

ANNUAL REPORT 20 23

WORLD YMCA



**Creating a better world,
with and for young people**

WORLD
YMCA



**VISION
2030**

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WHO WE ARE

The YMCA exists to create a better world – with and for young people.

We empower young people and communities worldwide to build a just, sustainable, equitable and inclusive world, where every person can thrive in body, mind and spirit.





Our worldwide YMCA Movement

The YMCA exists to create a better world – with and for young people. Founded in London in 1844, with nearly 180 years of experience, we are one of the largest youth organisations, deeply embedded in local communities across 120 countries worldwide.

Our mission is to empower young people and communities to build a just, sustainable, equitable and inclusive world, where every person can thrive in body, mind and spirit. And our four Pillars of Impact are: Community Wellbeing, Meaningful Work, a Sustainable Planet, and a Just World.

We provide platforms for youth-led solutions to ensure that young people's voices are heard, and they can make the change they want to see locally, nationally and globally.

We exist in 120 countries worldwide, in 12,000 communities with an extensive global network of 90,000 staff, 920,000 volunteers, providing diverse solutions to local community needs, and reaching over 60 million people each year.

At World YMCA, our aim is to be the global youth-led solutions organisation and partner of choice: empowering, inspiring and mobilising young people to implement their own solutions to the challenges they and their communities face.

Message from our President and Secretary General

2023 was another year of massive global upheaval.

Covid may have subsided, but war continued to rage in Ukraine, and new and unspeakable horror unfolded in Israel and Gaza. We were never far from the contagion of conflict and a growing sense of polarisation across the world.

The natural world was as turbulent as the political world, with devastating earthquakes, floods, cyclones and wildfires on almost every continent.

And in 2023 we saw the very public emergence of something of unimaginable potential for both good and bad: artificial intelligence.

Our YMCA task is to be present in all these situations.

So we spoke out for justice in 2023 – political justice, climate justice, social justice. The fourth pillar of our Movement-wide strategy YMCA Vision 2030 compels us to call out for a Just World.

Our task is also to see the world through the lens of the young people and the communities we serve.

The pressures on young people's mental health continue to mount. And at the year end, we launched worldwide research to gauge young people's feelings about both entering into and staying in the world of work.

So all that we do is done in context. It is also done in partnership, and we were thrilled to work in tandem with allies new and old in 2023.

We are part of a global response to a global challenge, each bringing our own assets.

That is why we made big efforts for and with our 'Big Six' partners in the Global Youth Mobilization. That is why we worked alongside exceptional people at consultants Deloitte Australia and Accenture Development Partnerships to imagine a new and a bright future of work for young people. And that is why we worked with HP to promote digital equity for those left behind by technology, many of them Ukrainian refugees across Europe.

All these and more are set out in this annual report, presenting our work under the four Pillars of YMCA Vision 2030: Community Wellbeing, Meaningful Work, Sustainable Planet, Just World.

In July 2023 we two were honoured to speak at the YMCA of the USA General Assembly in Atlanta, Georgia. It was a special meeting of over 4,000 people, and the first since Covid. We said that this was and is a time of YMCA unity, of resilience, of shared vision, and of multiplied impact.

Those words seemed to echo all over the world, and we heard the same ideas being expressed by others across the YMCA Movement – for instance during YMCA Europe's 50-year celebrations in Berlin, at the YMCA Youth Summit of the Americas in Bogota, at the YMCA Asia Pacific General Assembly in Chennai, at the YMCA Africa General Assembly in Nairobi, and at individual National Movements across all continents.

2023 was the year when we took big strides in the practical alignment towards becoming the global YMCA, and the youth empowerment partner of choice, that we aspire to be. So we're proud to present a report about empowering young people and communities to be and to lead the change they want to see.

We warmly thank all who journeyed with us in 2023.

Soheila Hayek
President

Carlos Sanvee
Secretary General



▲ Soheila Hayek
President



▲ Carlos Sanvee
Secretary General

Our voices



Kevin Kapeke
Board Director,
YMCA Victoria, Australia

“ The YMCA provides a platform to centre diverse youth perspectives across the world as we work towards building a just and more equitable society. As a Board Director, I am passionate about the opportunity to build the capacity of young people and bring them on this journey.”



Goddy Nana Mens
Communications Advisor,
YMCA Ghana

“ I love working with the YMCA because I see firsthand the real change we are making in the lives of young people. It is always inspiring when we help young people to find their voice and develop to become agents of change in their communities.”



Gerhard Wiebe
International Director,
YMCA Germany

“ I love working with the YMCA because we are collectively impacting communities on the ground by using our global framework of our strategy, Vision 2030. We are giving our best to put young people at the centre of change, and we are here to empower them for it. Being part of the YMCA's mission is a huge privilege.”



Lavine Imali
Communications Officer,
Africa Alliance of YMCAs

“ I love working with the YMCA because it's not just a job, it's a purpose-driven journey where diverse youth voices are championed, communities are transformed, and young leaders are empowered to shape a brighter future for all.”



Sunita Suna
Executive Secretary of Programmes,
Asia and Pacific Alliances of YMCAs

“ As an individual committed to social justice concerns, I find fulfilment through my work at the YMCA. YMCA's dedication towards creating positive change in diverse communities aligns perfectly with my personal values and goals. I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to meaningful work and to be a part of a community that shares my passion.”



Bassielis Silvero
YMCA Republica Dominicana

“ I work with YMCA because I connected with my true passion: to help those who are in need. Being part of YMCA means being part of the change I want to see in the world. ”

WHERE WE ARE

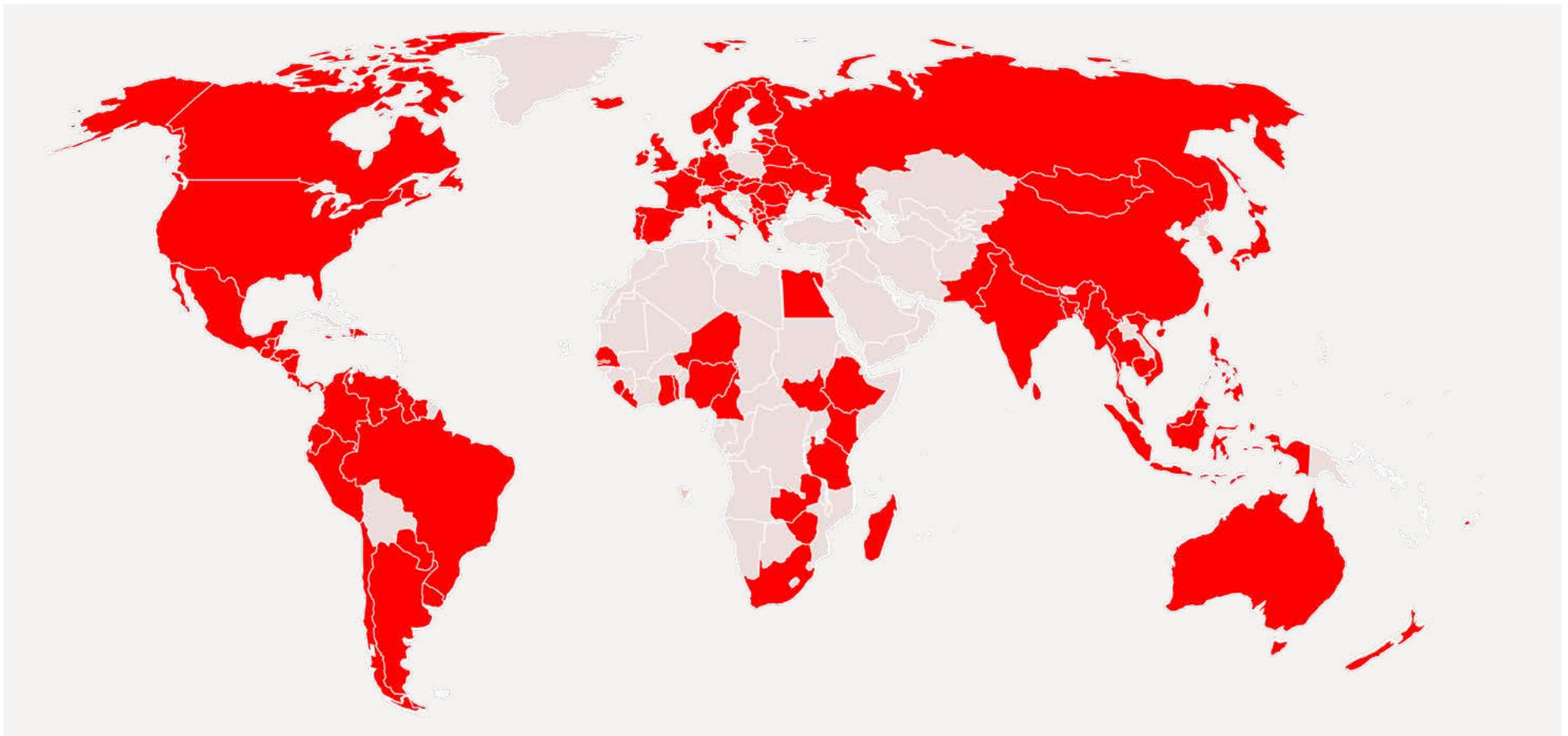
We are in 120 countries worldwide, in 12,000 communities with an extensive global network of 90,000 staff and 920,000 volunteers.

The YMCA provides solutions to our local community needs, reaching over 60 million people each year.



Our presence

WHERE WE MAKE OUR IMPACT



[See more here](#)

WHAT WE DO

The YMCA empowers young people and communities worldwide, and aims to inspire local, national, and global change, guided by our four Pillars of Impact: Community Wellbeing, Meaningful Work, Sustainable Planet and Just World.

We are deeply embedded in local communities, providing a diverse range of programmes and services tailored to each of our local community's needs.



Key statistics and impacts



120

countries where the YMCA is represented



60M+

people reached annually



90K

staff worldwide



920K

volunteers worldwide



12K

local YMCAs worldwide



3.63M

community beneficiaries from Global Youth Mobilization (GYM) 2021-2023



115

Change Agents from 56 countries in the fifth cohort onboarded, trained and equipped



2.4K

environmental programmes are underway in 2023 across YMCAs worldwide



EUR 10M

EU Fund commits for ongoing Global Youth Mobilization (GYM 2.0)



USD 1.2M

Accenture commit for an adaptive strategy & training Hubs for displaced Ukrainian communities



USD 8M

tech giant HP provides support to YMCAs worldwide, to accelerate digital equity in their communities



2023 highlights

Global Youth Mobilisation (GYM) completion of 1.0



FEBRUARY 2023

HP/YMCA partnership digital hub training begins



APRIL 2023

YMCA Global Change Agents kicks off



MAY 2023

YMCA/Accenture partnership



JULY 2023

YMCA Australia & Deloitte Australia partnership announced



AUGUST 2023

EU Youth Empowerment Fund through Global Youth Mobilisation (GYM) announced



OCTOBER 2023

COP28 - 16 youth delegates selected



NOVEMBER 2023

World Basketball Day - United Nations official observance



DECEMBER 2023

2023 highlights

KEY HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2023

- ▶ **Global Youth Mobilisation (GYM 1.0):** The Big 6 organisations* administered the funding of USD 2 million from the World Health Organization and United Nations Foundation – empowering 73,000 young leaders to implement 654 projects across 125+ countries, which engaged 518K young people through youth-led local solutions and Accelerator program, with 3.63M community beneficiaries over 2021-2022. *The Big 6 consists of World YMCA, YWCA; Scouts; Girl Guides; International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC); and The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award. In November 2023, the EU Youth Empowerment fund committed a further EUR 10 million, to be administered through Global Youth Mobilisation (GYM) over the next two years.
- ▶ **YMCAs partner with HP:** HP provided more than USD 8 million in financial and in-kind support to YMCAs worldwide, to provide accelerate digital equity with over 727,000 beneficiaries (1 March 2023 – 31 December 2023). The HP partnership accelerates digital equity of underserved communities through digital access and skills training to young people in underserved communities, primarily aged 15-26.
- ▶ **Deloitte Australia/ Accenture Development Partnerships (ADP) & YMCA collaboration:** YMCA worked with ADP to produce an adaptive strategy for Meaningful Work that is rooted in research and discussions with YMCAs around the world. YMCA has also worked with Deloitte Australia to conduct global youth research focusing on the needs of young people in the world of work, from identifying their interests and skills to finding employment and advancing their careers.
- ▶ **YMCA Europe / Accenture partnership:** Funding extended to YMCA Europe, granting over USD 700,000 (total contribution USD 1.2 million) in 2023 to support Ukrainian refugees, particularly in Ukraine, Romania, Moldova, and Slovakia providing digital hubs to increase competencies, employability skills, and more to communities affected by the war.
- ▶ **COP28:** A group of 16 youth delegates were selected from around the world to represent the YMCA at COP28 in Dubai, presenting youth voices on environmental sustainability.
- ▶ **Change Agents 5.0:** the fifth cohort of the Global Change Agents programme launched with 115 Change Agents from 56 countries, all young YMCA leaders making a positive impact in their own local communities.



YMCA Vision 2030

OUR VISION

Our vision is a world where every person lives in harmony with self, with society and with creation.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to empower young people and communities worldwide to build a just, sustainable, equitable and inclusive world, where every person can thrive in body, mind and spirit.

OUR FOUR PILLARS OF IMPACT

1. **Community Wellbeing:** We create environments where everyone can thrive in Body, Mind and Spirit.
2. **Meaningful Work:** We work with young people and communities on equitable education, training and employment opportunities.
3. **Sustainable Planet:** We channel young people's commitment to climate justice and sustainability.
4. **Just World:** We stand for a Just World for young people and communities.



Community
Wellbeing



Meaningful
Work



Sustainable
Planet



Just
World



Vision 2030 across the four Pillars of Impact



At World YMCA, we support all 120 National Movements, which in turn support 12,000 centres and communities, with programmes and partnerships that focus on our four Pillars of Impact – Community Wellbeing, Meaningful Work, a Sustainable Planet, and a Just World. We are highlighting just a few global programmes and partnerships that run across all four Pillars here, as an example of our work and impact.

PROGRAM/PARTNERSHIP

Global Youth Mobilisation (GYM)

- ▶ The Global Youth Mobilisation (GYM) is a youth-led strategic partnership aimed at building a more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable future, with a focus on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- ▶ Supported by the EU Youth Empowerment Fund, GYM is a collaborative effort involving the "Big Six" youth organizations: World YMCA, Scouts, Girl Guides, World YWCA, International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award.
- ▶ In late 2023, the EU committed an additional EURO 10 million to Phase 2 of the Global Youth Mobilisation project with the Big Six. The EU Youth Empowerment Fund is implemented through the Global Youth Mobilisation (GYM).
- ▶ All of our youth-led community programmes are linked with our four Pillars of Impact, and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Summary snapshot GYM



“ I am forever thankful for having this opportunity to represent the youth of the YMCA, and I'm aware of how much of a privilege it is to represent such a majestic Movement. ”

Loris Tarazi, Loris is a volunteer and Board member at the East Jerusalem YMCA, and YMCA Youth Representative for the Global Youth Mobilization (GYM) initiative.



(Right): Loris with World YMCA Secretary General Carlos Sanvee at the 20th World Council in Aarhus, Denmark.



Vision 2030 across the four Pillars of Impact



Community Wellbeing



Meaningful Work



Sustainable Planet



Just World

ADVOCACY

Our Global Change Agents

- ▶ The YMCA's fifth cohort of YMCA Change Agents launched in April 2023, with 115 Change Agents from 56 countries participating.
- ▶ Since 2014, 750 Change Agents have graduated from the programme, leading change in 67 countries worldwide.
- ▶ YMCA Change Agents participated in online and face-to-face training, mentoring and local project development for the expansion of youth services. Change Agents in this cohort worked in action learning teams across topic areas of shared interest aligned to the YMCA Vision 2030 Pillars of Impact and geographic regions.
- ▶ The YMCA Change Agent programme is a global leadership development initiative that empowers young leaders to become change-makers in their communities, focusing on our four Pillars of Impact.



115

Change Agents
12 Team Champions
55 Mentors



56

countries
represented across
6 continents



10+

partners



30

hours of live
engagements from
20+ contributors



Vision 2030 across the four Pillars of Impact



Community Wellbeing



Meaningful Work



Sustainable Planet



Just World

PARTNERSHIPS

Our strategic partnerships address challenges in health, youth employment, climate change, civic engagement and strengthening the voice of young people at the highest policy levels.

We also collaborate with many of our peer organisations at the global level through events, campaigns, workshops, joint advocacy and conferences.

We were delighted to partner with the following organisations in 2023:

- ▶ Accenture Development Partnerships (ADP)
- ▶ American Express
- ▶ Asian Venture Philanthropy Association
- ▶ "Big 6" alignment: World YMCA, Scouts, Girl Guides, World YWCA, IFRC, and the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award
- ▶ Deloitte Australia
- ▶ EU Youth Fund, Global Youth Mobilisation Initiative
- ▶ European Venture Philanthropy Association
- ▶ FIBA Foundation
- ▶ UNICEF's Generation Unlimited
- ▶ HP Inc.
- ▶ International Civil Society Centre
- ▶ International Labour Organization/ Decent Jobs for Youth team
- ▶ International Telecommunications Union
- ▶ Kofi Annan Foundation
- ▶ United Nations Foundation - Unlock the Future Coalition
- ▶ World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and their Business Commission to Tackle Inequality (BCTI)
- ▶ World Health Organization (WHO)
- ▶ Ys Men international



World Health Organization

UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION



Unlock the Future

accenture

YOUTHWISE
The OECD's Youth Advisory Board



FIBA FOUNDATION
BASKETBALL FOR GOOD

unicef



GLOBAL YOUTH MOBILIZATION



United Nations
Office of the Secretary-General's
Envoy on Youth



Our voices

YMCA GLOBAL CHANGE AGENTS



Nick Mansfield
YMCA Global Change Agent,
YMCA Canada

“ The experience has shattered the notion that I am just one person - how could I possibly make a difference? We create a network of individuals that turns into a powerful global community, enacting the same unified change by different means across our planet. Through many ripples, we create waves.”



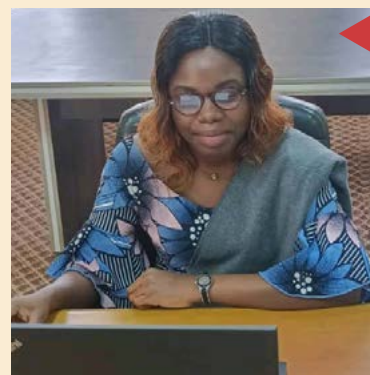
Daliso Chavula
YMCA Global Change Agent,
YMCA Zambia

“ It has been interesting to interact with and build relationships with young people from different cultures. If there is one takeaway for me under this programme, it would be that there are problems everywhere. But, we can always learn from those dealing successfully with challenges similar to our own.”



Jess Jones
YMCA Global Change Agent,
YMCA Canada

“ A key learning for me has been that amateurs are more approachable than experts. Their passion, eagerness for adventure, and willingness to teach others what they know can be more valuable than someone less relatable to a beginner. And, if we start with curiosity, it opens up the conversation to more possibilities.”



Essozimina Bamaze N'Gani
YMCA Global Change Agent,
YMCA Togo

“ It all started with searching for an ideal and appropriate setting to conduct my research work in 2018. Who would have thought that a simple search for quiet to study could give rise to an experience that would transform and impact my life? And so it has! ”



Community Wellbeing

The challenge

Wellbeing is a state of balance between body, mind and spirit, which is challenged increasingly in our ever-changing and uncertain world.

We are currently facing a serious global health challenges with inadequate physical activity levels, impacts of mental health issues and overall wellbeing – in both individuals and communities.

PHYSICAL HEALTH:

- ▶ **Over 80% of adolescents and 27% of adults** (the majority of young people and over 1 in 4 adults) do not meet recommended levels of physical activity worldwide.
- ▶ Insufficient physical activity is a leading risk factor for non-communicable diseases (NCDs), which accounted for **71% of all deaths** globally in 2019.
- ▶ The global **population is aging**, with the number of people aged 60 years and older expected to **double by 2050**, highlighting the importance of healthy aging and promoting physical activity.

(Source: World Health Organization, 2016-2023)

MENTAL HEALTH:

- ▶ **Mental health** is a significant global concern, with the World Health Organization (WHO) **estimating that 1 in every 4 individuals** will experience mental illness at some point in their lives.
- ▶ **Depression has risen by 28%** since the Pandemic, affecting 246 million individuals.
- ▶ **Anxiety disorders increased by 25%** since the Pandemic, impacting 374 million people globally.

(Source: Forbes Health, 2024)



YMCA VISION 2030 SDG ALIGNMENT



Our **Community Wellbeing** Pillar of Impact is aligned with these SDG goals: (3) good health and education, (4) quality education, and (11) sustainable cities and communities.





Community Wellbeing

Our response

PROGRAMMES

- ▶ In 2023, the YMCA worldwide continued to provide and advocate for high-quality, relevant and sustainable health and wellbeing solutions to young people and communities, in 12,000 communities across 120 countries.
- ▶ Our diverse programmes include health and wellbeing, sports, recreation, swimming lessons, training and empowerment programs, and tailored programmes for young people and children. Our programmes focus on both community physical and mental wellbeing, development, and empowerment, with each local YMCA uniquely placed to tailor programmes to meet the needs of their own communities. Our Community Wellbeing programs specifically align with SDG goals 3, 4 and 11.
- ▶ In the USA alone, the YMCA operates in 2,600 locations serving 17 million individuals with the support of over 500,000 volunteers and staff committed to strengthen communities through healthy living programmes and services.

PARTNERSHIPS

- ▶ **Kofi Annan Foundation:** World YMCA and Africa Alliance of YMCAs joined together to leverage our growing partnership with the Kofi Annan Foundation, in a new initiative to strengthen youth mental health professionals across East Africa.
- ▶ **The UN Foundation - Unlock the Future Coalition:** provided opportunities for young people from across the YMCA Movement to help shape the post-2030 UN agenda.
- ▶ **World Health Organization (WHO):** The World YMCA joined the World Health Organization's (WHO) first Civil Society Commission. The commission aims to enhance dialogue, collaboration, and recommendations to improve WHO's engagement with civil society globally, regionally, and nationally. Its goal is to make this engagement more systematic, supporting WHO's efforts to advance public health and achieve health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- ▶ **FIBA:** The World YMCA and the FIBA Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the International Basketball Federation (FIBA), officially joined forces. Based on our common cultural heritage of basketball, we will collaborate on programmes to empower young people to initiate positive change in their communities.





Meaningful Work

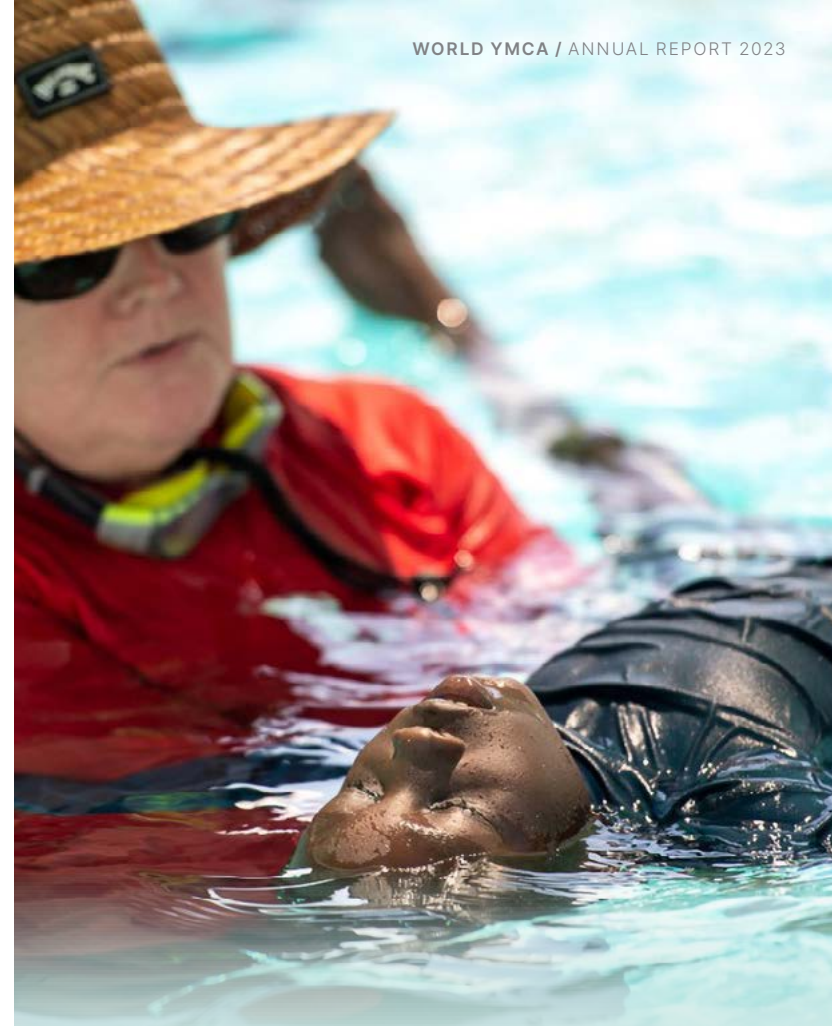
The challenge

It's such an important time historically to prepare young people for the future of work. The current state of play is failing our young people, with women and girls, and marginalised groups faring the worst.

If we are going to empower young people to navigate and thrive in a rapidly changing context, we need to problem-solve with, and for young people. And we need to work together differently across businesses, governments, and civil society.

- ▶ **Two-thirds** of the global youth labour force are without a basic set of skills.
- ▶ **Three-quarters** lack the skills needed for employment.
- ▶ 77% of Gen Z and 75% of Millennials would consider looking for a new job if their employer required them to be on-site full-time.
- ▶ 60% of global workers are seriously considering leaving their jobs for one that better supports their wellbeing.
- ▶ 44% of young people say they were taught only 'very basic' digital skills.
- ▶ 12% of young people say they received no education at all in technology or digital skills at school.

Source: ILO World Employment and Social Outlook, 2023, and WEF Future Jobs Report 2023.



YMCA VISION 2030 SDG ALIGNMENT



Our **Meaningful Work** Pillar of Impact is aligned with these SDG goals: (1) no poverty, (3) good health and education, (4) quality education, and (8) decent work and economic growth.





Meaningful Work

Our response

PARTNERSHIPS

Our Meaningful Work programs specifically align with SDG goals 1, 3, 4 and 8. Our Deloitte Australia collaboration is an example of our alignment with SDG goals (4) quality education, and (8) decent work and economic growth.

Deloitte Australia and YMCA Australia collaborate

- ▶ In 2023, a collaboration between Y Australia and global professional services firm, Deloitte Australia, was formed, to conduct global research to understand young people's work aspirations and experiences (via a global survey and an online forum).
- ▶ **The YMCA/Deloitte Australia:** collaboration will then deliver a series of focused reports on the state and opportunities for young people in Modern Work (in 2024), to help drive practical and sustainable actions, toward a more equitable and meaningful future of work by 2030. This effort will tell us how the YMCA can make the most impact on youth employment.
- ▶ **Global Future of Work Impact Fund:** The World YMCA began, in 2023, to build a coalition of corporations, funder collectives, international non-profits, thought leaders, and international organisations to steer the creation of a Global Future of Work Impact Fund, with a pilot planned for 2024.
- ▶ **Accenture Development Partnerships:** Global consulting firm Accenture, worked with YMCAs and an advisory group of international partners to develop an 'adaptive strategy' for the YMCAs Meaningful Work Pillar of Vision 2030. Together they crafted an end-to-end path of what every young person needs from the YMCA in the world of work - from 'finding their life project' (what they like, and what they're good at); to finding their next job; to growing their enterprise or following skills pathways; to finding the right people to journey with them.
- ▶ **YMCA Europe and Accenture partnership for employability:** In 2023, Accenture also scaled its partnership with YMCA Europe with an additional grant of over USD 700,000 (total contribution USD 1.2 million) to enable YMCAs in Europe working with Ukrainian refugees to expand their important work. YMCA Europe's Hubs, supported by Accenture Foundation, operate in Ukraine, Romania, Moldova and Slovakia. They are addressing an immediate need for digital competencies, employability-skills building, legal advice, mental health support and youth work, serving beneficiaries from communities affected by the war.



“ I firmly believe we can make a positive change...this is an opportunity to craft solutions ”

Sahaza Ariniriana, Youth Representative on the YMCA worldwide Global Meaningful Work Steering Committee, Madagascar.





Sustainable Planet

The challenge

- ▶ The world is experiencing accelerating climate change, marked by soaring temperatures, extreme weather patterns, and irreparable ecological change, primarily due to greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels, methane, and other gases. The toll of extracting and burning these fuels is stark, manifesting as air, land, and water pollution, habitat destruction, and ecosystem degradation.
- ▶ Young people will be disproportionately impacted by climate-related decisions, and marginalised communities will continue to bear the brunt of these impacts, underscoring a moral imperative to rectify these injustices and safeguard the rights and dignity of all, especially the most vulnerable.
- ▶ Reconceptualizing our relationship with energy is vital for the prosperity and success of all peoples and ecosystems across the planet.

Source: YMCA's youth representatives to COP28, 2023

“The best time for advocacy on this issue was decades ago.
The second-best time for advocacy on this issue is now.”

YMCA's youth representatives to COP28



YMCA VISION 2030 SDG ALIGNMENT



Our **Sustainable Planet** Pillar of Impact is aligned with these SDG goals: (4) quality education, (7) affordable and clean energy, (10) reduced inequalities, (11) sustainable cities and communities, (12) responsible consumption and production, and (13) climate action.





Sustainable Planet

Our response

YMCAs worldwide are committed to both becoming a Greener Movement, as well as being an active youth voice on climate justice and championing youth-led sustainability solutions. Leading up to and including 2023, YMCAs have been involved in the following environmental related programmes and youth led climate projects.

OUR COMMITMENT

Locally

The YMCA will take steps towards becoming a climate-neutral Movement, building a roadmap that will allow all YMCAs to make measurable and meaningful progress in their policies and practices based on local realities.

Community-wide

The YMCA inspires its members, volunteers, staff and community stakeholders to champion environmental responsibility, while also integrating climate education components for young people and communities worldwide.

Globally

The YMCA will champion global solutions and policies to support a Just Transition to a Green Economy, making sure that no-one is left behind as we work together towards the regeneration and protection of our planet.



2,400

**YMCA's worldwide
environmental programmes
reaching 232,000 people**



YMCA Madagascar green ambassadors ▲



Sustainable Planet

Our response

ADVOCACY

- **COP28 YMCA Youth Delegates:** In December 2023, 16 young representatives from around the world represented the YMCA at COP28 in Dubai. The conference focused on advancing the goals of the Paris Agreement, particularly limiting global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. Our delegates concentrated on fossil fuels, a just transition, and amplifying youth voices. For the past seven years, the YMCA has sent youth representatives to COP global summits, starting from COP22. This involvement has been crucial in contributing youth perspectives and addressing climate change challenges. Our youth led solutions focus areas align specifically with SDG goals 4, 7, 10, 11, 12 and 13.

PROGRAMMES

- **Youth-Led Solutions:** In June 2023, 20 young representatives from YMCA Madagascar came together with a shared goal: to serve as green ambassadors toward a sustainable planet. After completing the five-day training programme at the Youth Powerspace YMCA Antsirabe, where they developed effective environmental protection strategies using Design Thinking, they have been actively implementing their projects.
- **YMCA/WWF/UNICEF:** YMCA is leveraging its partnerships with WWF International and with UNICEF's Generation Unlimited (GenU) as part of Gen U's Green Rising to provide young people from YMCAs around the world with more opportunities to have their voices heard.



“ We were excited to bring one of the largest youth delegations to COP28 and take the lead in championing youth-led solutions for a Sustainable Planet ”

Shakil Karim, Head Youth Delegate (USA),
YMCA COP Youth Representatives.





Just World

The challenge

We are currently facing a multitude of complex global problems including discrimination, conflict, and inequality.

- ▶ **Inequality:** The global wealth gap continues to wide, with the richest 1% owning more than 44% of the world's wealth, and approximately 9.2% of the world's population living in extreme poverty (defined as living on less than \$1.90 a day) in 2020.
Sources: World Bank, Credit Suisse's Global Wealth Report.
- ▶ **Education:** While progress has been made in increasing access to education, millions of children worldwide are still out of school, particularly in low-income countries.
- ▶ **Technology divide:** The digital divide between developed and developing countries persists, limiting access to information, education, and economic opportunities for many.
- ▶ **Gender inequality:** Women and girls face significant barriers to equality, including limited access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities. Globally, women earn 77 cents for every dollar earned by men, according to the World Economic Forum.
- ▶ **Racial and ethnic discrimination:** Discrimination based on race and ethnicity remains a pervasive issue, leading to social and economic disparities and injustices.
- ▶ **Political instability and conflict:** Many regions of the world continue to experience political instability, conflict, and human rights abuses, leading to displacement and suffering.

We understand that addressing these challenges requires a coordinated global effort, including policy changes, investments in infrastructure and education, and promoting social and economic inclusion for all.



YMCA VISION 2030 SDG ALIGNMENT



Our **Just World** Pillar of Impact is aligned with these SDG goals: (4) quality education, (5) gender equality, (10) reduced inequalities, (16) peace, justice and strong institutions, and (17) partnerships for the goals.





Just World

Our response

The YMCA believes in the power of young people and communities to promote and advance justice, peace, equity and human rights for all. We aim to have a global voice in the fight against systemic discrimination, inequity, injustice and racism in all its forms, and to amplify the voices of young people and communities where we exist.

PROGRAMMES

- ▶ During 2023, 20 out of 24 YMCAs in Ukraine continued to serve their communities, thanks to global YMCA support coordinated by YMCA Europe.
- ▶ The Y's Men funded research into digital equity programmes operational in YMCAs in over 40 countries.

ADVOCACY

World YMCA continues to establish its global presence alongside partners:

- ▶ **UN General Assembly week:** World YMCA was present for UN General Assembly week in New York in September and hosted a youth event on behalf of the UN Unlock the Future Coalition at Vanderbilt Y, near the UN Headquarters.
- ▶ **World Health Organization Youth Council:** A YMCA youth representative sits in the World Health Organization Youth Council; and there are two YMCA Youth Commissioners on the Board of The Business Commission to Tackle Inequality, an initiative of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development - the two spoke at the launch of its flagship report in May.
- ▶ **Israel/Palestine conflict:** We have YMCAs in and around the areas of the conflict, and our YMCA in Gaza was completely destroyed. We remained in close contact with our leaders in YMCAs from Gaza, East Jerusalem, Lebanon and West Jerusalem, and issued a call for a cease fire.
- ▶ **Organization for Migration (IOM):** YMCA was invited to join IOM's International Dialogue on Migration with a bilateral conversation with IOM's lead on civil society organisations.
- ▶ **UN Peace Talks:** YMCA was invited to join the Geneva Peace Talks at the United Nations.



Young people from YMCA Madagascar ▲





Just World

Our response

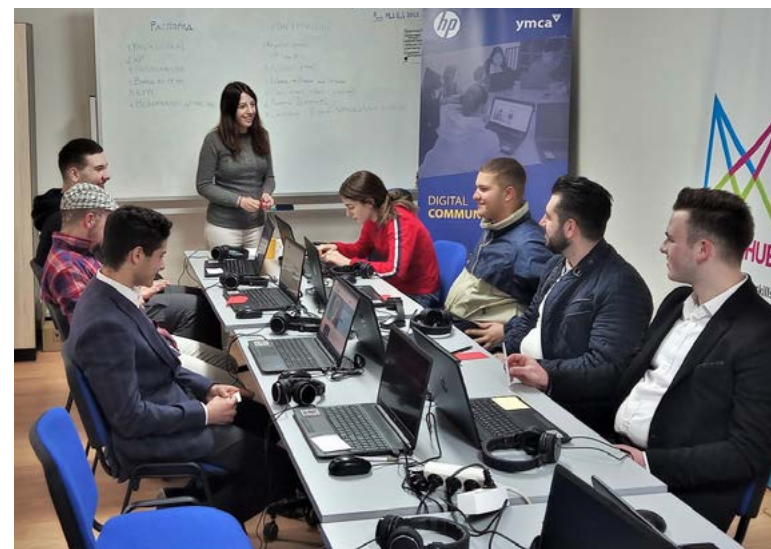
PARTNERSHIPS

Highlighting the HP Inc. and YMCA partnership for digital equity:

- ▶ In 2023, tech giant HP provided nearly USD 8 million in financial and in-kind support to YMCAs worldwide, aiming to accelerate digital equity in their communities. Together, HP and YMCA pledged to connect 175,000 people to the digital world, a commitment endorsed by the United Nations International Telecommunications Union (ITU).
- ▶ The HP partnership provides digital access and skills training to young people in underserved communities, primarily aged 15-26.
- ▶ The partnership has expanded to include nearly 20 YMCAs, offering diverse locally tailored programmes focusing on digital literacy, skills, hardware, and connectivity. Notable launches of YMCA/HP tech hubs occurred in Houston, USA, and Delhi, India.

The partnership's impact:

- ▶ Together, we have established digital training hubs in seven countries, benefiting a total of over 727,000 individuals (from March 1 to December 31, 2023).
- ▶ Significant progress was made in community acceleration, including the establishment of the Educational Digital Centre in the Republic of Moldova, benefiting over 300,000 people. This initiative also encompasses countries in the Western Balkans, empowering young people to become change agents in their communities and enhancing their digital skills.
- ▶ YMCAs in East Jerusalem, Scotland, Ethiopia, and Liberia offered HP courses in 2023. Additionally, three YMCAs were selected to offer tech centers, aiming to reach at least 5,000 people annually for three years to accelerate digital equity.



Our voices



Nalisoa Andrianarivo
World YMCA Executive Committee Member,
YMCA Madagascar

“ The YMCA - from my Y-club to the World Alliance - has given me space to grow. The trust and the faith the Y put in me through these different experiences have built and enhanced my confidence and helped me believe that I can participate in the empowerment of my peers and community.”



Bruno Henrique Fernandes
ACM / YMCA São Paulo

“ What I love most about my work is the YMCA's mission, which aligns with my own life purpose. The YMCA demonstrates the power of developing people and communities, and it makes it clear that together, we can transform humanity. ”



Carine Armoogum
Centre Director,
YMCA Newman Early Learning Centre,
Western Australia

“ I am passionate about supporting children's holistic development, and The Y Newman offers a beautiful natural environment where children can explore and learn from the world around them. ”



Nova Peris, OAM
Non Executive Director of YMCA NT, Australia
First Aboriginal female parliamentarian
(from 1971) and Olympic Gold Medalist.

“ As a child growing up, I dreamt big. Most people would have looked at an Aboriginal girl from the Territory, where the statistics... point to every reason why I should not succeed. But I was determined to be successful. ”



Zachariah Kowalski
Southside Virginia Family YMCA, USA

Zachariah has been with the YMCA for over 12 years, as Front Desk Receptionist:

“ The YMCA represents encouragement and community. The community I have found at the Y has encouraged me to become the person I am today! ”



Denise Hatton
Chief Executive Officer, YMCA England & Wales

“ The most important thing we can do as an organisation is to see people – whether they are young people, staff or volunteers – to realise their potential; to strive for quality at all times and to emphasise trust, openness and transparency in everything we do. ”

Worldwide impact



YMCA ASIA PACIFIC IN 2023

The Asia and Pacific Alliance of YMCAs (APAY) remained dedicated to its four Pillars of Impact throughout 2023. Here are some of the key highlights:

- ▶ APAY's 21st General Assembly, 5th Youth Assembly, and Gender Equity Forum took place in Chennai, India: These events brought together 344 delegates from 21 countries, including 130 youth and 160 women. The Youth Assembly reaffirmed its commitment to empowering young people and creating a sustainable future. The Gender Equity Forum led to the development of APAY's Gender Justice Policy.
- ▶ Green Ambassadors Training in Chiangmai, Thailand: APAY held this training from 22-27 May 2023 to align the Green Movement with YMCA Vision 2030's Sustainable Planet pillar of impact, focusing on combating climate change.

Highlighting some of our Asia and Pacific National programmes and impacts:

- ▶ Inauguration of YMCA India - HP LIFE Tech Centre: Held on 20 March at the headquarters of the National Council of YMCAs of India, this inauguration marked a significant partnership aimed at young people pursuing employment in digital fields.
- ▶ Bangladesh: The Youth Exchange Programme 2023 at Birisiri YMCA, Durgapur, Netrokona, Bangladesh, educated young people about Vision 2030. The National Council of YMCAs of Bangladesh also donated blankets to 550 households affected by winter cold waves.
- ▶ Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong: Their University & College YMCA 20th Anniversary International Youth conference 2023, titled "Inspire2gether: Community Wellbeing in Post-pandemic Era," focused on inspiring young people to respond to society's needs and explore the pandemic's impact on community wellbeing. In early 2023, Hong

Kong returned to its normal routine, and the YMCA of Hong Kong reconnected with the world by welcoming the World YMCA President, Soheila Hayek, in March. Additionally, the summer international camp and exchange programmes welcomed 14 young people from Argentina, Belarus, Bhutan, France, Thailand, and Ukraine.

- ▶ YMCA CamSur, Philippines: In June, a tree-planting activity at San Ramon to promote a Sustainable Planet, planting 288 forest and flowering trees with assistance from local service clubs.
- ▶ The YMCA of Mongolia: one of the youngest movements of the Asia Pacific YMCA, celebrated its 10th Anniversary together with national and international partners, volunteers and staff.
- ▶ Y Australia: continued to offer a wide range of programmes and services throughout 2023, including health and wellbeing initiatives, aquatics, sports and recreation, camping, inclusion programs, youth initiatives, and children's programs, with over 2.35 million participations. And nationally, Y Careers, a social enterprise commenced, to create 30,000 job placements for up to 15,000 young people over the next five years, funded by an Australian Government grant of AUD \$15.2 million.
- ▶ YMCA New Zealand: in 2023 the Youth Guarantee programme empowered 228 students enrolled in 274 programs, focusing on education to enable young people to thrive in their communities.
- ▶ YMCA Japan: across 35 cities YMCAs operate 202 programme facilities, along with 37 training centres and campsites, in 2023, the Japan YMCA continued in English education, camping and outdoor education, vocational training, as well as wellness and sports programming.

Worldwide impact



YMCA AFRICA IN 2023

- ▶ YMCA Africa conducted 31 people-centered solutions sessions to develop our four Pillars of Impact areas: Community Wellbeing, Meaningful Work, Sustainable Planet, and Just World, providing 18 months of Subject to Citizen (S2C) training, empowering 36 participants from 18 National Movements with civic competence and project implementation skills. S2C Ambassadors then implemented their innovative programmes, through their National Movements.
- ▶ YMCA South Africa: As an example, Fion Mfenqa, an (S2C) Ambassador from South Africa, led a project providing sexual and reproductive health and rights education and hygiene packs to teens at Gelvandale Primary School. The project reached over 100 adolescents.
- ▶ At Ghana YMCA, two projects were implemented and led by S2C Ambassadors. (1) A project titled 'SmartFunder Project' was aimed at providing a platform for 10 young people to learn new skills in areas of entrepreneurship considering the labor market. (2) The 'Bevy Rescue Project' in Western Ghana aimed to reduce teenage pregnancy rates. It targeted adolescent males and females through advocacy, forums, and capacity-building training on sexual reproductive health and rights. The project directly benefited 200 people.
- ▶ Ambassadors in Zimbabwe held discussions at their local YMCA branch to discuss and create awareness on drug, substance, and alcohol abuse issues and how they impact young people.
- ▶ YMCA Madagascar: the Green Ambassadors led a successful project of removing rubbish from their streets.
- ▶ The Africa team monitored the 'We Want Youth Justice and Dignity' project with YMCA Zimbabwe: It reviewed the lessons learned from implementing the small loans facility in Bulawayo. Loans were disbursed to 170 young people, with more than half able to repay the loans through profits after starting or scaling their businesses.
- ▶ YMCA Ghana, in partnership with Weltfilme, continued its filmmaking programme in 2023 and has trained over 10,000 young people in cinematography, writing and directing films, with several of their documentaries winning international film festival awards.
- ▶ The Kilifi YMCA in Kenya: joined the county and national government with its National Tree Planting Day on 14 November, which is in line with its goal to build a better environment now and for the future.
- ▶ The Youth Justice Programme by African YMCAs empowers young people in conflict with the law, through civic competence and the Subject to Citizen (S2C) philosophy.



Worldwide impact



YMCA CANADA IN 2023

Community Wellbeing

- ▶ In January 2023, YMCA Canada received CAD \$6.9 million in funding from the Government of Canada to expand youth mental wellness support through the Y Mind and Mind Medicine programs. Y Mind is a free innovative mental health programme designed to help teenagers and young adults (aged 13-30) manage stress and anxiety. Mind Medicine offers a culturally responsive version of the Y Mind curriculum for Indigenous participants.
- ▶ YMCA Canada and Canadian indie pop band Walk off the Earth joined forces on a new version of the YMCA anthem to promote expanded access to Y Mind. Originally released in 1978, the song has been reimagined with a soulful tone, with a full-length music video available on YouTube.

Meaningful Work

- ▶ YMCA Canada received over CAD \$48,000 from the Government of Canada to provide national workshops and dialogue events focused on accessibility and inclusion during National AccessAbility Week (May 28 – June 3, 2023).
- ▶ YMCA Canada also received CAD \$4 million in funding from the Government of Canada to expand the YMCA Youth Transitions Programme (YTP) at 22 sites across Canada. YTP empowered nearly 8,500 students by providing educational support, mentorship, counselling, and mental wellbeing activities.

Sustainable Planet

- ▶ On August 9, YMCA Canada's National Young Leaders Advisory Committee (NYLAC) hosted a virtual session for the Federation on Green Skills for Youth in recognition of International Youth Day. The session featured speakers from the International Labor Organization (ILO), UNICEF, United Nations Association in Canada, and Archway Community Services in British Columbia. It focused on elevating attendees' understanding of Green Skills as part of supporting the Federation's engagement with the Sustainable Planet pillar of Vision 2030.

Just World

- ▶ In response to Canada's National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30, 2023, YMCA Canada raised over CAD \$31,000 for the Orange Shirt Society through the sale of orange shirts, showing solidarity with Indigenous communities.
- ▶ In March 2023, YMCA Canada launched a Board Diversification Handbook and three information sessions to support greater diversity and inclusion on YMCA boards. The handbook includes recommendations, tools, and templates that support changes in the recruitment, nominations, and interview process.
- ▶ YMCAs in Canada continue to advocate on the implementation of the Canada-wide early learning and childcare system and position its expertise in the delivery of high-quality, accessible, affordable, and inclusive childcare in the country. This includes appearing before the Canadian House of Commons and Senate on Bill C-35 (An Act respecting early learning and childcare in Canada).

Worldwide impact



YMCA EUROPE IN 2023

- ▶ In response to the war in Ukraine in February 2022, a collective fundraising campaign was launched, benefiting over 360,000 people through the YMCA and its partners' assistance, with 21 local YMCAs in Ukraine and 18 countries across Europe. And further support from Accenture, resulted in 12 YMCA hubs established in Ukraine, Romania, Moldova, and Slovakia, to address immediate needs such as digital competencies, employability skills, legal advice, mental health support, and youth work for more than 30,000 beneficiaries directly affected by the war.
- ▶ Also, YMCA digital hubs, supported by HP in the West Balkans and Moldova, reached a total of 268,202 direct beneficiaries and 549,000 indirect beneficiaries. Notably, 38,685 members of marginalized groups benefited, of whom 55% were women. The programme also supported over 17,000 educators and practitioners.
- ▶ #Y2Gether in Berlin in June 2023 marked the 50th anniversary of YMCA's European Alliance, where participants from across Europe came together for discussions on shared history and Vision 2030. The event focused on fostering connections and unity, exploring the pillars of Sustainable Planet, Community Wellbeing, Meaningful Work, and a Just World.
- ▶ A significant achievement of the Roots for Peace initiatives was the Camp Europe pilot, which included 16 YMCA projects across Europe that served hundreds of beneficiaries during the summer, the majority of whom were Ukrainian children and young people.
- ▶ Roots for Peace continued to engage the community of experts and Peace Work Institute alumni through a reunion in Bethlehem from September 13-19. The aim was to analyse the context of YMCA peace work and address current challenges.
- ▶ A new cohort of YMCA Leadership Academy promoting inclusiveness, peace, justice, and diversity in local communities graduated. 17 local projects have been implemented, engaging vulnerable groups.
- ▶ In the UK, the YMCA continued to support over 166,000 children, young people and parents through their family work, as well as their 225+ health and wellbeing facilities, including gyms, swimming pools, community halls, and outdoor activity centres, that engaged more than 63,000 people in 2023.
- ▶ YMCA offers nearly 9,500 beds, from emergency accommodation to supported longer-term housing and youth hostels, providing a home for nearly 20,500 people experiencing homelessness in England and Wales.



Worldwide impact



YMCA LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN IN 2023

In 2023, the Latin America and Caribbean Alliance of YMCAs focused on the four Pillars of Impact: Community Wellbeing, Meaningful Work, Sustainable Planet, and Just World. Here are some highlights of their work:

- ▶ YMCA Aruba: Children at YMCA Aruba learned about science, coding, and app development, with financial support from CIBC First Caribbean International Bank and coordination efforts from the YMCA-LAC office.
- ▶ 48 youth leaders completed the YMCA LAC Youth in Governance Roles program, promoting youth empowerment and strengthening YMCA governance.
- ▶ In collaboration with CIBC First Caribbean International ComTrust Foundation, YMCA LAC enhanced YMCA Afterschool programmes in the English-speaking Caribbean, benefiting over 700 children and youth in 10 programme sites.
- ▶ YMCA LAC advocated for the rights of children and youth in regional networks and forums, engaging with government representatives, international organizations, and civil society in the Organization of American States.
- ▶ With support from the Hollister Foundation and Delta Air Lines, YMCA LAC piloted the Regional YMCA Youth Mental Health Programme “Lift Up” in nine communities, impacting nearly 1,200 young people and adults.

- ▶ YMCA LAC launched its first-ever regional campaign reaching more than 2.9 million people on social media, promoting community-based prevention of mental health disorders and awareness.
- ▶ Grand Challenges Canada invited YMCA LAC to join as an advisory member of the Being Initiative, promoting youth-led solutions for improving mental wellbeing.
- ▶ YMCA LAC co-organized the third edition of the Youth Summit of the Americas in Bogotá, Colombia, engaging youth leaders, senior leaders, corporations, media, and partner organizations in discussions around Vision 2030. They also established and supported 5 operational/learning networks and launched a new knowledge management platform called “LAComunidad” to foster connections and improve access to knowledge in the region.
- ▶ YMCA Salto (Uruguay) held Mental Health workshop pilots, with more than 45 young people and adults participating in the workshops, which were tested in four countries.



Worldwide impact



YMCA MIDDLE EAST IN 2023

- ▶ **Earthquake Response in Turkey and Syria:** YMCA organisations acted swiftly to aid those affected by the earthquake in Turkey and Syria on 6 February. The Jerusalem International YMCA and the East Jerusalem YMCA collaborated to collect coats, warm clothing, blankets, and sleeping bags. Additionally, the YMCA of Hong Kong distributed over 10,000 relief materials, including sanitary supplies, electronics, clothes, and camping equipment.
- ▶ **Peacebuilding Camp in Lebanon:** 31 young people from Lebanon, Syria, and Egypt participated in an international peace camp at Camp el Fares, the YMCA Lebanon's camp center. Counsellors and volunteers from the Finnish Yökoris/Midnight Basketball community introduced the Yökoris approach, shared its best practices, and developed participants' peace-building skills. These camps are part of YMCA Finland's Youth, Peace, and Livelihoods development cooperation program.
- ▶ **Youth Representation in The Business Commission to Tackle Inequality (BCTI):** The voice of young people and the YMCA was included in The Business Commission to Tackle Inequality (BCTI) new report: "Tackling inequality: An agenda for business action." Loris Tarazi of the East Jerusalem YMCA and Priscilla Dunn of YMCA Gambia served as youth commissioners.
- ▶ **YMCA Lebanon ran a number of courses in 2023 to empower young women, including this workshop (pictured on right), where they partnered with LP4Y to develop young ladies' capacities. Over the course of four days, participants gained essential life and employability skills, followed by two days focused on digital skills.**

- ▶ **Israel/Palestine conflict:** from October 2023, the World Alliance of YMCAs was in constant contact with all of the YMCAs in the region, in Gaza, East and West Jerusalem, and Beirut, with the unfolding tragedies in Israel and Palestine. Our Gaza YMCA was completely destroyed, but fortunately our staff were not injured. We issued a statement calling for an immediate ceasefire and for peace in the region, and we continue to monitor the situation and its impacts, and hear from our local YMCAs doing all they can to assist their communities.



Worldwide impact



YMCA USA IN 2023

- ▶ In the USA, the YMCA operates 2,600 locations in 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, serving 17 million individuals with the support of over 500,000 dedicated volunteers and staff committed to strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility.

Youth Development

- ▶ Annually, over 6 million children and teenagers develop values, skills, and relationships that lead to positive behaviours, improved health, and educational achievement through camps, childcare, afterschool activities, sports and more.
- ▶ The YMCA offers more than 12,000 scholarships annually for life-saving water safety skills. In addition, the YMCA supports thousands of young people to improve job readiness and earning potential through literacy, academic support, and job training programs.
- ▶ The YMCA Youth and Government and Model UN programmes engage more than 55,000 students in hands-on civic engagement experiences that allow high school students to serve in model governments at the local, state, national, and international levels. The programme provides young people with the skills, training, and relationships needed to become life-long engaged citizens and community members.

Healthy Living

- ▶ Through the Healthier Communities Initiative, 200 YMCAs in 21 states have developed partnerships to support healthy lifestyles through policies and strategies that bring healthy living within everyone's reach. These initiatives helped reduce health disparities and chronic diseases like obesity and heart disease and lower healthcare costs for individuals through policy, systems and environmental changes.

Social Responsibility

- ▶ In 2023, Y-USA formed a national Youth Advisory Council comprised of 14 young people ages 16-24 who advise and support Y-USA's executive leaders and National Board on emerging issues, opportunities, programs, priorities, and strategic decision-making.
- ▶ More than 1,000 YMCA branches, representing more than 200 Associations across 49 States, Puerto Rico, and D.C., hosted Welcoming Week events to celebrate belonging, inclusion, and welcoming between immigrant and receiving communities.
- ▶ In 2023, local U.S. Ys and Y-USA collectively raised financial, in kind, and technical support valued at more than \$6.5 million. This strengthened the institutional capacity of 66 national YMCA Movements and Area Alliances, in partnership with U.S.
- ▶ The 2023 World Service Campaign raised almost \$3 million. This includes close to \$1.3 million for the Ukraine Humanitarian Response. In 2023, local U.S. Ys and Y-USA provided financial and technical support to build the institutional capacity of more than 60 national YMCA movements and area alliances.
- ▶ Y-USA launched the third round of Youth-Led Solutions seed funding focused on youth-led climate action. 19 teams from 14 countries implemented projects related to climate resilience, education, circular economy, climate justice, and advocacy, impacting more than 90,000 people.
- ▶ In partnership with the YMCAs of New York, Philadelphia, Colombia, and Spain, Y-USA implemented the YMCAs Global Pathways for Meaningful Work programme funded by a \$500,000 grant from the American Express Foundation. The programme improved the career trajectories and economic wellbeing of more than 3,000 young people ages 16 to 32, including immigrants, refugees, and other underserved communities.

OUR PEOPLE



World YMCA staff team



▲ Meet the World YMCA team, gathering from the headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, and diverse corners of the world. They are pictured here at a staff retreat in October 2023. The staff stands together, committed to making a meaningful impact in communities and united around empowering young people everywhere.

Global staff team

Carlos Sanvee,
Secretary General, Togo

Alexandra Meissl,
Accountant, France

Bonnie Gretzner,
Content and Digital
Communications Manager, USA

Claude-Alain Danthe,
Head of Digital Strategy,
Switzerland

Duncan Chowdhury,
Governance Manager, Bangladesh

Emile Richard,
Financial Management Assistant,
Switzerland

Gloria Shimuli Anyika,
Programme Manager, Kenya

John Phillips,
Director of Communications, UK

Kathleen Elsig,
Director of Global Partnerships,
USA, Switzerland

Kayla Williams,
Senior Manager, Global
Partnerships, USA

Maria Cristina Saldarriaga,
Programme Manager, Peru

Mykyta Krushelnytski,
Operations Manager, Ukraine

Razvan-Victor Sassu,
Head of Strategy and Policy,
Romania

Sandra Combet,
Executive Assistant, France

Suzanne Watson,
Director of Finance and
Administration, UK

External resource team

Caroline Chernov,
Lead, Global Impact Investing

Diane Shelton,
Communications adviser

Jan Owen,
Strategic adviser

Kerry Reilly,
Global Events Coordinator

Rehana Merali,
Lead, Meaningful Work

Shakil Karim,
Lead, COP



▲ National General Secretaries (NGS): Held 27-29 March 2023, the three-day conference covered the implementation and funding of YMCA Vision 2030, diversity/equity/inclusion in our YMCAs, women's leadership, and how the YMCA of the Rockies programmes address all four Vision 2030 Pillars of Impact.



▲ The World YMCA kicked off discussions in February 2023 at World YMCA headquarters in Geneva around resourcing YMCA Vision 2030, looking to build synergies and teamwork on partnering and resource development.



▲ Global Communications Workshop held in Geneva, Switzerland, October 2023.



▲ YMCA Europe celebrated its 50 years in Berlin, June 2023.



▲ A Steering Committee is helping the Movement explore its 21st Century YMCA Christian Identity (Geneva, February 2023).



▲ The 85th World YMCA Executive Committee meeting took place from 30 March to 1 April 2023, at Estes Park, Colorado, USA. The meeting included the Global Staff Team and featured three days of discussions, primarily focusing on Vision 2030.



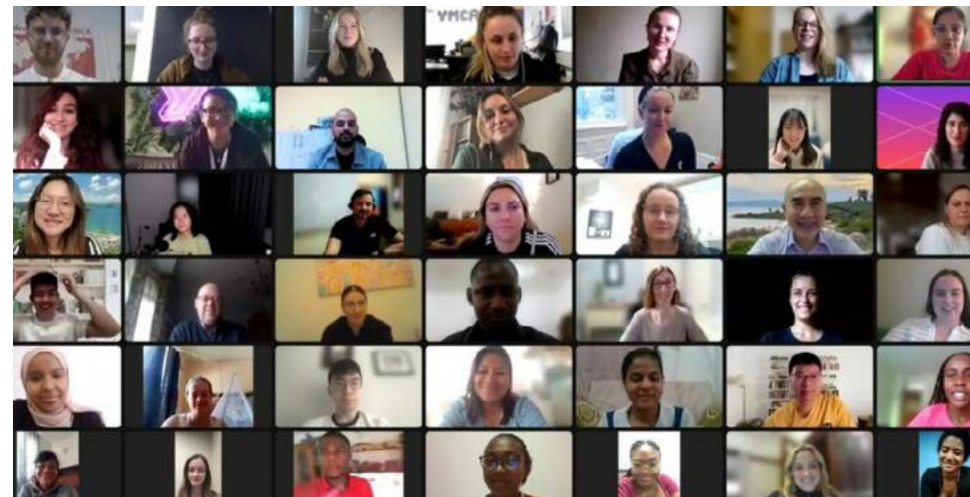
▲ Y USA General Assembly in Atlanta, USA, July 2023. "This is a time of unity, resilience, shared vision and multiplied impact", said Soheila Hayek and Carlos Sanvee.



▲ YMCA Asia Pacific Alliance of YMCAs 5th Youth Assembly, Chennai, September 2023.



▲ The 12th General Assembly of the African Alliance of YMCA convened in Nairobi, Kenya, in November 2023, spanning three days of lively debate and spirited discussions. It included a visit to the Kenya YMCA College of Agriculture and Technology.



▲ The Change Agents Cohort 5.0 launched on 5 April 2023 with 115 participants from 56 countries. They have been meeting virtually each month to explore topics designed to enhance their leadership skills.

GOVERNANCE



World YMCA Executive Committee

OFFICERS & SECRETARY GENERAL



▲
Soheila Y. Hayek
President, Lebanon



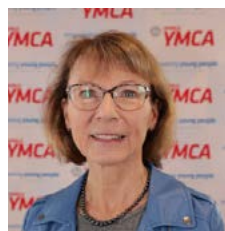
▲
Ronald Tak Fai Yam
Deputy President,
Hong Kong



▲
Cici Rojas
Treasurer, USA



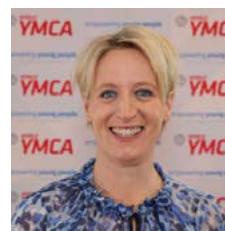
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Carlos Sanvee
Secretary General, Togo



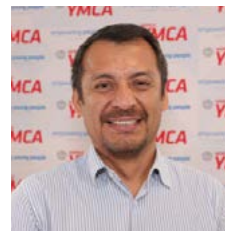
▲
Patricia Pelton
Past President, Canada



▲
Prof. Chin Seng Chen
Area President, Asia &
Pacific Alliance of YMCAs



▲
Emma Osmundsen
Area President YMCA,
Europe



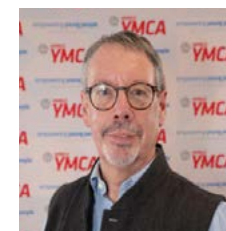
▲
Gerardo Medina
Area President, Latin
America & Caribbean
Alliance of YMCAs



▲
Dr Adrien Coly
Area President Africa
Alliance of YMCAs



▲
Torben Kristensen
Y's Men liaison, Denmark



▲
Duncan Ingram
Co-opted Member,
England & Wales



▲
**Jeanette Hernandez
Prenger**
Co-opted Member, USA

World YMCA Executive Committee

MEMBERS



▲
Ronald Senghore
Gambia



▲
Cristiano Ristov
Brazil



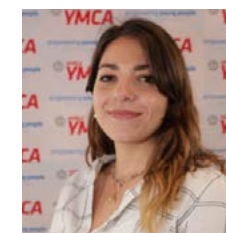
▲
Christopher Lewis
Australia



▲
Harvin Vallabhaneni
USA



▲
Brenda Flaherty
Canada



▲
Maurine Kouba
East Jerusalem



▲
Karren Joy Fetalvero
Philippines



▲
**Anaclara Rodriguez
Canzani**
Uruguay



▲
Nalisoa Andrianarivo
Madagascar



▲
Sarah Bremner
Scotland



▲
Lena Schickhaus
Germany

FINANCIALS



Summary Financial Statements 2023

As at 31/12/2023

To see the full Audited Financial Statement click [here](#).

| | | |
|---|--|--|
|  <p>The World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations, Vernier</p> <p>Report of the Independent Auditor to the World Council on the Summary Financial Statements 2023</p> <p>KPMG SA Geneva, 6 July 2024</p> |  <p>KPMG SA Eplanade de Port-Rouge 6 PO Box 1571 CH-1211 Geneva +41 58 249 25 15 kpmg.ch</p> <p>Report of the Independent Auditor to the World Council of The World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations, Vernier</p> <p>Report on the Audit of the Summary Financial Statements</p> <p>Opinion</p> <p>The summary financial statements of The World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 December 2023, the profit and loss, the cash flow statement and the statement of changes in funds for the year then ended, and related notes, are derived from the audited financial statements for The World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations for the year ended 31 December 2023.</p> <p>In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements, on the basis described in note 1.</p> <p>Summary financial statements</p> <p>The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Swiss GAAP FER. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements and our statutory auditor's report thereon.</p> <p>The summary financial statements and the audited financial statements do not take into account the impact of events that occurred after the date of our statutory auditor's on the audited financial statements.</p> <p>The audited financial statements and our report thereon</p> <p>We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial statements in our statutory auditor's report to the World Council dated 6 April 2024.</p> <p>Executive Committee's responsibility for the summary financial statements</p> <p>The Executive Committee is responsible for the preparation of the summary financial statements on the basis described in note 1.</p> <p><small>© 2024 KPMG AG, a Swiss corporation, is a subsidiary of KPMG Network AG, which is a member of the KPMG global organization of independent member firms affiliated with KPMG Network, a private English company limited by guarantee. All rights reserved.</small></p>  |  <p>The World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations, Vernier Report of Independent Auditor to the World Council on the Summary Financial Statements</p> <p>Auditor's responsibility</p> <p>Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Swiss Auditing Standard (PS) 810 "Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements".</p> <p>KPMG SA</p> <div>   </div> <p>Elodie Elloy Auditor in Charge Licensed Audit Expert</p> <p>Anais Cheron</p> <p>Geneva, 6 July 2024</p> <p>Enclosure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summary Financial statements (balance sheet, profit and loss, cash flow statement, statement of changes in funds and notes to the financial statements) <p>2</p> |
|---|--|--|

Summary Financial Statements 2023

As at 31/12/2023

To see the full Audited Financial Statement click [here](#).



BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31.12.2023

| Assets | Amount in CHF | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| | 2023 | 2022 Restated |
| Current Assets | | |
| Cash in Hand and Banks | 381'209 | 948'984 |
| Accounts Receivable | 596'274 | 757'818 |
| Transitory Assets | 133'801 | 367'002 |
| Deferred Expenditure | 158'526 | 7'339 |
| Short-Term Loans | 1025'742 | 1025'742 |
| Total Current Assets | 2'295'352 | 3'106'886 |
| Non-current Assets | | |
| Investment Portfolio | 15'521'486 | 15'487'912 |
| Long-Term Loans | 7'459'359 | 7'476'517 |
| Tangible Fixed Assets | 40'796 | 27'507 |
| Total Non-current Assets | 23'021'941 | 22'991'936 |
| Total Assets | 25'316'994 | 26'098'821 |
| Liabilities | | |
| | 2023 | 2022 Restated |
| Current Liabilities | | |
| Bank Overdraft | 196'822 | 1'915'193 |
| Accounts Payable | 1'121'938 | 307'180 |
| Transitory Liabilities | 332'225 | 363'194 |
| Short-term Provisions | 85'826 | 43'872 |
| Short-term Liabilities | 1'072'548 | 73'900 |
| Total Current Liabilities | 2'811'158 | 2'709'188 |
| Non-Current Liabilities | | |
| Long-term Liabilities | 5'352'500 | 5'388'500 |
| Total Non-Current Liabilities | 5'352'500 | 5'388'500 |
| Restricted Funds | | |
| Projects Restricted Funds | 487'416 | 572'309 |
| Total Restricted Funds | 487'416 | 572'309 |
| Organisation Capital | | |
| Unrestricted Funds / Deficit Carried Forward | -669'537 | -656'251 |
| Projects Designated | 0 | 256'258 |
| Endowment Funds | 17'625'457 | 17'832'817 |
| Total Organisation Capital | 16'955'920 | 17'432'825 |
| Total Liabilities | 25'316'994 | 26'098'821 |

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PROFIT AND LOSS AS AT 31.12.2023

| Amount in CHF | | 2023 | 2022 Restated |
|--|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Operating income | | | |
| Donations received | | 66'514 | 27'723 |
| Income received for Projects | | 442'140 | 2'106'310 |
| National movements revenue | | 1'424'407 | 1'405'980 |
| Other operating revenue | | 10'132 | 69'595 |
| Total operating income | | 1'943'192 | 3'609'608 |
| Operating expenditure | | | |
| Projects expenditure | | -810'739 | -2'844'758 |
| Fundraising, Partnerships and Communication | | -254'017 | -63'280 |
| Administrative and governance expenditure | | -544'639 | -426'705 |
| Depreciation | | -2'751 | -3'056 |
| Personal Expenditure | | -1'793'275 | -1'578'453 |
| Total operating expenditure | | -3'495'429 | -4'916'254 |
| Operating Result | | -1'462'228 | -1'306'645 |
| Financial Result | | | |
| Current account Result | | -62'695 | -7'000 |
| Financial Interest on Loans | | -83'550 | -77'297 |
| Investment Fund Result | | 466'486 | -2'719'515 |
| Total Financial Result | | 349'641 | -2'804'412 |
| Real estate Result | | 261'390 | 106'187 |
| Result before variation in Restricted Funds | | -851'787 | -4'004'871 |
| Variation in Restricted Funds | | 84'693 | 241'049 |
| Result of the Year before Attribution/Appropriation to Organisation Capital | | -766'904 | -3'763'821 |
| Attribution/Appropriation | | | |
| Attribution to Appropriation from Projects Designated | | 256'258 | -225'048 |
| Attribution to Appropriation from Endowment Funds | | 207'360 | 3'719'515 |
| Attribution to Appropriation from Unrestricted Funds | | 303'286 | 269'354 |
| | | 0 | 0 |

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CASH FLOW STATEMENT AS AT 31.12.2023

| Amount in CHF | | 2023 | 2022 Restated |
|---|--|-----------------|-------------------|
| Cash flow from operating activities | | | |
| Result of the Year before Attribution/Appropriation to Organisation Capital | | -766'904 | -3'763'821 |
| Variation in Restricted Funds | | -84'893 | -241'049 |
| Depreciation | | 2'751 | 3'056 |
| Gains and Losses on Non-Monetary Portfolio | | -587'105 | 2'617'132 |
| Decrease / Increase Accounts Receivable | | 161'544 | 55'961 |
| Decrease / Increase Transitory Assets | | 233'401 | -243'736 |
| Decrease / Increase Deferred Expenditure | | -151'187 | -7'339 |
| Decrease / Increase Accounts Payable | | 814'778 | 284'157 |
| Decrease / Increase Transitory Liabilities | | -30'939 | 97'055 |
| Decrease / Increase Short-term Provisions | | 39'954 | -150'500 |
| Total cash flow from operating activities | | -378'589 | -1'349'108 |
| Cash flow from investment activities | | | |
| Inflow from disposal (selling) of investment portfolio | | 583'531 | 1'503'629 |
| Inflow from disposal (selling) of African Alliance Loan | | 17'157 | 0 |
| Outflows for investment (purchase) of Fixed Assets | | -16'041 | 0 |
| Total cash flow from investment activities | | 564'647 | 1'503'629 |
| Cash flow from financing activities | | | |
| Issuance of Loan by YMCA Hong Kong | | 43'748 | 0 |
| Repayment Swiss Government COVID Loan | | -45'000 | -45'000 |
| Issuance of Loan by ODOO for Vernier Building* | | 1'000'000 | 0 |
| Repayment of Line of Credit by UBS for Vernier* | | -1'000'000 | 0 |
| Repayment Real apartment Loan | | -38'000 | -28'500 |
| Cash flow from financing activities | | -37'252 | -73'500 |
| Change in cash and cash equivalents | | 148'785 | 89'843 |
| Cash and cash equivalents as at 01.01.* | | 33'791 | -46'051 |
| Cash and cash equivalents as at 31.12.* | | 182'587 | 33'791 |
| Proof of change in liquidity | | 148'785 | 89'843 |
| Verification of Cash flow change | | 0 | 0 |

* The initial cash balances were modified for 2022. The UBS Line of Credit was shown as a negative cash position until amended. It is now included in financing activities. In 2023, ODOO took over this credit line and converted it into a loan.

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Summary Financial Statements 2023

As at 31/12/2023

To see the full Audited Financial Statement click here.



STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUNDS AS AT 31.12.2023

| 2023 Amount in CHF | Balance 01.01.2023 | Attribution | Transfer to Profit and Loss | Appropriation | Total change | Balance 31.12.2023 |
|--|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| RESTRICTED FUNDS | | | | | | |
| Projects Restricted Funds | | | | | | |
| Secours Speciaux | 285 715 | 26 528 | 0 | -26 494 | -33 | 285 748 |
| Jean Bessemer Memorial Fund | 19 736 | 0 | 0 | -19 736 | 0 | 0 |
| Sustainability Fund | 0 | 12 627 | 0 | 0 | 12 627 | 12 627 |
| EJA East Jerusalem Anniversary | 0 | 23 536 | 0 | -12 426 | 11 110 | 11 106 |
| Proj Nepal Appeal | 32 607 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 32 607 |
| East Jerusalem Appeal | 0 | 36 763 | 0 | -29 981 | 6 782 | 6 782 |
| Proj Gaza Appeal | 2 289 | 0 | 0 | -2 289 | 0 | 0 |
| Proj Myanmar Appeal | 400 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 400 |
| Lebanon Appeal | 0 | 21 872 | 0 | 0 | 21 872 | 21 872 |
| HP Life PR2 | 231 562 | 0 | 0 | -200 500 | 31 062 | 28 959 |
| HP Life PR3 | 0 | 92 345 | 0 | -92 345 | 0 | 0 |
| HP Life PR4 | 0 | 87 924 | 0 | -87 924 | 0 | 87 924 |
| Total Projects Restricted Funds | 572 309 | 301 586 | 0 | -386 488 | 84 893 | 487 416 |
| TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS | 572 309 | 301 586 | 0 | -386 488 | 84 893 | 487 416 |
| ORGANISATION CAPITAL | | | | | | |
| | Balance 01.01.2023 | Attribution | Internal Transfer | Appropriation | Total change | Balance 31.12.2023 |
| Unrestricted Funds | | | | | | |
| Free Capital / Deficit carried forward | -793 901 | 0 | 0 | -300 286 | 300 286 | -1 067 087 |
| General Reserve | 137 550 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 137 550 |
| Total Unrestricted Funds | -656 351 | 0 | 0 | -300 286 | 300 286 | -656 351 |
| Projects Designated | | | | | | |
| Solidarity Fund COVID19 | 256 258 | 0 | 0 | -256 258 | 256 258 | 0 |
| Total Projects Designated | 256 258 | 0 | 0 | -256 258 | 256 258 | 0 |
| Endowment Funds | | | | | | |
| Refugee Funds | 870 709 | 2 406 | 0 | 0 | 2 406 | 873 115 |
| Endowment Funds | 1 141 531 | 19 446 | 0 | 0 | 19 446 | 1 160 977 |
| John R. Mott Funds | 15 920 578 | 482 633 | 0 | -702 846 | 220 213 | 15 900 365 |
| Total Endowment Funds | 17 832 817 | 484 485 | 0 | -702 846 | 220 213 | 17 832 817 |
| TOTAL ORGANISATION CAPITAL | 17 432 825 | 484 486 | 0 | -702 846 | 220 213 | 17 432 825 |

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUNDS AS AT 31.12.2022

| 2022 Restated Amount in CHF | Balance 01.01.2022 | Attribution | Transfer to Profit and Loss | Appropriation | Total change | Balance 31.12.2022 |
|--|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| RESTRICTED FUNDS | | | | | | |
| Projects Restricted Funds | | | | | | |
| Secours Speciaux | 306 858 | 47 999 | 0 | -70 922 | 22 925 | 285 715 |
| Proj Nepal Appeal | 32 607 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 32 607 |
| World Council 2022 | 303 271 | 1 452 526 | 0 | -1 835 796 | 303 271 | 0 |
| Innovation Camp | 12 476 | 0 | 0 | -12 476 | 12 476 | 0 |
| Orphan Project | 73 775 | 17 949 | -23 880 | -67 844 | 73 775 | 0 |
| Proj Gaza Appeal | 2 289 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 289 |
| Proj Myanmar Appeal | 302 | 96 | 0 | 0 | -96 | 400 |
| Emergency Ukraine | 0 | 4 962 | 0 | -4 962 | 0 | 0 |
| HP Life PR1 | 0 | 83 145 | -3 685 | -79 480 | 0 | 0 |
| HP Life PR2 | 0 | 231 562 | 0 | 0 | -231 562 | 231 562 |
| Jean Bessemer Memorial Fund | 0 | 19 736 | 0 | 0 | -19 736 | 19 736 |
| TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS | 813 358 | 1 857 976 | -27 565 | -2 011 481 | 241 969 | 572 309 |
| | Balance 01.01.2022 | Attribution | Internal Transfer | Appropriation | Total change | Balance 31.12.2022 |
| ORGANISATION CAPITAL | | | | | | |
| Unrestricted Funds | | | | | | |
| Free Capital / Deficit carried forward | -524 447 | 64 541 | 0 | -334 195 | 269 354 | -793 901 |
| General Reserve | 137 550 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 137 550 |
| Total Unrestricted Funds | -386 897 | 64 541 | 0 | -334 195 | 269 354 | -656 351 |
| Projects Designated | | | | | | |
| Solidarity Fund COVID19 | 31 210 | 0 | 300 000 | -74 962 | -225 048 | 256 258 |
| Total Projects Designated | 31 210 | 0 | 300 000 | -74 962 | -225 048 | 256 258 |
| Endowment Funds | | | | | | |
| Refugee Funds | 890 273 | 0 | 0 | -19 564 | 19 564 | 870 709 |
| Endowment Funds | 1 192 052 | 0 | 0 | -51 021 | 51 021 | 1 141 531 |
| John R. Mott Funds | 19 499 508 | 0 | -300 000 | -3 348 930 | 3 648 930 | 15 920 578 |
| Total Endowment Funds | 21 481 833 | 0 | -300 000 | -3 419 515 | 3 299 515 | 17 832 817 |
| TOTAL ORGANISATION CAPITAL | 21 196 046 | 64 541 | 0 | -3 828 662 | 2 767 921 | 17 432 825 |

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS AT 31.12.2023

1. Basis of preparation

The summary financial statements are derived from the audited financial statements for The World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations for the year ended 31 December 2023 prepared in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER, Swiss Law and the association's constitution.

The summary financial statements above are prepared using the basis of the audited financial statements and the same measurement basis but do not contain all disclosures in the notes as required by Swiss GAAP FER and Swiss Law.

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