operationalizing our new Strategy 2025, titled, From Crisis to Resilience is underway.

The approach focuses on strengthening local capacities by stabilizing and supporting local systems, as communities move from crisis, to survival, and ultimately onto greater resilience. It is grounded in the reality of what our communities face, while relying on years of GOAL experience operating in complex and fragile environments. This strategy, the product of countless hours of input from people and functions across GOAL, represents how, where, with what, and with whom GOAL can have the most impact in carrying out its mission.

The compilation of our 2022 Annual Report, has also given us time to reflect on the devastating consequences of the catastrophic earthquake which struck Southern Turkiye and Northwest Syria early on the morning of Mon 6th February 2023. As a result of the earthquake, it is estimated that up to 19M people were displaced in the 11 affected provinces in Southern Turkiye and up to 55,000 families who were already displaced because of the ongoing conflict in Northwest Syria were displaced again. GOAL teams have been working in Southern Turkiye since 2016 and in Northwest Syria since 2021, numbering 1,200 staff in all. Within hours of the earthquake, these teams, who were all experiencing their own intense personal trauma were on the ground, helping to rescue their fellow citizens from the rubble and delivering life-saving aid. But these regions were already extremely fragile.

The complexity and severity of this crisis therefore cannot be overstated, and it will take years to rebuild these communities.

Despite the profound challenges of this work, there is also much to be hopeful and grateful for. In 2022, GOAL reached 14.6 million people directly, either through emergency response, through a health clinic, through a supported livelihood or other intervention. GOAL piloted an integrated food security and health program in Niger, titled: Systems for Nutrition (S4NUT) which achieved a 40% increase in household food security.

In Uganda, GOAL’s water supply programming saw the rollout of an affordable metering scheme with a 95% approval rating within communities. This sustainable model in rural Uganda offers a promising solution to the notorious challenge of rural water supply maintenance in developing countries.

Meanwhile, in Latin America, our Blue Economy work, which supports the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth and improved livelihoods, while preserving the health of the ocean ecosystems, continues to grow in strength. In GOAL, we believe that sustainable fisheries, a growing aquaculture sector and ultimately thriving Blue Economy can be part of a solution to ending hunger.

Finally, to GOAL’s own: From our colleagues in program operations across the globe and in all support operations teams, to our truly dedicated Board of Directors, to Advisory Board members, consultants, ambassadors, and volunteers, thank you profoundly for all that you do to ensure the mission of GOAL continues to be as strong as ever.

Sincerely yours,

Siobhán Walsh,
CEO, GOAL
When conflict broke out in Ukraine, GOALies were on the ground within days assessing the nature and magnitude of the crisis.

From June 2022, our response focused on the provision of counselling sessions and legal aid services in partnership with Right to Protection, across five oblasts.

As winter and freezing temperatures descended, our focus was on equipping shelters with generators and heaters.

In July, the hunger crisis worsened across East and Horn of Africa, leaving 23M people in need of humanitarian aid.

GOAL Teams were on the ground supporting stabilisation centres and providing medical aid, food baskets for families, basic sanitation, and shelter.

In July we called on the UNSC to vote to keep a vital border crossing between Northwest Syria and Türkiye open for another year to allow for lifesaving aid to reach millions in need.

GOAL is one of the primary NGOs responding to the rapidly escalating food insecurity and hunger crisis in Port-au-Prince’s gang controlled neighbourhoods. We are also scaling up our response to a highly threatening resurgence of cholera cases across Haiti.

GOAL Teams were in camps for IDPs working to prevent and treat malnutrition.

In July we called on the UNSC to vote to keep a vital border crossing between Northwest Syria and Türkiye open for another year to allow for lifesaving aid to reach millions in need.

The resolution was passed for six months only so we will need to advocate again in January 2023.

GOAL continued to respond to the Venezuelan migrant crisis in urban settlements with access to shelter and food, in addition to early warning and responses to landslides, floods, and other risks.

Up to transition, GOAL was focused on disaster risk reduction, WASH, nutrition, agricultural livelihoods and cash transfers across five districts in the Southern Region and in Dzaleka.

We established a community-based epidemic surveillance system and are reporting on cholera cases in communities that we have access to, and analysing water quality consumed by households.

Early identification was key to tracing EVD cases and engaging local communities.

Two targeted responses for families affected by flooding during 2022 hurricane season delivered cash assistance and livelihoods restoration.
In the past twenty years, we have experienced the collapse of the global financial system, a global pandemic, and significant shocks to the global food system alongside the ever-deepening impact of the climate and environmental crisis.

Humanitarian crises are increasing in number, magnitude, and complexity across the globe and a growing number of states and regions are characterized as even more fragile and conflict affected.

In our globalized interconnected world, shocks in one corner can ripple across the globe. They can often worsen crises elsewhere by triggering conflict, displacement, and spirals of regressive coping behaviors.

Crisis disproportionately affect those facing poverty and exclusion and threaten their lives, health and well-being, and lives. According to the International Committee of the Red Cross there are two billion people affected by fragility, conflict, or violence today and by 2030, half of these people will live in extreme poverty. Over 100 million people are displaced due to violence and conflict and an estimated 243 million people worldwide depend on some sort of humanitarian assistance.

The international community’s adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals in 2015 was a commitment to transform our world, recognizing the complex interaction between humanitarian, development and peace imperatives, and the universality of the challenges faced by our global family. While there has been important progress, the UN Secretary-General clearly states that the world is ‘tremendously off track’ to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. With the global pandemic, progress has stalled and, in some cases, sadly, decades of progress have been reversed.

The international community is increasingly recognizing that more must be done to move vulnerable populations exposed to disaster hazards, particularly those living in fragile, and conflict affected contexts, beyond humanitarian crisis and to achieve greater resilience. Key to this is strengthening local capacities by stabilizing and supporting local systems, as populations move from crisis to survival and onto greater resilience.

To meet these growing and complex challenges, a new way of responding to crises is required and this is the cornerstone of GOAL’s new strategy, titled From Crisis to Resilience. For GOAL, crises are defined as local systems being unable to respond or continue to function when confronted with risk events. GOAL works to deeply understand these shocks and stresses, including conflict, climate change, environmental degradation, rapid unplanned urbanization, weak or unstable governances, inequality, and forced displacement. These are some of the many risks that threaten the health, safety, security, and well-being of vulnerable communities.

**WHAT WE DO**

**FROM CRISIS TO RESILIENCE**
Conflict, instability, post-pandemic cost of living and climate change continued to create an unprecedented level of humanitarian need in 2022. Often spanning multiple geographies and generations, crises are becoming increasingly complex and protracted, with affected communities needing additional support for longer periods of time.

GOAL is an early responder to humanitarian crises, facilitating access to life-saving emergency relief, while partnering with protection experts to ensure we do no harm. Our emergency response function focuses on saving lives and alleviating human suffering, while prioritizing immediate needs such as food, water, shelter, cash, and other non-food items (NFIs).

Our response also sees GOAL reduce morbidity and mortality in humanitarian crises through the delivery of targeted health responses. In certain contexts, these initiatives may transition into more sustained and long-term programs where the focus shifts to the rehabilitation of local health, water, sanitation, food, and market systems.

In 2022, GOAL supported over 2.2 million people in eleven countries with emergency response and/or preparedness, including Colombia, Ethiopia, Haiti, Honduras, Niger, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Zimbabwe, and Ukraine.

The Climate Crisis

The climate crisis presents the single biggest threat to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. In 2022, a UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report indicated that the climate crisis will push an additional 120 million people into poverty by 2030. While climate change is expected to affect every country in the world, its impact is disproportionally felt in communities in which GOAL works – communities which have contributed least to this acute global problem.

The devastating impacts of climate change add to existing environmental, social, health, political and economic challenges. In fragile and conflict-affected communities, climate change is the ultimate ‘threat multiplier,’ heightening already existing vulnerabilities and risks to peace and security. This is true for many of the regions that GOAL operates in, especially East Africa.

In Southern and Eastern Ethiopia, a fifth consecutive failed rainy season is aggravating the most severe drought in recent history, further compromising the fragile livelihoods of almost 10 million people. Overall, the drought has affected 24.1 million people in Ethiopia, with 11.8 million requiring food assistance. Droughts are not new to East Africa. What is new, and unprecedented, is their frequency and severity. The lack of pasture, coupled with scarce access to water, resulted in the deaths of more than eight million livestock in southern and south-eastern Ethiopia in 2022.

Limited food availability in East Africa has led to increased migration as populations move in search of food and pasture. As of 2022, Ethiopia is home to over five million Internally Displaced People (IDPs). Pastoralism, the nomadic herding of animals, is a centuries-old way of life ideally suited to the region’s drylands. But even these resilient and adaptable communities have been unable to save millions of their livestock from dying.

Neither food insecurity nor drought necessarily leads to mass displacement, in part because famines are caused by a varying set of economic, political, and environmental factors. But recent evidence suggests that migration is more common when...
people are less able to adapt in place to changing environmental conditions, as is the case for many in agriculture-dependent, low-income, and politically unstable countries. This leads to an increase in inter-communal violence as populations compete for increasingly limited resources.

The knock-on effects of climate change have made East Africa less resilient to external shocks, and have compounded pre-existing humanitarian crises, resulting in an unprecedented hunger emergency. The rise in the cost of goods, and the subsequent rise in the cost of delivering programs in East Africa, has been a significant challenge.

In 2022, the GOAL Ethiopia team was working with limited resources. While the conflict raged on, public transportation ceased to function, means of communication were extremely limited and there was sporadic access to banking services. Like millions of people in the region at the time, GOAL staff and their families were struggling to survive.

Due to the ongoing conflict, fuel shortages meant that GOAL staff had to procure bicycles to attend cluster and implementation partner meetings, in addition to traveling to UN agency compounds to access the internet. Staff also used bicycles to deliver letters, travel to nearby IDP centers, and visit suppliers. During lulls in the conflict, GOAL staff even supported impacted communities by using donkeys and carts to transport humanitarian aid. Despite such difficult circumstances, GOAL’s team in Tigray was determined to continue their work by supporting local communities affected by the conflict. A peace deal was eventually brokered in November of 2022.

War in Ukraine

GOAL was previously operational in Eastern Ukraine from 2015 to 2017, assisting thousands of displaced people in the Donbas Region with food and financial assistance. We returned in March 2022, following the Russian invasion and scaled up our emergency response program directly and through local partners.

17.7 million people in Ukraine need humanitarian assistance. Over 15,000 civilian casualties have been reported since the start of the war and the estimated reconstruction cost is $207 billion. At the time of writing this Report, there are 3.4 million people internally displaced in Ukraine with an additionally eight million Ukrainian refugees in European countries.

GOAL teams responded to the Ukraine crisis within days, knowing that critical emergency response items would be to the fore, but also, that deeper, concomitant humanitarian issues were at play that demanded a dedicated and long-term response.

Violence in Haiti

In 2022, GOAL was the primary NGO responding to the rapidly escalating hunger crisis in Haiti’s capital, Port-au-Prince. GOAL engaged regularly with the UN Security Council over the course of eighteen months as heavily armed groups began to capitalize on the political instability in Haiti, following the assassination of the Haitian President, Jovenel Moise, in July 2021.

In October of 2022, the Ministry for Population and Public Health (MSPP) in Haiti officially announced a resurgence of cholera cases in the country. The last epidemic declared in 2010 killed more than 10,000 people and affected at least 800,000 before ending in 2019. The return of cholera is a major concern for Haiti in view of the significant levels of insecurity and civil unrest; the precarious situation of the health system, and the current lack of access to clean water for a large portion of the population. Daily protests, barricades, and the blocking of Haiti’s largest port and fuel stores have had a severe impact on public and private services, perhaps most notably on the capacity to provide potable water and sanitation services in the city of Port-au-Prince.

The severity of the civil unrest posed a significant challenge to delivering aid to conflict affected populations. In 2022, GOAL Syria analyzed its preparedness and response planning in case of non-renewal of the UN Security Council Resolution (SCR) 2642 in January 2023. The UN Security Council ultimately adopted a compromise resolution, extending the use of the Bab Al-Hawa border crossing for the delivery of humanitarian aid into Northwest Syria for six months until 10 July 2023, pending the adoption of another resolution.

The cyclical nature of drought and flooding continued to affect Northwest Syria in 2022. By the second week of December 2022, GOAL Syria reached approximately 41,500 households with winterization and flood responses totaling $6.2m.

Under GOAL’s emergency response program in Syria, we deploy multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) to assist vulnerable people, especially those living in camps, collective centers, and informal settlements, to enable them to
meet their basic winter needs and cope with harsh winter days, thus reducing reliance on negative coping strategies. GOAL also provided First Line Emergency Response (FLER) to communities affected by man-made crises and/or natural hazards (for example, displacements due to military escalation, flooding, and snowstorms). In 2022, GOAL Syria reached more than 900,000 people per month with emergency response measures.

**Colombia**

In 2022, GOAL continued responding to the Venezuelan migrant crisis with targeted interventions with host communities and migrant populations in informal urban settlements. Activities include improving access to shelter and food security, while also supporting improved social cohesion and assisting migrants with registration. GOAL also helped implement Early Warning and Response mechanisms – especially in areas where informal settlements are at risk from landslides, flooding, and other natural disasters. GOAL also undertook two targeted responses for families affected by flooding during the 2022 hurricane season with cash assistance and livelihood restoration. GOAL is in advanced discussions with USAID regarding further scaling of this response effort in Colombia.

**Venezuela**

A key ambition for GOAL in 2022 was making a strategic entry into Venezuela. In early 2022, GOAL worked with local partners to complete a large-scale assessment of humanitarian needs in Venezuela, including an analysis of the sectors and geography in which GOAL could add value to the overall response effort.

GOAL commenced its first response actions in Venezuela with nutrition and WASH responses for vulnerable families. If registration is successful, a further scale-up is expected in 2023. Across the LAC (Latin America and Caribbean) Region in 2022, GOAL continued to scale the Resilient and Inclusive Neighborhood Approach (RINA) which is now being implemented in eight cities.

RINA acknowledges the risks of rapid and unplanned urban expansion, and that we are now facing a global urban crisis where over a billion people are living in informal and precarious urban settlements. Such communities are marginalized from society and essential services, and are particularly vulnerable to extreme poverty, conflict, and the negative impacts of climate change. GOAL will continue the large-scale promotion of shock-responsive social protection systems in Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, and the Dominican Republic.

**Honduras**

In LAC, several humanitarian response actions were undertaken during 2022. In Honduras, this included concluding the first phase of the $20 million response to the major storm events that occurred in November 2021 and the impact of COVID-19. In addition, GOAL has responded (with the support of the InterAmerican Development Bank) to a large-scale landslide that impacted 400 families in Tegucigalpa. The landslide and Flood Early Warning and Response System (EWRs) supported by GOAL played a key role in protecting families from more severe impact.

**Haiti**

In Haiti, GOAL has shifted focus of its humanitarian response to include shelter repair, cash distribution, livelihood restoration, and the distribution of WASH supplies (in partnership with UNICEF). Given the severity of the civil unrest in Port-au-Prince, GOAL also began responding to a cholera outbreak in October of 2022 by distributing 520 cholera kits to vulnerable families and schools, facilitating Hygiene Promotion Campaigns, decontaminating the homes of people who had been in contact with cholera, establishing new public water and sanitation access points, and repairing and maintaining existing access points. GOAL Haiti also established a community-based epidemic surveillance system in which members of community-based organizations would report information on suspected and confirmed cholera cases in their communities to GOAL staff.

**Ukraine**

In February, the onset of the war in Ukraine prompted GOAL into quick and decisive action to meet the needs of communities affected by the conflict. GOAL responded with generous funding from public appeal funds and donors including Irish Aid, AIB, JP McManus Charitable Foundation, Electric Aid, and the Bryan Guinness Charitable Trust. Working in tandem with local structures and partners, GOAL immediately began tending to the needs of displaced people and, in partnership with the NGO Polish Humanitarian Action, organized the provision of essential items for survival, including hot meals, food packs, blankets, and other critical emergency items. As the perilous war continued to escalate, our response, in partnership with Ukrainian NGO, Right to Protection, prioritized Mental Health and Psychological Support Services (MHPSS), legal support and the provision of information on protection and ways in which to access critical social services.

**Niger**

In West Africa, the multi-sector humanitarian response by the Niger team expanded significantly throughout 2022. Starting in 2020 with some seed funding from Irish Aid, the GOAL Niger team added a refugee response component supporting Malian refugees in 2022, through both direct implementation and indirectly via a new national NGO, ADKOUL. There are currently 65,847 Malian refugees in Niger.

**Sierra Leone**

In 2022, GOAL responded to multiple small-scale settlements and affected communities throughout Sierra Leone, particularly related to community-based approaches to managing infectious disease outbreaks, such as Anthrax, EVD (Ebolavirus Disease), and Monkeypox. GOAL was one of the main actors that supported its Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MoHS) to control the EVD epidemic, treat those affected and save lives. Our response included infection prevention and control (IPC) in health facilities, the set-up and management of an Ebola Treatment Unit, Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE), as well as support for children who were separated from their parents due to quarantine.

**Communities affected by crises, overall, that consider their needs are met in a timely fashion**

91%

- **Sudan**: 86.4%
- **Syria**: 97.5%
- **Sierra Leone**: 99.8%
- **Honduras**: 98.1%

**Target population who report that they feel their community is well prepared to respond and recover in the event of a disaster**

81.5%

People affected by crises, including the most vulnerable groups, that consider their needs are met in a timely fashion

99.8%
Julia, aged 39 years, is from Mykolaivka, a small town in the Donetsk Oblast (province) of eastern Ukraine. She lived happily and peacefully with her family until conflict broke out in 2014.

“I lived in an apartment building which was damaged by the conflict in Donbas in 2014. When things started again in February, we were afraid that if more bombs would come, the building would not survive. We had no choice but continue to live there”.

While Julia got used to frequent shelling in the region, she had a close escape in May.

“I was working in the electricity plant when one afternoon my colleagues and I were suddenly told to prepare to go home mid-shift. On the way home, shells began to hit the ground around our bus. It was terrifying.”

Having shells land so near to her and then seeing her workplace on fire in the distance, Julia decided that this was the last straw and decided to leave. She managed to get home and told her mother, Kateryna (70), and daughter, Diana (18), to pack their things – they were leaving. She made the difficult journey west in an extremely uncertain time for her and her family, leaving their home and everything behind.

Challenging Living Conditions

“When we first arrived here in Lubny, we were put into a local school which was closed, as most were in the country at the time. There were 16 families there, and it was quite comfortable. More people kept coming, however, and then in September, when school began to start again, we were moved to older buildings on the grounds.”

She now lives with her daughter and mother in a small bedroom in old Soviet-era school buildings re-purposed as a temporary displacement center. Two small kitchens and bathrooms are shared by many families, who have to work together to ensure facilities are accessed equally.

Since November, residents have electricity for just two hours a day. To add to their discomfort, there is no warm water in the building. To shower, wash dishes or clothes, gas stoves are used to heat water.

The manager of the center, Galyna, a local woman from the town, works tirelessly to try to meet people’s needs. Unfortunately, resources are extremely limited as the war continues.

Over 6.5 million people have been displaced since the conflict in Ukraine broke out in February 2022. Some displaced families are able to rent houses in safer areas of the country, while others stay with relatives. Many, like Julia and her family, have nowhere else to go but displacement centers like in Lubny.

“It’s quite ok here,” Julia says, “and we are grateful for the support, but because of the lack of enough heating, it’s getting very cold in the building. We have mold growing on the walls, which is causing illnesses already. We’re afraid the living situation will get worse as it gets colder outside. It is just the start of winter and already it is too cold.”

Hope to Return Home

Julia would like to relocate her family to better accommodation but knows there are few alternatives at the moment.

“For now, we live here. I feel I should have nothing to complain about because we are at war and people are experiencing much worse than this. I am ready to endure these conditions until we win the war, when I can get back home, if that is ever going to be an option.”

“After shelter and meals, hygiene products have been a big support, as these can be costly. I am very thankful for any help people are giving until I can hopefully go home one day.”
In partnership with government, private sector, and community stakeholders, GOAL stabilizes and strengthens health systems at local and district levels in fragile and conflict-affected contexts. By supporting local health systems to become more resilient, they are better able to provide accessible, affordable, and accountable health and nutrition services to vulnerable populations who need it most.

Last year, our resilient health programs reached over 6.4 million people in 8 countries: Ethiopia, Honduras, Syria, Niger, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda. Globally, GOAL continued to focus on strengthening systems for the delivery of quality health, nutrition, and WASH (Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene) services through working with Ministries of Health (MoH) and other national and district institutions, as well as at the community level to address the gender, cultural, attitudinal, and other barriers that impede the ability of communities to care for their own well-being.

Early in the year, COVID-19 was still a significant challenge. Our focus is on maintaining Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) measures and supporting the uptake of COVID-19 vaccines including addressing misinformation which leads to vaccine hesitancy.

**IMPACT**

The Momentum Integrated Health Resilience (MIHR) global program is now into year three of five. Key achievements in 2022 include supporting ARC-D health assessments, ARC-D health assessment enable Analysis of Resilience of Communities to Disasters. Key achievement also included initial system mapping for R4S (Rural Resilience) in South Sudan and Niger, updating the general Guidance for Strengthening Health Resilience for the project, developing, and rolling out a Health Facility-level Emergency Preparedness and Response Planning tool, and developing a template to guide the development of country-level health resilience strategies.

GOAL is engaging the Harvard School of Public Health to review the MIHR health resilience framework and tools, to help improve and validate the work to date.

**Water-Share Ireland**

Water-Share Ireland is an alliance of Irish water sector stakeholders, who collaborate with GOAL to deliver sustainable water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) programs to vulnerable communities in developing countries. In 2022, Water-Share Ireland delivered a range of projects, including:

- Construction of a Borehole and Mini-Pipe Scheme to serve 800-1,000 people directly with drinking water in the rural community of Mulombi in Eastern Uganda. Thanks to Water-Share Ireland, Malcolm Edger (Engineer), and substantial funding from Ward & Burke Construction Ltd, the Mulombi Borehole and Mini-Pipe Scheme will be completed in 2023.

- Continuing to support the first ever ‘pilot’ fecal sludge treatment system in Freetown, Sierra Leone and seeking to bring this to scale in other areas. The plant was built with the help of Water-Share Ireland in 2021 and became fully operational in 2022. It now operates six days a week and dewater's an average of 11 trucks of latrine sludge per day. Freetown is a growing city of 1.05 million people, and half a million barrels of raw fecal sludge are produced each year. In the absence of a treatment plant, this sludge was previously dumped on top of solid waste on the town landfill, without any treatment. The sludge seeped through the waste and entered waterways which was proving to be a critical health hazard.

- Completion of a water network study and establishing water loss measurement systems in the town of Safi in Northwest Syria and developing a groundwater model for a large catchment area to ensure that the population has access to safe, clean drinking water despite the on-going conflict.

**Zimbabwe**

In 2022, GOAL was positioned to present to donors and pitch for funding to support resilient health programs through improved SBC (Social behavior Change) approaches and CVA (Cash and Vouchers Assistance) programming. In Zimbabwe, community health workers were supported by the GOAL LINKAGES program, funded by ECHO (European Union Humanitarian Aid & Civil Protection). The program aimed to improve child nutrition in the cities of Harare and Bulawayo using fortified foods and cash-based assistance for vulnerable families. The ECHO Linkages program ended in August and the GOAL Zimbabwe team is now evaluating the efficacy of cash and fortified foods during treatment for pediatric malnutrition and post-discharge to present to donors.

**Ethiopia**

Malnutrition in Kassab IDP camp, North Darfur, Sudan

A child being screen for malnutrition in Kassab IDP camp, North Darfur, Sudan

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GOAL USA IMPACT REPORT 2022

GOAL was the first organization globally to trial an innovative new infant nutrition service in an operational setting, targeting infants from birth to aged six months. The initiative is called MAMI (the Management of Small and Nutritionally At Risk Infants Under Six Months and Their Mothers). In 2022, after three years of preparatory work, GOAL began to collect data for a Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT) studying MAMI, in collaboration with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, the Emergency Nutrition Network, and Jimma University in two locations in Ethiopia. In May of 2022, GOAL completed operational research in Gambella’s refugee camp on the impact of targeting men to support behavioral change for improved health and nutrition outcomes; findings showed that although the community understood the need to change current practices, this was being stifled due to social norms and stigma associated with change. As such, the team designed and are trialing new ways of working to tackle these underlying barriers. Findings were presented at the Irish Global Health Network (IGHN) conference.

South Sudan

In South Sudan, GOAL expanded its health systems support work with funding from ECHO that enables WASH in health facilities and provision of assistance to 30,000 new IDPs. In addition, ECHO has allocated additional funding to enable the agency to undertake EVD (Ebola Virus Disease) preparedness. UNICEF confirmed that it will fund GOAL’s work in implementing nutrition programming starting in 2023. This is a landmark decision, given that we have not received funding from UNICEF for South Sudan since 2016.

Sudan

Accessing essential healthcare in Sudan can be extremely difficult. Years of conflict have hindered the development of accessible region-wide healthcare. With no mechanism to coordinate the planning and delivery of primary healthcare, and no links to the State Ministry of Health, management of health service delivery in many regions of Sudan is informal and somewhat disparate, leaving pregnant women, new mothers, and new-borns at greater risk. The HealthPro project, funded by the European Union, aims to help achieve universal health coverage among internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees and host communities.

The HealthPro project was successful in 2022, overseeing ongoing infrastructure rehabilitation, the provision of equipment and supplies, and social accountability training with community health committees. A key milestone in this project was the handover of incentive payments for health workers from GOAL to the National Health Insurance Fund in July 2022, and reduction of subsidies on co-payments for prescription medicines. An external evaluation of HealthPro will be used to inform a planned extension of the project, including an expansion to South Kordofan state.

Sierra Leone

GOAL supports evidence-based, community-led Social behavior Change (SBC) approaches in Sierra Leone, using Care Groups, Community Dialogues, Community-Led Action (CLA) and Nutrition Impact & Positive Practice (NIPP) to improve people’s health. To ensure SBC approaches are effective and appropriate, GOAL engages the government, civil society, the private sector, and communities to design and support context-specific programming. GOAL is one of the lead SBC and community-engagement organizations in Sierra Leone and has successfully scaled CLA Total Sanitation, in addition to CLA approaches as a go-to approach for outbreak and epidemic response.

The CLA approach was derived from the Community Led Ebola Action tool employed by GOAL during the Ebola crisis. It was adapted to mobilize communities during the pandemic and has since been adopted by the Sierra Leone government as a national. A key milestone in this project was the handover of incentive payments for health workers from GOAL to the National Health Insurance Fund in July 2022, and reduction of subsidies on co-payments for prescription medicines. An external evaluation of HealthPro will be used to inform a planned extension of the project, including an expansion to South Kordofan state.

Impact

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and case identification in Kyeggega District, Western Uganda.

GOAL’s response to the EVD outbreak was based on the SMART (Social Mobilization, Nutrition, Research, Training) approach. The approach recommends a combination of Community Led Action (CLA), mass media and interaction with local leaders to leverage an empowering community-centered response that can be scaled up for operation on a national scale. GOAL implemented two pillars of the SMART approach, (CLA and mass media) in Kyeggega district with a focus on Kyeggega Town Council, covering 18 villages. The team was able to train 46 community mobilizers on CLA, facilitating 164 triggering sessions and reaching a total of 3,726 community members while supporting them to develop 96 community action plans.

GOAL teams in Uganda contributed to the end of epidemic, with the Government of Uganda formally announcing an end to the EVD outbreak on 11th January 2023, after marking 42 days without recording a single case in Uganda, as per World Health Organization (WHO) standards.
Accessing essential healthcare in North Darfur State, Sudan, can be extremely difficult. Years of conflict have hindered the development of accessible region-wide healthcare. For people living in Umbaro, it has been especially challenging.

“Before, there was no government body to manage health services in Umbaro,” says Zahra Sulaman, Head of the newly established Locality Health Department (LHD) in Umbaro. With no mechanism to coordinate the planning and delivery of primary healthcare, and no links to the State Ministry of Health, management of health service delivery in Umbaro Locality was informal. Access to basic healthcare for people in the area was limited. Pregnant women, new mothers and new-borns were particularly at risk.

Zahra says, “It was only after GOAL constructed and equipped an office that the State Ministry of Health deployed staff, including myself. We started from scratch, but with full support from the GOAL’s HealthPro project, we are up and running.”

The HealthPro Project In three localities in North Darfur, GOAL is implementing a range of interventions targeting:

- Health system governance
- Human resources
- Health service delivery
- Supply of essential medicines
- Healthcare financing
- Health information systems

The HealthPro project, funded by the European Union, aims to help achieve universal health coverage among internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees and host communities. The project is also carried out in Kutum and Serf Umra.

Under the HealthPro project, GOAL teams constructed a new office facility in Umbaro. Local staff also provided computers, printers, and furniture to ensure the necessary infrastructure is in place to support the newly established district health team. Financial and technical support was also provided for the deployment of six technical staff, including the head of the LHD, to the office. Essential training was delivered, as well as a four-wheel drive vehicle, and financial support for conducting regular support visits to local health facilities.

Thanks to the project, Umbaro now has a dedicated health management team to support the local community. In the last six months, the team has conducted three supportive supervision visits to the health facilities across the locality and developed a five-year health sector strategic plan.

Healthcare for Thousands The project is set to directly benefit an estimated 60,000 people in over 90 communities. The strengthening of governance at the LHD level is also expected to have a far-reaching impact across the entire region.

Dr. Ali Sayed, Health System Coordinator with GOAL, is positive about the results and hopeful for the future, “I believe key health indicators such as maternal and new-born mortality rates in the community will improve soon due to the creation of the district health office. It is great that we made this a reality despite the organizational challenges faced from working in this remote area.”

Local leader, Jafer Ali Mohamedain, King of Umbaro, is grateful for GOAL’s work in the area. “GOAL’s support has led to substantial improvements in the availability and quality of health services our community are receiving. We thank GOAL a lot for this support. We also hope it will expand the work and operate in the locality for a long time.”

Improving Access to Healthcare in Sudan

GOAL GREEN Project greenhouse in Adana, Türkiye

PEOPLE HAVE FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

GOAL USA IMPACT REPORT 2022
Globally, nearly 800 million people do not have enough food to meet their basic nutritional needs. Demand is rising. Set against a background of population growth, conflict, migration, and climate change, it is more important than ever to find innovative and sustainable ways to help vulnerable communities achieve food and nutrition security.

Food security is one of the key underlying determinants of good nutrition, focused primarily on the availability of food, economic and physical access to food, and the stability of food supplies. Nutrition security comes from having an adequate supply of diverse food, as well as a range of additional factors, including access to safe water, health services, care and hygiene practices, and the role of women in decision-making at the community level.

Investing in smallholder farmers and fishers is an important way to increase food and nutrition security in vulnerable communities, in addition to providing food for local and global markets.

GOAL’s work in food and nutrition security focuses on improved subsistence production, better commercial production (linked to market access and the availability of nutritionally diverse products) and the consumption of an adequate diet by all. We mobilize this by:

• Identifying the risks, gaps and permanent actors in relevant systems including market systems, financial services, and food production.
• Promoting food security and livelihoods in the aquaculture/agriculture sectors.
• Partnering with climate-smart actors to ensure agriculture/aquaculture practices and strategies of vulnerable communities are tailored to the demands of a changing climate.
• Linking producers and communities with informal and formal financial services.
• Working with Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), with a focus on women and youth, to sustainably increase the scale of climate-smart food production and linkages to market.
• Identifying root causes of food and nutrition insecurity of vulnerable communities.
• Increasing the resilience of households to food insecurity and malnutrition by improving knowledge and practice of food processing, preservation, and storage techniques.
• Creating an enabling environment for understanding of and addressing malnutrition through appropriate care and feeding practices at community level.
• Collaborating with key stakeholders to influence local and national policies and regulations that will enhance food and nutrition security.
• Identifying root causes of food and nutrition insecurity of vulnerable communities.

The scale of the hunger crisis in East Africa was a significant challenge in 2022. Over 11.8 million people in Ethiopia require emergency food assistance, 4.6 million IDPs need humanitarian support, and over 3.9 million children are severely malnourished.

In Tigray, Northern Ethiopia, over 20% of children under five, and half of all pregnant or breastfeeding women, are malnourished.

In Sudan, over four million women and children are malnourished, while over one million IDPs need humanitarian assistance, and in South Sudan, 7.7 million people are estimated to be food insecure. Almost two million women and children are malnourished, and the country is home to over 3.7 million IDPs, all of whom are at a greater risk of malnourishment.

The War in Ukraine impacted the availability and cost of food in 2022. Russia and Ukraine, whose food exports account for approximately 12% of total calories traded worldwide, produce high volumes of wheat, grain, and other agricultural products that vulnerable communities without sustainable or resilient food systems rely on to survive.

However, the War in Ukraine has now disrupted a quarter of the global grain trade and food costs have increased by 300% in some areas of Sudan and South Sudan, leaving vulnerable communities unable to access necessities for survival.

GOAL has continued to implement its Resilience of the Blue Economy program targeting small scale fisheries and eco-tourism in indigenous and afro-descendent communities.
Key interventions include the installation of renewable energy solutions to enhance cold chain management, improved adoption of traceability, improved market access, targeted interventions to strengthen financial inclusion and improvement to the management of marine coastal resources.

All interventions integrate economic incentives which have positive environmental and social outcomes. In Honduras, GOAL supported 400 MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) to improve and diversify their business operations and consolidate them into 10 business networks. Over 100 businesses have now collaborated to establish a multi-service business which provides business development, supply chain and marketing services to their members. In Colombia, GOAL supports MSMEs owned by Venezuelan migrants in the recycling ‘circular’ economy, to access formal markets to improve their incomes and employment conditions and enhance their food and nutrition security.

Uganda
Uganda has one of the world’s youngest populations in the world. According to the World Bank, more than 75% of Uganda’s population is below the age of 30 and at least 13.3% of them are unemployed.

The Markets for Youth program, managed and delivered by GOAL Uganda in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation and implementing partners, aims to create dignified and fulfilling work in the agricultural sector for 210,000 young women and 90,000 young men between the ages of 16 and 35 years in 18 Districts in Uganda. This includes 30,000 refugees and 15,000 young people living with disabilities.

In 2022, the program worked with 17 private sector partners and three Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to achieve this goal. Since the launch of the program in 2020, 23,000 young people have been reached and 10,200 young people have been engaged.

Ethiopia
GOAL’s Resilience in Pastoral Areas (RIPA) program, funded by USAID, uses market systems development and SBC approaches to enhance food security and make economic growth in pastoral and agro-pastoral communities more inclusive, sustainable, and resilient. In 2022, GOAL Ethiopia completed market assessments in livestock, crop, and financial systems, and worked with private sector partners to leverage resources to increase the supply and demand of livestock veterinary services, crop seed, nutritionally improved fodder, and fodder seed, water filters, mechanization for small scale irrigation, and financial services such as index-based livestock insurance.

Drought-affected pastoral and agro-pastoral communities in southern and eastern Ethiopia have suffered from the impact of multiple and often recurring shocks. In response, GOAL implemented agreements with funders to move funding into support the commercial destocking of livestock and veterinary services. GOAL’s SBC approaches focus on education to urge households to adopt appropriate household nutritional practices.

Niger
GOAL is implementing food and nutrition security programming with UNITLIFE and Irish Aid funding, working in partnership with two private sector partners to increase access to nutritionally improved and climate-adapted seed. In 2022, 15 tons of improved millet, groundnut, and cowpea seed was also sold, with a 40% discount for women.

GOAL is also facilitating access to informal financial services, including Village Savings & Loan Associations (VSLAs). Community Conversations to address the impacts of social and gender norms on household decision-making processes are now ongoing in 20 communities in Niger. Substantial increases in production were recorded, and GOAL waived transaction fees in relation to improved diet diversity and social inclusion.

Syria
In 2022, GOAL Syria delivered food assistance to approximately 460,000 people every month. GOAL’s food security programming also addressed persistent food insecurity by providing up to 40% of the flour and yeast needed to support local bakeries in Idleb and North Aleppo Governorates - an intervention that ensures bread is available at reduced stabilized prices for more than 440,660 people every day.

GOAL Syria piloted the Self-Reliance Index (SRI) in 2022, which is a tool for measuring the progress of vulnerable households toward self-reliance. A nutrition context analysis found that stunting affects around a quarter of children under 5 years, and that acute malnutrition is high in both young children, less than 18 months of age, and PLW (Pregnant and Lactating Women).

In response, GOAL implemented the Graduation Approach to help lift displaced and host communities in Azaz out of social safety net programming using small-scale livelihood interventions. The approach targets vulnerable households with mentoring, access to financial services, and training that allows beneficiaries to upskill and take up opportunities in the labor or enterprise markets.

Türkiye
In 2022, GOAL completed construction of a Greenhouse to support women from refugee and host communities to access skills training and sustainable employment. The Greenhouse is an automated and energy efficient production facility that is powered by solar panels. The municipality will procure all greenhouse produce (flowers, seedlings, shrubs, etc.) from the co-operative to use in the urban landscaping as part of their routine services.
COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS HELPING TO TACKLE MALNUTRITION IN ZIMBABWE: SHAILET’S STORY.

Victoria Manyama, aged 24 years, holds her two-year-old daughter Makanaka’s hand, to measure the mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC). As Victoria watches on nervously, it takes just a few seconds for GOAL staff to determine that her child is malnourished.

Victoria’s concern was shared by thousands of families across Zimbabwe. When Covid-19 induced lockdowns were imposed, families were hit hard. The majority of people in the high-density suburbs of the country’s capital, Harare, survive on a hand-to-mouth basis, so disruption of informal work left people struggling to put food on the table. Children were badly affected, as inadequate access to nutritious food led to malnutrition.

Identifying malnutrition can be difficult for parents without a MUAC measuring tape, or the knowledge to use it. Seeing this, GOAL teams in Zimbabwe sought local community health workers in Harare to help support local families and raise awareness of infant malnutrition.

Simple Solutions: MUAC Tape

“Most mothers do not know that their babies are unhealthy,” says Shailet, “as they did not get to the clinic. Child growth monitoring became less of a priority because of the pandemic. When restrictions were eased, most mothers were afraid and still did not go with their children to clinics.”

“I distributed MUAC tape and imparted knowledge on how to use it to mothers in their homes. If the tape shows green, it means the child is healthy. But yellow and red mean they should seek medical treatment immediately. The idea is to identify malnutrition before the MUAC tape shows red, which is severe acute malnutrition.”

“During the home visits, I also educate mothers on the proper feeding regime for their babies. Some have stable incomes to access the right food, but they lack the knowledge on what’s best to feed their babies. I advise them to give them food that has a diversity of nutrients including traditional foods.”

Financial Support to Improve Nutrition

To support families and prevent child malnutrition from occurring, GOAL teams are also providing financial assistance in the form of cash-based transfers. The scheme ensures families can afford to buy healthy, nutritious food in times of economic hardship. The scheme is having a huge impact, according to Ladislaus Machona, a local nutritionist who assists in treating the malnourished children referred by Shailet.

“We used to have cases of relapse, but we are observing a decrease. I believe it is in part because of the cash-based transfer, which is supporting mothers with basic needs,” he said. “At the clinic, the rate of children returning with repeated malnutrition went from 50% down to 12% in one year.”

While financial support ensures families can access nutritious food, education also plays a crucial role. Economic hardship continues to create nutritional challenges in Zimbabwe. Thankfully, with the support of the LINKAGES program, community health workers like Shailet are ensuring at-risk infants are identified early and given the best possible medical care.
Through strengthened engagement with public and society leaders, GOAL is enhancing the knowledge, attitudes, values and skills of young people, students, teachers, professionals, society leaders and duty-bearers on the role they can play in addressing the causes and consequences of sudden onset emergencies, health crises and food and nutrition insecurity crises, in pursuit of a more equal, fair, and sustainable world.

How we act and live as individuals and communities can impact vulnerable communities living in fragile and conflict-affected settings. We are helping to empower a generation of Global Citizens to critically reflect on and better understand how our world is interconnected.

Through education, engagement and skills training we want to ensure that children, young people, and adults believe that a fairer, more equal, and sustainable world is possible; a world where the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) can be realized. We actively work to build links between the voices and experiences of people in crisis, young people, communities, and decision-makers in Ireland and internationally through public engagement, global citizenship education and influencing activities.

GOAL is also working to engage with young people to take action to influence the global dimensions of humanitarian crises. GOAL is also working to influence leaders and duty-bearers to address international crises with local, national and international policies.

GOAL’s work aimed to strengthen influencing policies that impact on poverty eradications, and in July 2022, the team published a Position Paper on the Blue Economy in partnership with the LAC (Latin America and Caribbean) Regional Team and this formed the basis of significant engagement at the UN Ocean Conference (UNOC) 2022.

The Team also initiated and coordinated cross-department action towards the development of GOAL’s new Advocacy Strategy 2022-25.

In October, the GC Team hosted our first successful NextGen Youth Exchange, bringing two youth members from Malawi & Uganda to Ireland during Climate Action Week, which provided these young leaders with excellent opportunities to engage and bring their expertise to an Irish peer network.

GOAL USA IMPACT REPORT 2022
SAFE, ACCOUNTABLE, AND INCLUSIVE PROGRAMMING

As an organization committed to Safe, Accountable and Inclusive Programming (SAIP), we place people at the center of our programs, to inform programming and ensure the safeguarding of children and adults. GOAL is also fully accountable to those we work with, and we are inclusive in our approaches to ensure that the barriers and mechanisms that prevent inclusion are understood and used to inform programming.

This supports those facing exclusion to participate in and help shape their societies and have equitable access to goods and services.

In 2022, GOAL continued to strengthen its culture where our staff and volunteers understand and embrace the importance of SAIP (Safe, Accountable and Inclusive Programming) and embrace and honor GOAL’s values, behaviors, and Code of Conduct.

Highlights from 2022 include:

- Consultations with colleagues from various departments, country teams and donor organizations to embed these principles and ensure it is grounded in the identified needs & priorities, while adhering to global best practice.
- GOAL’s Global Safeguarding Advisor traveled to Uganda and Türkiye to support and promote a culture of safeguarding in program activity, including with program partners.
- GOAL’s Safeguarding team also developed GOAL case studies to highlight safeguarding being built into emergency response programming in Ethiopia and Ukraine.
- Development of the Safeguarding e-learning training for GOAL staff. The training is available in five languages and was launched in November 2022.
- The development of demand-driven tools, including a guide on using needs’ assessments to inform rapid gender and age analyses, and a project-level risk assessment tool which has undergone piloting and testing.
- Collaborating with external consultants to help further guide and shape our approach to safe, accountable & inclusive programming going forward, and in so doing, acknowledging that this is a continuous process.

BUILDING DYNAMIC PARTNERSHIPS AND LOCALIZING APPROACHES

Working in partnership is one of GOAL’s organizational values, and we are committed to progressing the ambitions of a localization agenda. Recognizing that local systems are made up of local actors, GOAL’s ‘value add’ is to be a temporary facilitator of change alongside the permanent local actors, knowing they are the principal catalyst of change that will steward the longer-term system development. This approach ensures that our efforts do not undermine or duplicate the work being carried out by resident actors.

If permanent local actors drive locally led actions for development and humanitarian response, then investments will ensure greater accountability, more effectively access ‘hard-to-reach’ communities, and generate more robust evidence and learning, catalyzing systemic change to achieve impact at scale.

Choosing Local Partners

GOAL has developed a clear partner typology and works with a broad range of entities, including local government ministries and departments, private sector businesses and social enterprises, local NGOs and CSOs, informal community groups, academic/research institutions, think-tanks/innovation hubs, and peer INGOs.

GOAL maps out and analyses local actors in each context to determine which will be most effective at catalyzing positive, longer-term change within a system. The preferred partners in these contexts are permanent local actors – organizations that are ‘local’ to each country (community) and which act as first-responders in a crisis, as well as providers of long-term support.

Supporting Local Partners

GOAL also sources and provides technical programmatic advisory or training services to its local partners. GOAL prioritizes strategic partnerships with government agencies and other local partners to strengthen early warning response systems for national disaster management, shock-responsive social protection and resilient healthcare systems and services.
EVIDENCE AND LEARNING AT GOAL

GOAL has a strong commitment to evidence and learning, and with continued investment in a culture of learning and accountability, as well as Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEAL) infrastructure, GOAL aims to ensure that we become a resilient organization prepared for the challenges of 21st-century crises.

The results, data and evidence gathered from our programming is pivotal to our learning and decision-making. Research, evaluations, mid-term reviews, base and end line surveys are also critical inputs. Data driven decision-making is critical for GOAL, and we invest in technologies and processes that enable the monitoring and collection of high-quality evidence from diverse sources, ensuring that evidence is regularly reviewed and used to inform courageous strategic decisions.

Learning throughout the program cycle is supported through GOAL’s System for Consolidating and Reporting MEAL information (SCORE). This is an internal system where all programmatic results (beneficiary reach, outcomes, and outputs) are inputted and analyzed in real time and are made available for use in evidence-based decision-making.

The MEAL team conducted research with Trinity College Dublin on GOAL’s significant reach over the last three-to-five years and its findings were presented at the annual Development Studies Association of Ireland Conference.

A new internal Learning Portal was launched by the MEAL Team for GOAL staff in late 2022, comprising a wealth of learning, with most of the materials generated by the MEAL Team since 2019. These include Learning Briefs, webinars recording and presentations, evaluations, research reports and impact stories.

In 2023, the MEAL function will further strengthen its evidence base through robust monitoring, rigorous evaluation and innovative research, while piloting innovative technologies in GOAL’s MEAL unit.

PRIORITIZING A CULTURE OF INNOVATION

GOAL defines innovation as a new perspective, idea, technology, or process that leads to better solutions or improvements to resolve important challenges. An innovation should be more than just a good idea; something that can be validated in terms of its capacity to achieve change and can be replicated by others facing similar or related challenges, while having the potential to achieve change at scale.

In 2022, GOAL launched its Program Innovation Lab, building on the success of GOAL’s Resilience Innovation and Learning Hub. The Lab’s key objectives are to provide strategic direction for fostering program innovation in GOAL, to proactively engage and support global, regional, and country program teams and innovators within GOAL, and to fund innovation projects within GOAL.

Four innovation projects were supported in 2022

• In Zimbabwe, GOAL is working with local service providers to create and share information on the effects of Gender Based Violence (GBV) towards men. This pilot project aims to compliment GOAL’s work with a local telecommunications provider to spread messaging on GBV towards women and girls. This information is being shared via a smartphone app which is interactive and provides referral pathways to assistance.

• In Uganda, GOAL has teamed up with the Practica Foundation to pilot metered water taps, which ensure sustainable funds are raised towards consistent maintenance of the tap. This reduces the need to raise management funds.

• The Innovation Lab piloted the use of home BioGas technology in Freetown, Sierra Leone, as a sustainable way of processing and managing human waste while reducing the demand for wood and charcoal for cooking. The project will be explored further in 2023, with a focus on its potential to scale.

• In Haiti, GOAL has been piloting the use of drone technology to create up-to-date maps of regions which are at risk of disasters such as earthquakes. With uncontrolled urbanization causing changing land-uses, up-to-date mapping can inform the local Directorate for Civil Protection and GOAL towards improved disaster risk management.
SAFEGUARDING IN THE FUTURE: THE OUTCOME OF INTEGRATING SAFEGUARDING INTO A MARKETS’ SYSTEMS APPROACH IN UGANDA

YOUNG AFRICA WORKS PROGRAM

To address the ongoing crisis of youth unemployment, GOAL Uganda is partnering with the Mastercard Foundation and implementing partners on the Young Africa Works program to provide 300,000 young Ugandans with access to dignified and fulfilling work in the agricultural sector.

GOAL Uganda has established a safeguarding strategy to clarify how staff and partners can take steps to ensure that prevention, detection, and response to harm and abuse is firmly embedded throughout our programming.

GOAL aims to be at the forefront of humanitarian safeguarding practices by integrating safeguarding throughout the market systems’ approach. A market systems’ approach aims to reduce poverty by enhancing the capacities of people in vulnerable communities to integrate and play key roles in the mainstream markets, provide them with jobs, income and access to services.

Community and Partner Engagement

The Young Africa Works: Markets for Youth project involves working with a wide range of partners (private sector actors, civil society organizations, small and medium enterprises, corporate businesses, and social investors) to help young people acquire skills and opportunities in sustainable agribusiness.

GOAL is responsible for ensuring that participating partners meet the minimum safeguarding standards and supports partners in strengthening practices, while also learning from them and sharing that learning across the consortium.

Applying GOAL’s Safeguarding Strategy

To improve community engagement, GOAL’s Safeguarding Team have developed a community-led training manual which includes over 15 tools and activities to raise awareness of safeguarding amongst youths. In practice, GOAL’s Safeguarding Focal Points train ‘youth champions’ to cascade this knowledge through community peer groups. These groups work together to explore and identify negative behaviors, attitudes, and practices that increase their risk of abuse, and implement changes to adopt safeguarding practices.

In May 2022, Mandy Yamanis, GOAL’s Global Safeguarding Adviser, traveled to northern Uganda to visit the Young Africa Works: Markets for Youth program with Victoria Tendo, GOAL Uganda’s Safeguarding and Accountability Manager. They were able to pilot tools from the training manual with program partners.

Training Program Partners

Multi Community-Based Development Initiative (MUCOBADI), a local Civil Society Organization (CSO) in Uganda, partnered with GOAL on the program. Their Program Specialist, Yosia Emukule, said, “before I worked with GOAL, I had limited understanding of what safeguarding is. These trainings have made me realize that safeguarding is beyond protecting myself. Safeguarding should be part and parcel of everything.”

Since partnering with GOAL, MUCOBADI has developed its first Safeguarding Policy, appointed safeguarding focal points, and trained all staff. Yosia believes this partnership will “push MUCOBADI as an organization to a higher level”. Robert Basaaza, Director of another GOAL partner, Guide Leisure Farm (GLF), has also said that since partnering with GOAL, their safeguarding systems have also been significantly strengthened.

Raising Community Awareness

GOAL’s Safeguarding Team held safeguarding sessions with youth champions to test the community-led safeguarding training manual. During these sessions, young people indicated that Community Conversations would be the best way to share knowledge of safeguarding amongst their peers. They found visual aids and videos were very helpful. Another interesting outcome was that the word safeguarding is not easily understood among the public; prompting discussions to use alternative words such as “protection, guiding, counseling.”

In Lamwo district, GOAL’s team met with more youth champions from Palabek refugee camp. They were open to sharing examples of abuse in their community. The Safeguarding Team were then able to test the ‘string game’ from the manual, which explores how abuse and harm is currently reported in the community. The exercise also facilitates the development of a locally appropriate reporting mechanism. The group were then able to identify who to report concerns to in their community. Challenges raised also included the use of the word safeguarding – as it is easily comprehended by users of the information – the youth.

Safeguarding the Future

Early signs are promising. The new approach has led to significant learnings that will enhance GOAL’s safeguarding work. GOAL Uganda will continue to work with its partners to strengthen all areas of safeguarding in the Young Africa Works program. GOAL is committed to enabling an environment that promotes a strong safeguarding ethos and culture by ensuring that safeguarding is at the heart of all GOAL’s operations.
At GOAL, we are committed to strengthening the organization’s impact using effective public advocacy and influencing strategies. We understand advocacy as the intentional effort to influence change and action at local, national and/or international level in pursuit of our vision, which is ‘a world beyond humanitarian crises where poverty no longer exists, where vulnerable communities exposed to shocks and stresses are resilient, where barriers to well-being are removed and where everyone has equal rights and opportunities.’

Guiding Principles
Clear principles guide GOAL’s advocacy initiatives and drive decisions when choices need to be made on opportunities to pursue. These principles are set out below:

- All GOAL advocacy is rooted in GOAL’s programmatic expertise and aligned to the organizational strategic priorities as set out in GOAL’s Strategy 2025.
- Our advocacy efforts offer clear benefit to the communities with whom we work.
- GOAL advocacy is relevant to contemporary national and international public policy agenda and will add best value considering our expertise, size and geographic presence.
- GOAL works in partnership with communities, peers, and other key stakeholders to achieve effectiveness to maximize impact.

ADVOCACY IN 2022
United Nation Security Council (UNSC) Türkiye-Syria Border Resolution
GOAL, in partnership with Trocaire, Oxfam Ireland, Concern, and World Vision Ireland, called upon the UNSC in June 2022 to vote to keep the vital border crossing between Türkiye and Syria open to allow for lifesaving aid to reach millions of conflict-affected people in Northwest Syria. The UNSC, of which Ireland was a member from 2021 to 2022, established a cross-border resolution in 2014 which allowed for four crossings for humanitarian aid delivery. Since 2020, these have been whittled down to only one crossing at the Türkiye-Syria border, called the Bab al-Hawa crossing.

ADVOCACY AND CAMPAIGNS
Since the resolution came into effect in 2014, millions of Syrians have benefited from UN-led cross-border assistance despite continued insecurity, conflict, and access constraints. In 2021, the cross-border humanitarian response enabled aid agencies to reach over 2.4 million people per month in the northwest. This provided food for 1.8 million people, nutritional assistance for 85,000 people, educational support for 78,000 children, access to life-saving dignity kits for 250,000 women and girls and critical medical items and supplies to help people survive the cold winter months.

In July 2022, the UNSC voted to keep the vital Bab al-Hawa and only remaining border aid crossing between Türkiye and Northwest Syria open for another six months, until 10th Jan 2023. GOAL acknowledged and appreciated the diplomacy shown by the Irish Government (as an elected member of the Security Council for the 2021-22 term) to seek an extension of the border mechanism for a further twelve months, which would have provided a more stable solution, but emphasized that a more long-term solution is required to provide security and stability for the 4.1 million people still trapped in Northwest Syria.

UN Oceans Conference
In July 2022, in GOAL’s Latin America Countries of operation, the Regional Director, and Global Director for Programs and Innovation, Bernard McCaul, spoke at the UN Oceans Conference in Lisbon. Delegates heard how GOAL’s ‘Resilience of the Blue Economy’ program supports the critical role of coastal communities in generating food and economic security across 1,500km of coastline in five countries in the LAC Region - including Honduras, Haiti, Guatemala, Colombia, and El Salvador.

Using a ‘Local Systems Approach’ (LSA) GOAL works with indigenous and Afro-descendent communities in the LAC region whose livelihoods are heavily dependent on fishing. The LSA focuses on building linkages and partnerships among local stakeholders in the fishing industry including community leaders, community-based organizations, regulatory bodies, authorities, and academic institutions among others. This strengthens the resilience of the Blue Economy by protecting biodiversity and preventing the overexploitation of shared environmental resources, which helps vulnerable communities prepare for and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

GOAL believes that promoting the Blue Economy and sustainable fisheries are key to the future of global food security, climate change adaptation and poverty reduction. By building sustainable linkages and strengthening local relationships using innovative models like the LSA, the fishing industry can move from being destructive to being a force in building community resilience.
We are grateful to every individual, family, community group, club, company, foundation, and institution that supported GOAL to deliver lifesaving and life-changing aid throughout 2022. Without this support, we would not have been able to reach over 14 million people in some of the world’s most vulnerable communities. We are committed to maintaining a sustainable annual income, to continue to be able to reach people in need of humanitarian support, and to help build resilience to future crises.

In 2022, we worked with an operational budget of $220m (unrestricted income $3.70m and restricted income $217.3m), thanks to kind support from people both in Ireland and abroad, and from our institutional donors. This represented a 18% increase in income from $188m in 2021.

Institutional Funding

Thank you to our other key donors for their support during 2022, including
- Charity Water
- Eleanor Crook Foundation
- FCDO
- IOM
- Light for the World
- MasterCard Foundation
- Norad
- The Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration (BPRM) - USDOS
- UNICEF
- UNHCR
- WFP

Thank you to our other key donors for their support during 2022, including
- USAID
- Irish Aid
- European Union Humanitarian Aid
- Australian Government
- OCHA
- International Foundation

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2022 saw GOAL and Kingspan Group continue to work successfully together as part of our exciting five-year partnership. The Cavan-headquartered organization is global leader in advanced insulation and building solutions, is operational in 70 countries across the world and employs over 15,000 staff. Together with financial contributions, product offering and their building expertise the partnership is going from strength to strength.

Our shared thinking aligns with GOAL’s core values on resilience building and sustainable programming, and our partnership showcases both GOAL’s and Kingspan’s commitment to responding to complex societal issues. Demonstrated in our current project, which will see the delivery of a large hospital ward in Cortés Hospital Honduras. The new Sayni Molina wing is named in honor of our GOAL colleague, who sadly lost her life to the pandemic. The project uses a combination of Kingspan’s building envelope panel solutions for walls and roofs, and Cleanroom Modular Unit technology (prefabricated panels) providing hygienic and safe rooms. The new wing will provide the hospital with increased capacity to provide critical care for patients in a city of 70,000 people.

Kingspan is committed to delivering an ambitious sustainability agenda throughout its activities and this approach squarely aligns with GOAL’s commitment to embed sustainability as a fundamental cross-cutting theme throughout our programming. This shared value corporate partnership provides a platform for collaboration, innovation, and impact that can help address some of the most pressing social and environmental challenges of our time.

Commenting on the significance of the project to the local community in Puerto Cortés, Dr Nelson Hernández, M.D. in medicine and surgery and Executive Director of the Hospital said “Thanks to GOAL and Kingspan’s support for this project, a new recovery area which can accommodate patients will be constructed, which will see more space between patients, better accessibility, better connectivity, and closer proximity to the operating room. This project will transform care at the hospital. We are so grateful.”

Being part of this project is hugely rewarding not only because we are supporting people in need and providing dignified care, but the partnership with Kingspan comes with new learnings for us, since we are using new materials not previously used in Honduras. The hospital ward will comply with all biosafety measures and be of a very high-quality improving services for the surrounding community.

Kimberly Rivera, GOAL Honduras Technical Adviser

Kingspan is a world leader in construction products, and the partnership represents a significant opportunity for GOAL to support the vulnerable population of Puerto Cortés since, despite being a main center, communities have limited access to health care services and as a result many issues go neglected especially for the elderly, children, and pregnant women.

Luigi Loddo, Country Director, GOAL
### Growing Support for Relief & Development Programs Around the World

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**Subtotal: Overseas Relief & Development**

$207,446       $179,846