



**Creating a  
clearer future**



**Annual Report  
2022 -2023**

# A welcome from our new CEO

Dear friends of Vision Action,

As Vision Action Chair and new CEO, it is our great pleasure to share with you our Annual Report for the year ending 31st of March 2023, a year of continued transformation which saw the combining of two international eye health organisations with rich histories in the sector.

Having overcome the challenges posed by the COVID pandemic in recent years, Vision Aid Overseas and Vision for a Nation (VFAN) decided to establish a long-term partnership, enabling them to synergise their efforts and expand their ambitions. This transition also contributed to the rebranding of Vision Aid Overseas as Vision Action, a name that emphasises the importance of proactive engagement and aligns well with our strategy for 2030.

VFAN's team in Ghana became Vision Action staff, and VFAN's CEO and a trustee joined the Vision Action Board of Trustees. VFAN's founder, James Chen, has also become a Patron of Vision Action. This uniting of knowledge and resources, coupled with our refreshed identity allows us to pursue our mission to reduce vision impairment through achieving universal access to affordable eye care and glasses.

Throughout the year, we have made remarkable progress in advancing our

2030 strategy, which you can read about [here](#).

This progress is a testament to the dedication of our exceptional staff, supporters, trustees, and volunteers, who share our commitment to providing universal access to eye care services in under-resourced communities.

This year we enabled more than 170,000 people to access affordable glasses and eye health care, helping improve vision, productivity, and well-being of individuals and communities across Ghana, Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, and Zambia. You can read more about our impact in the following pages of this report.

Our success has been underpinned by valuable partnerships and collaborations, particularly within the eye health and education sectors. We continued to shine a light on the need for greater prioritisation of strategies to address Uncorrected Refractive Error (URE) globally, through our presence on the steering committee for the Coalition for Clear Vision. This coalition, in collaboration with private, non-profit, and NGO sectors, aims to ensure that everyone in need of eyeglasses has access to them by 2050.

To conclude, after another successful year, we are delighted to share that we are better equipped than ever to pursue our vision that “no one lives in poverty because of poor eyesight, and no one lives with poor eyesight because of poverty”.

**Nora Colton, Chair**

**James Riggs, CEO**

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# Our Impact

## Progress towards our Strategy 2020 — 2030

**Goal:** To support the achievement of Universal Eye Health Coverage with a focus on reducing visual impairment and blindness caused by Uncorrected Refractive Error.

Our programmes this year continued with a focus on the following three strategic objectives:

### **1) Supporting the development of Human Resources for Eye Health (HREH)**

This year we empowered 242 primary and secondary school teachers across four countries with the skills to perform vital primary eye care screenings for schoolchildren. They are now adept at identifying eye conditions, offering referrals, and championing eye health awareness. In Ghana, we also equipped 50 primary healthcare workers with essential training, enabling them to deliver primary eye care services within schools, primary health facilities, and communities. In Ethiopia, our Vision4Inclusion: Leave no Child Behind project, supported by USAID, has trained 42 health extension workers in the Amhara region with training to screen and provide assistance to out-of-school children.

In partnership with 31 dedicated volunteers, Vision Action has maintained its commitment to offering continuous professional development to eye health practitioners across Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, and Zambia, leveraging our innovative remote mentoring platform.

This dedication to increasing and empowering the eye health workforce will remain a cornerstone of Vision Action's agenda in the years to come. We are dedicated to working hand in hand with professional associations at the national level, collaborating closely with volunteers, and forging strategic alliances with academic institutions.

### **2) Strengthening essential eye health services**

Through our school eye health programmes in Ghana, Sierra Leone, Zambia and Ethiopia 130,102 school children and teachers benefited through eye screening, refraction, provision of eyeglasses and treatment of eye conditions. Through this work, we are getting ever closer to our goal of integrating eye health within the national school health and nutrition programmes in each country. Vision centres supported by Vision Action have screened more than 42,933 people, refracted 16,332 and issued 14,385 pairs of glasses in the past 12 months. They generated a combined income of £135,795 which is used as a revolving fund for vision centre management and restocking. Furthermore, a dedicated pool of Primary Eye Care workers, operating both within health facilities and through community outreach efforts, have extended their reach to benefit an additional 12,176

individuals, further amplifying our mission to provide essential eye health services to those that need it most.

### 3) The engagement and mobilisation of communities

Community engagement, active participation, fostering ownership, and driving transformative behaviour change communication remain steadfast pillars in our mission. During the year we maintained our commitment to increasing knowledge and understanding about eye health amongst the population by engaging with communities to raise awareness on eye care through radio, focus group discussions, community meetings, at schools, during home visits by community health workers and at vision centres. This also included targeted behaviour change communication to eliminate barriers and stigma around eye care and wearing of spectacles. There remains much to be learned in this area and it will remain a priority in the coming years.





# Programmes

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## Sierra Leone



The project “Essential Community Eye Care Services in Bombali & Koidu Districts, Sierra Leone”, supported by Optometry Giving Sight and Vision Mundi concluded in November 2022. In Bombali district, the project included the relocation of the optical workshop to be housed within a purpose-built structure at Makeni Regional Hospital, reducing the burden for patients having to travel across town to get their glasses. Through its Vision Centre and Outreach activities the project reached 25,921 people with eye screening services, 5,547 spectacles were dispensed and over 400,000 people reached through radio, community sensitisation and awareness raising engagements.

In November 2022, a new project was launched in the Port Loko district which marks the fifth district in the country supported by Vision Action. The package of interventions includes equipping a vision centre, training two new Optometry Technicians and providing eye care services to over 5,000 people in 2 years. With support from the National Eye Care Coordination unit, two already-trained Optometry Technicians have already been assigned to Port Loko to begin providing basic eye care service, awareness raising campaign, community sensitization and outreach services, and two new trainees are due to start their course in the Gambia in July 2023.

We were very fortunate to receive a generous legacy gift for a project entitled “Anthony Eyes”, named after the benefactor. The aim was to provide 500 free cataract surgeries and glasses in five districts: Koidu, Bombali, Kailahun, Bo and Kenema. By the end of March 2023, 404 surgeries had been completed. The first two sets in Koidu and Bombali have been reviewed and rated with 98% producing a good outcome. Glasses have been issued to those who need them. This exercise was well appreciated by all especially the Ministry of Health and Sanitation officials. Below is a quote from a key government official.

Vision Action has been working in partnership with Innovations for Poverty Action, the University of Minnesota, and Queens University Belfast to design the research project “Sierra Leone Sees to Learn”. The project will be assessing the education and mental health outcomes of providing free eyeglasses to students aged 12-15 years with uncorrected errors. Funding from USAID has already been secured, and the project, targeting 160 schools in Freetown and Bo cities will start later in 2023.

Vision Action Sierra Leone continues to enjoy strong partnerships with the Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MOHS) and the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development (MOPED). Through this, we collaborated with the ministry and other organisations to organise the first-ever NGO festival in February which provided a platform to create awareness about eye care. On World Sight Day we were part of history as the National Eye Care Programme (NECP) launched its first-ever National Eye Care Policy. We participated in its development and launching together with other partners.

“It has been a beautiful week to #savesight. Our amazing team of #eyehealthheros, led by cataract surgeon Lansana Sheriff, was in the Kono district where they performed 105 free #sightrestoring eye surgeries. These surgeries were supported by MOHS and our long-time partner Vision Action. In 2023, we aim to amplify our efforts to end #avoidableblindness in #Sierra Leone, one patient at a time. Our patients are our priority and as always it is an honour to be able to restore vision for our people. We are very grateful to the Management and Kono District Hospital for their wonderful support. Many thanks to Vision Action for making things possible. Together we can achieve #universaleyhealth for all Sierra Leoneans”.

Dr. Jalikatu Mustapha (National Eye Health Programme Manager & Ophthalmologist)

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## Ghana

During the year, our focus was on managing the transition of programs and staff from Vision for a Nation Foundation (VFAN) to Vision Action. We also actively delivered on ongoing projects, including the USAID-CBP-funded Child Eye Health in Northern Ghana Project, the Medicor-funded Innovative Eye Health in Ghana Project, and new grants from CooperVision and Optometry Giving Sight for the "Eye Care for All" project, as well as Else Kröner-Fresenius-Stiftung (EKFS) for "Scaling-up Community-based Eye Care in Ghana," covering seven of the fifteen districts in the Upper East Region of Ghana.

Our successful closure of the "Innovative Eye Health in Ghana" project, funded by Medicor Foundation and implemented in three districts in the Upper East Region, involved training 120 primary health care workers in Primary Eye Care (PEC) and reaching 27,869 school children and teachers with eye health information and screenings. We recognise the importance of innovative approaches to address stigma and misconceptions and enhance compliance with wearing spectacles for program sustainability.

Facility-based PEC continued in Talensi and Bongo districts, with trained nurses using Peek software and tablets for real-time data flow and monitoring of PEC activities. We aim to strengthen capacity and expand PEC integration into the primary healthcare system throughout the Upper East Region.

In June 2022, USAID's Child Blindness Programme (CBP) awarded the "Child Eye Health in Northern Ghana" Project to Vision Action. Deliverables included training 100 PHC workers in PEC and screening 35,000 schoolchildren and 2,000 teachers. By year-end, 37,479 school children were screened, along with 2,108 teachers, and 50 healthcare workers and 50 teachers received training.

Collaborating with HCP Cure Blindness, we're assisting 28 children suspected of having cataracts. CooperVision's support enabled the screening of an additional 9,530 individuals in the Bawku West District and the Kassena Nankana Municipality.

The EKFS-funded "Scaling-up Community-based Primary Eye Care" project aims to set up a Vision Centre at Bolgatanga Regional Hospital in the Upper East Region, reducing delays in accessing comprehensive refraction services. All preparations are currently underway to complete the set-up of the Vision Centre in summer 2023 which will ultimately serve the entire Upper East Region and adjoining regions. The project also includes nurse and teacher training in PEC, vision screening for school children, teachers, and community members, and raising eye health awareness.

During the year, Vision Action revisited the discussions with Challenges Worldwide and the Challenges Group in Ghana to design a social enterprise model for vision centres in Ghana, making affordable glasses more accessible. A market study has been conducted, and the



next steps involve developing the financial model and business plan to be tested in a selected district next year.

A significant challenge is the shortage of optometrists, with only one available full-time in the Upper East Region. On-going engagements with the Department of Optometry and Visual Science of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) and the Department of Optometry and Vision Science of the University of Cape Coast (UCC) aim to address human resource development, research, and evidence generation in the field of eye health.





# Ethiopia



The project “Ensuring School Eye Health (SEH) for rural communities in Ethiopia” implemented in the Oromia Special Zone surrounding Finfinne was delivered in 38 schools in partnership with the Oromia Health and Education Bureaus. This multi-year project is in its second of 3-years, supported by Else Kröner-Fresenius-Stiftung (EKFS). It involved training 88 schoolteachers to conduct eye screening for the school children and training 38 school head teachers and 38 Parent Teacher Association (PTA) members to support eye health awareness in schools and communities. Additionally, 22 Health Extension Workers (HEW) were trained to conduct eye screening for out-of-school children.

Through this, we were able to screen 20,497 people (19,175 school children, 651 out-of-school children and 671 teachers) for vision and eye health problems. Of those, 920 (711 school children, 45 out-of-school children, 164 teachers) received treatment with vision corrective glasses and/or eye drops while 66 were further referred for further examination and treatment.

The USAID-funded "Vision4Inclusion: Leave No Child Behind" initiative aimed to integrate School Eye Health into the existing School Health and Nutrition (SHN) program in partnership with Save the Children. Unfortunately, the project faced challenges due to security instability in the Amhara region. Nonetheless, some achievements include:

- Training 64 teachers and 20 Health Extension Workers (HEWs) for primary eye screenings, benefiting both school and out-of-school children.
- Screening 20,218 individuals for eye conditions (929 out-of-school children, 18,707 school children, and 582 schoolteachers from 20 schools).
- Identifying 1,970 individuals with eye conditions who were referred to the mobile eye clinic team (228 out-of-school children, 1,663 school children, and 79).
- Developing a digital data-capture tool linked to the DHIS2 system to enable real-time eye health data collection and sharing in collaboration with the Save the Children Waliku team.

To enhance essential eye health services and to ensure a continuum of care for patients who have eye care needs, a vision centre will be established in the Amhara Region before the project concludes next year. This centre will serve referred cases from schools and provide professional eye health services to the broader community.

Utilizing trained teachers and health extension workers for primary screening proved efficient in reaching more children with eye care. However, some trained teachers in certain schools reported false positives, leading to a higher case burden on mobile eye clinic teams during their visits. This challenge is a common issue in projects where non-eye health professionals conduct screenings.

These insights, along with other learnings, are guiding the refinement and improvement of the school's eye health methodology. Collaboration with the Ministries of Health and Education is ongoing through the School Eye Health Technical Working Group (SEHTWG), chaired by Vision Action and operating under the National Committee for the Prevention of Blindness (NCPB). This year, the SEHTWG collectively developed a national teacher training program for school screening, which received endorsement from the Ministry of Health as the official guideline for all collaborating partners.

A scalability study for school-based eye health was also conducted by consultant Ai Chee Yong in partnership with The Ethiopian Optometry Association and Queens University Belfast and supported by the Beatrice Laing Trust. It is currently in the pipeline for publication.



The 2022-2023 fiscal year concluded the third and final year of the Specsavers Phase 6 programme. Through this final phase of a long-standing partnership, we established the foundation for integrating Primary Eye Care services by adapting the WHO AFRO PEC Manual to Zambia and testing it in 30 Primary Health Care Facilities in Mazabuka District. This was achieved by training primary health care workers, supplying eye care medicines and screening materials, and providing ongoing supportive supervision to ensure the quality of eye care services in these facilities. The trained personnel are now delivering eye care services to the communities and raising awareness to boost demand for eye health services. By March 2023, 5,349 individuals had been screened at the 30 participating Primary Health Care Facilities.

Under the USAID-CBP-funded "Scale-up of School Eye Health in Zambia" project in Petauke District, we screened 53,353 learners and 680 teachers from 101 schools. Of these, 8,372 learners were referred to Mobile Eye Health Clinics (MEHCs) for further assessment. Furthermore, 645 learners and 391 teachers diagnosed with refractive error received glasses, and 3,810 individuals were treated with eye drops for various infections.

Further work was done to strengthen our evidence base for effective planning and advocacy. Firstly, the upscaling assessment conducted by consultant Ai Chee Yong last year was published in the BMC journal<sup>1</sup>. Secondly, a policy assessment and monitoring and evaluation framework for school eye health programmes was conducted by Qaneeta Haseeb, a Master's

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<sup>1</sup> <https://bmchealthservres.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12913-022-08350-2>



student at Queens University Belfast. Both are extremely helpful in informing our work to scale up school-based eye care services.

We continue to forge strategic partnerships to support the integration and expansion of school eye health and PEC in Zambia. One significant initiative involves the agreement between the International Association for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) and the East, Central and Southern Africa College of Nursing (ECSACON) to incorporate PEC training into the nurse's curriculum. Consultations with key stakeholders, including the Nursing Directorate in the Ministry of Health, the Nursing and Midwifery Council, and the ECSACON Zambia Chapter, are ongoing to outline a roadmap.

We also continued our support for essential eye health services through the vision centres previously established by Vision Action. In collaboration with Onesight, we are exploring streamlined approaches to enhance the procurement chain, financial management, and sustainability of eye care services within these centres. Onesight has established a National Optical lab, which produces glasses for all the Vision Centres they've set up in the country. By linking all Vision Centres to this system, we aim to establish a uniform and systematic approach to Vision Centre management in Zambia.






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# Volunteering in Action

We are fortunate to have continued to receive the invaluable support of professional volunteers to support our programmes. Our volunteer remote working groups, set up in previous years, continued work to update our training materials in Low Vision, Training of Trainers, Paediatric Optometry, and Refraction. These groups were managed by Judith Trigg, Vision Action's Volunteer Programme Lead with valuable input from our country teams and partners. During the year, additional materials were developed on Glaucoma detection, to help address the high prevalence of blindness caused by untreated glaucoma.



"It is fantastic to be able to provide continued support and professional development to Optometry Technicians in Sierra Leone without even having to jump on a plane!"

**Fiona Buckmaster**

**Volunteer and Mentor**

In May, working in partnership with HCP Cure Blindness, two Professional Volunteers travelled to Ethiopia and, working with two local Optometrist facilitators, delivered a 10-day course in Paediatric Optometry and Case Management to 10 trainees from Ethiopia and two from Ghana. The course was based in Addis Ababa, with practical sessions held at the Menelik II Hospital Paediatric Clinic. Trainees came from across Ethiopia to help build capacity and geographical spread of paediatric services.

With Professional Volunteer support we continued to review our Education and Training Programme that is delivered through our Volunteer Programme and intend to continue this work next year. Since the covid 19 pandemic, the way we learn has changed with more emphasis on remote training, which not only has a low carbon footprint but is more accessible to more trainees. We continue to look at how we can safely and successfully deliver more remote training or a mix of remote and face-to-face delivery. The formation of a

new volunteer task group has been a collaboration of our senior team, country directors and board, and has our diversity and equality values at the very heart of it.



"This is a very worthwhile project. It's a win-win for both Mentor and Mentee giving an insight into eye care in both countries and the standards required."

**Noel Meehan**

**Volunteer and Mentor**

Once again, this year, volunteer Chris Wright has continued to provide invaluable support to our monitoring, evaluation and data management systems. During the year volunteers continued to sign up to become mentors for the remote mentoring programme trial we launched last year, creating mentoring

relationships with Optometry mentees in all 4 of the countries we work in, who may have limited opportunity for continued professional development. Volunteers shared their optical knowledge and experience through short-term mentoring partnerships. The trial is exploring how well a mentoring scheme is utilised, and the benefit it brings to mentees, mentors and eye care programmes. With the generous support we received from Britford Bridge Trust at the end of last year, we were able to donate laptops, dongles, and data packages to the Vision Centres in Kenema, Kailahun, Koidu and Makeni in Sierra Leone, so the Optometry Technicians can more easily access remote mentoring and learning.



# Legal and Administrative Information

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## Directors and Trustees

*[Note the Directors are hereafter called “Trustees”]*

Nora Colton (Chair)

Hannah Faal\*

Ving Fai Chan\*\*

Ronnie Graham

Ian Kerr

Naomi Nsubuga\*\*\*\*

Richard Rawlinson\*\*\*\*\*

Tony Hulton

Ahalya Subramanian

Katie Hepworth\*\*\* - stepped down on July 22

Jane Smith — stepped down in November 2022

\* Registered with the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria, The Gambia Medical and Dental Council.

\*\* Registered with the General Optical Council, Malaysia.

\*\*\* recorded at Companies House as Katharine Hepworth

\*\*\*\* Registered with the Allied Health Professionals Council, Ministry of Health, Uganda.

\*\*\*\*\* Registered with the General Optical Council.



Chief Executive Officer, James Riggs

## Registered Office

Freedom Works, Spectrum House,  
Beehive Ring Road,  
Gatwick, West Sussex RH6 OLG

## Auditors

Richard Place Dobson Services Ltd,  
Chartered Accountants,

1-7 Station Road, Crawley, RH10 1HT

## Company Number

4027804 [England and Wales]

## Charity Number

1081695 [England and Wales]

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# Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023

## Governing Documents

The Governing Documents are the Memorandum of Association and the Articles of Association dated 2000 as amended in 2006 and 2017.

## Membership

Membership of Vision Action is open to anyone on payment of an annual subscription. Members have the right to attend the AGM and vote on those matters specified in the Articles.

## Trustees

The Articles state that the Board should consist of five to 12 Trustees, who are elected by the members at the AGM. Trustees may be co-opted to the Board, but they are required to stand for election at the next AGM. The Board seeks future Trustees by public advertisement and notification to members, and all candidates are interviewed, with selection being made against a list of key skills. All new Trustees go through a process of induction during which their responsibilities are explained. Periodically, Trustees receive training in selected aspects of their duties.

The Board is responsible for governance, policy direction, decision-making and fiduciary obligations.

In 2000 Vision Action, formally Vision Aid Overseas was reconstituted as a Company Limited by Guarantee and re-registered as a charity. Since 2000 the Trustees of the Charity have also been Directors of the Company.

## Management

Nicola Chevis stepped down as Chief Executive Officer on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2023. James Riggs was appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April 2023. Anne Buglass, Director of Programmes for Vision Action stood as Interim CEO during the period between these roles. The Board delegates all aspects of strategy implementation and the management of Vision Action to the Chief Executive Officer.

The Chief Executive Officer is supported by the Director of Fundraising and Communications, the Director of Finance and Operations and the Director of Programmes. These three positions with the CEO form the Senior Management Team of Vision Action. The overseas programme is led by the Director of Programmes, working with a small programme engagement team, including a Global Programme Manager and Country Directors who design and implement the programmes, monitor progress and deal with operational issues.



The Board deals with the overall pay and reward of the Chief Executive Officer and other members of the Senior Management Team, all of which fall within a formal salary policy.

The Board recognises the contributions made by all the Vision Action staff and Professional Volunteers and wishes to thank them accordingly.

## **Vision Action and the Charity Governance Code**

The Trustees note the Code is designed as a tool to support continuous improvement. This summary of how Vision Action is aligned with the Code reflects our current position for each area of the Code. We will report on further progress each year.

### **Organisational purpose**

The Board is clear about the charity's aims. We strive to deliver these effectively and sustainably. To this end, in 2020 and 2021 respectively, we rigorously reviewed two major elements of our work: our volunteering programme, and our recycling programme. In addition, the Board receives a wide range of performance information from staff, enabling assessment of how well the charity's aims are being delivered.

### **Leadership**

Vision Action Chair, who has been in the role for over 5 years, and the previous Chair worked together to design and deliver a review of how well the Board worked. Since then, we have strengthened the Trustees' contribution to the organisation, enabling better support and guidance to staff.

### **Integrity**

The Board is keenly aware of the importance of public confidence and trust in charities. We have improved various aspects of our governance in the last year. Examples of this include strengthening and updating policies such as Safeguarding and Avoiding Bribery and Corruption. We have also updated our expenses policy to ensure even stronger control of how we spend donors' money. All Trustees are required to actively state that they are aware of the contents of all these policies and are committed to executing them.

### **Decision-making, risk, and control**

We have set up groups within the Board to focus more closely on Programmes, Finance and Fundraising. These committees enable Trustees to give detailed consideration to complex issues, and then present these issues back to Trustees as a whole, with recommendations for decisions. We have improved how we budget and forecast expenditure, and in particular, strengthened how we work with funders to ensure that the cost of delivering our projects is fully reflected in donations.

## **Board effectiveness**

The Board has recently changed how it operates, with Trustees now having significantly more involvement in and commitment to various working groups intended to deliver the charity's aims. We will report on this in the next annual report.

## **Diversity**

A range of nationalities, ethnic backgrounds and professions is represented on our Board, and recruitment for Trustees includes advertising in a range of publications. However, we are keen to increase representation from the countries where we work.

## **Openness and accountability**

We publish performance data on all our objectives. We are also open to discussion with the public and with our members.

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# Financial Review

## Overview

This year we have recorded a modest surplus; this is due to:

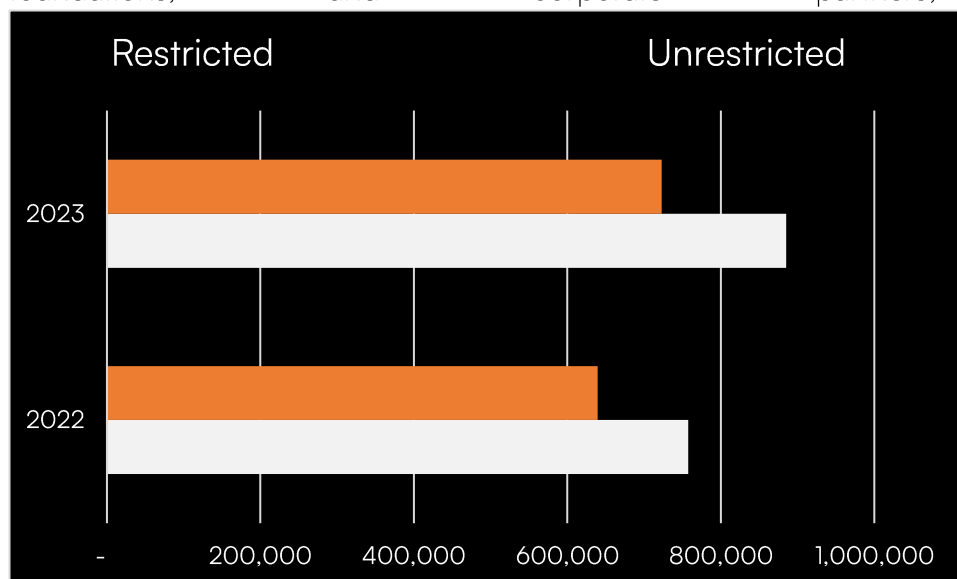
- A challenging funding environment where the organisation has struggled to achieve full cost recovery on projects.
- Costs associated with the takeover of Vision for a Nation Foundation, including programmes in Ghana.
- Costs associated with rebranding the organisation to Vision Action, from Vision Aid Overseas.

In total, we raised the income of £1,609k in 2022/23, a 15% increase from last year (2021/22: £1,397k). Over this period, we spent £1,241k on our charitable activities, a 31% increase from the previous year (2021/22: £948k). Expenditure on raising funds of £272k was 2.4 times more than the previous year (2021/22: £113k), due to rebranding expenditure of £211k in 2022/23 (2021/22: £Nil).

Our net income/expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2023 was a surplus of £96k compared to a surplus of £330k in 2021/22.

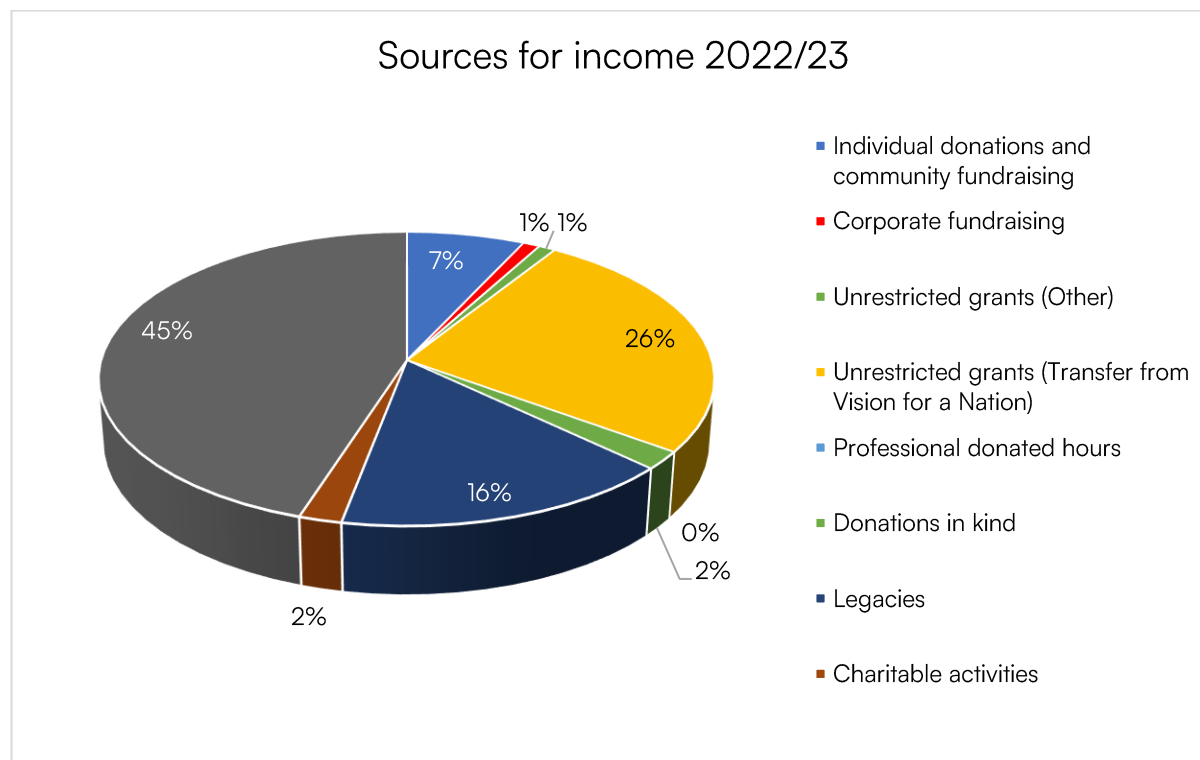
## Income

Our income is derived from a variety of sources. These include voluntary income from members and supporters through one-off or regular giving, sponsored events and community fundraising; appeals and campaigns; philanthropic major donor giving; grants from institutional donors, trusts and foundations, and corporate partners; and legacies.



Total income in the year of £1,609k (2021/22: £1,397k) was made up of £780k unrestricted income, an increase of 3% against the previous year (2021/22: £758k); £106k designated income (2021/22: £Nil); and £723k restricted income, an increase of 13% against the previous year (2020/21: £639k).

## Sources of Income



Unrestricted donations from individual and community fundraising saw a decrease to £105k (2021/22: £202k) due to a decline in regular donations. 2021/22 unrestricted donations included a donation from Optometry Giving Sight (OGS) as a result of the closing down of its UK operations.

An unrestricted grant from Vision for a Nation as part of the transition of their programmes also contributed to offsetting increased expenditure. The total received from Vision for a Nation (Charity no. 1140123) in the year was £422k (2021/22: £135k), including £106k designated income.

The increase in restricted income to £723k (2021/22: £639k) reflected an increase in programme proposals submitted for funding and a success rate of those being approved. Four significant new programmes started in the year — 1 USAID Childhood Blindness Programme (addressing School-Based Eye Health) in Ghana, a corporate partnership with CooperVision for Ghana, a new programme in Sierra Leone funded by Optometry Giving Sight (OGS) and a grant from The Else Kröne-Fresenius-Stiftung (EKFS) for Ghana.

Legacies income, which has previously been a significant source of our unrestricted donated income, dropped in the year raising only £253k, a decrease of 27% against the previous year's £347k. We were very fortunate to receive a small number of large legacies this year. We recognise that the scale and timing of legacy income are mostly out of our control.

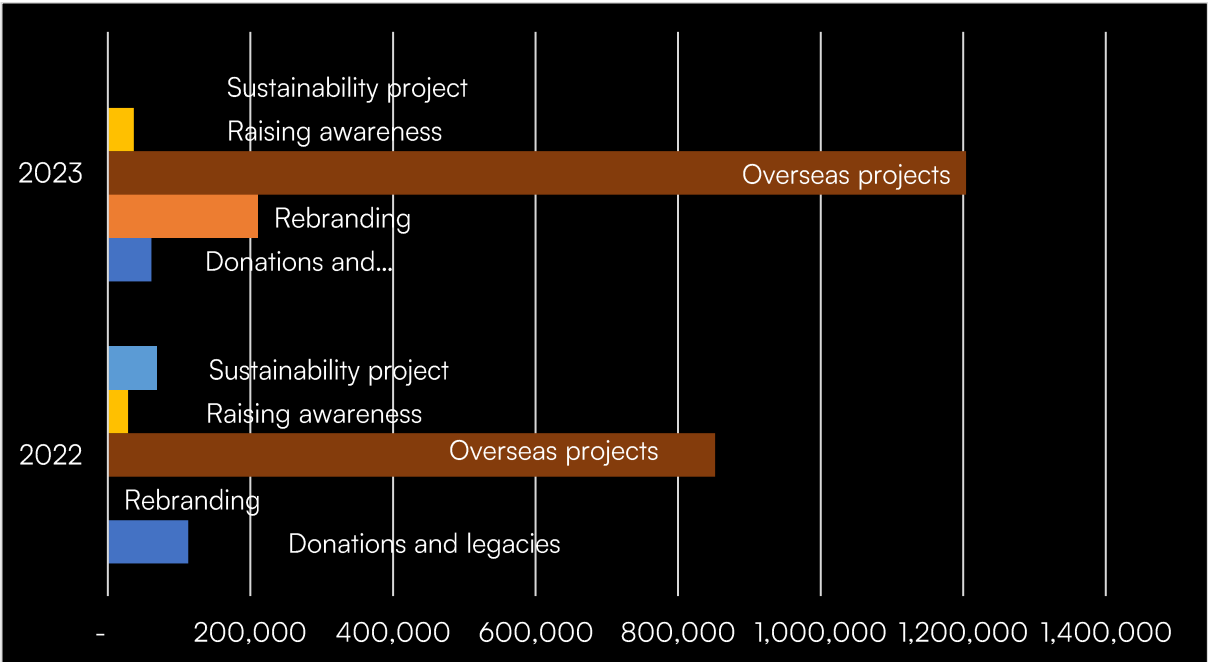


Professional donated hours decreased by 75%, at £8k (2021/22: £30k) as volunteer assignments continued in line with our strategy on volunteering and as required by the countries of operation.

Expenditure

We spent £1,241k on our charitable activities (overseas projects, raising awareness, and the sustainability project), an increase of 31% against the previous year’s £948k. The increase is due to the expansion of the Ghana programmes and organisational rebranding. £1,204k of this expenditure was on our overseas projects (representing 97% of our total spend on our charitable activities).

We received £2k of general overhead cost recovery from our restricted funded programme grants and unrestricted appeals which reduced our overall support cost expenditure (2022/23: £35k). In addition to general cost recovery, we received cost recovery against direct salary costs of £93k (2021/22: £55k). Cost recovery in 2022/23, therefore, totalled £95k (2021/22: £90k). Cost recovery is a significant funding stream, and we continue to work towards a model of full cost recovery on all future programme funding.



Reserves policy

The objective of our reserves policy is to maintain reserves to enable the Charity to deal with unexpected difficulties and interruptions to the flow of income without a significant impact on our operations and programme activity in the short term.

To meet this policy, the Board considers that reserves are required to enable us to support normal operations for three to six months, which represents unrestricted reserves of between £135k to £270k. Due to ongoing uncertainty in the economic climate and with traditional unrestricted fundraising channels still impacted by COVID-19 restrictions, the Board has deemed it prudent to retain unrestricted reserves over six months of operating costs, providing a greater level of security for the Charity through these challenging times.

Unrestricted cash as of 31st March 2023 was £500k (2021/22: £393k) and represents between 8-11 months of forecast unrestricted cash outflows. The Board continues to closely monitor forecast cash flows to ensure the Charity has the liquidity to meet obligations as they fall due.

### **Investment policy**

The objective of the investment policy is to minimise risks to the Charity's assets; any surplus funds, therefore, are to be held in short-term interest-bearing deposit accounts, rather than investments. On 31st March 2023, the Charity held no shareholdings, having sold all preference and equity shareholdings valued in the previous years.

### **Restricted funds**

Restricted income received in the year was £723k against expenditure of £730k. On 31st March 2023, we held a balance of £229k in restricted funds, all of which we expect to spend in 2023/24. Restricted fund expenditure kept pace with planned project plans.

### **Risk management**

The Trustees actively review the major risks that the organisation faces through a risk register, updated bi-annually, and believe that safeguarding our reserves, combined with an annual review of the controls over key systems, will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Trustees have also examined other operational and business risks faced by the Charity and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate them.

The risk register details 26 organisational risks, with the most medium and severe risks relating to the fundraising environment, external factors impacting programmatic activity, reputational risk, and compliance with legal and commercial obligations. Plans to mitigate these risks are in place, including a new fundraising strategy, maximisation of cost recovery with a robust cost recovery policy, monitoring of internal and external environmental factors and the implementation of swift action plans responsive to changing circumstances, a new communication strategy, and close monitoring and review of all legal and commercial obligations.

### **Approval of this Report**

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 4th December 2023.

### **Signed by order of the Board**



Lucy Soar  
Treasurer



Nora Colton  
Chair

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# Fundraising Report

Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016 statement

Total income for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 is £1,609k, a 15% increase from last year (2021/22: £1,397k).

Our key approach remains strengthening key relationships and supporting collaboration where applicable. As a small but ambitious charity, we know that building long-term, sustainable relationships with all our supporters is the best use of our resources and enables our vision and mission to flourish.

## Appeals

We saw a predicted decrease in engagement through our appeals, in line with industry averages, and considering the Cost-of-Living crisis and several other impacts. The post-pandemic landscape continues to be challenging and we, like many other charities have felt the impact from COVID continue into this year with donor fatigue and stretched resources. We were incredibly fortunate to be able to continue to remain in a positive financial position throughout this time, with the support of our partners, members, volunteers and several trusts, to which we are very grateful. Over the past year, we benefited also from several successful appeals; our flagship Christmas appeal went out through our networks and raised more than £20k and we were delighted to be able to work again with The Big Give to secure matched funding, making this target possible and a big thanks to all our donors who gave.

## Community Fundraising

Unrestricted funding is vital to any charity so it can pursue its vision and mission, without being restricted tightly on its spend. We continue to diversify our income streams, building on existing success whilst pursuing innovative and strategic avenues. This year we will be working towards our new Fundraising and Communications strategy to support and build the fundraising team to capacity, giving them the resources and funding that is needed for the next chapter in our charity. This year we had the exciting challenge of partnering with Seven Hills, a marketing and Brand specialist to support us in our re-brand and we were delighted with the results. The refreshed, invigorated and impactful new brand and website has enabled us to communicate our cause in a clearer, more defined and appealing way, enabling donors and partners to engage with us on a whole new level.

We are delighted to say that we retained the vast majority of our regular donors and have plans in the coming years to grow this income stream again. Similarly, we are thankful to our extensive member base, who by making a financial contribution each year, are helping the charity to thrive. The members also form an integral part of the organisation, many sitting on focus groups to help steer and guide the charity on subjects such as Education and Training and the Membership package itself. Our London Marathon Golden Bond places continue to be valuable assets. This year, we were thankful to the four runners who trained hard and fundraised even harder for us and achieved not only their personal bests but managed to boost their targets and in some cases far outstrip them.

## Partnerships

Alongside our partnership with Seven Hills to support our re-brand, we have also been delighted to partner with several other organisations. We were enthused by another 2-year partnership with our long-standing corporate partner PALA, as they have explored new and ethical methods to designing and selling their products, they have gone from strength to strength and through this partnership they are funding the restoration of a new Vision Centre in Tonkalilli district, Sierra Leone. By working with our country teams to develop high-quality programme proposals, Vision Action continues to grow income from institutional funders, corporate foundations, and other trusts, all of which are willing to support large-scale, multi-year programmes that have a high impact and are more sustainable.

We have also been fortunate to continue our close alliance with Optometry Giving Sight (OGS) in the US where we have partnered with them alongside CooperVision, the award-winning provider of eye care solutions such as contact lenses; the partnership, released in 2022, is supported our programme in Ghana through sales of CooperVision's incredible BioInfinity® product. The amazing imagery and footage that we have worked on in partnership is a credit to the impact they have helped achieve. We are proud to retain the support of the optical sector, with more than 200 practices throughout the UK raising funds for Vision Action. With reciprocal marketing in particular, these partnerships are helping to raise awareness as well as funds.



We were also incredibly proud and grateful to once again benefit from several legacies in the past year, which while these came in much less than former years (£253k, a decrease of 27% against the previous year's £347k), they have still been able to make a very real difference. To be the charity of choice in someone's planned giving is a privilege and is a testament to us building good relationships over many years. As part of the Fundraising Strategy, we are partners with Make a Will Online and offer a free Will writing service to our donors online through our website to help further strengthen this income stream.

## Fundraising approach

Vision Action relies on several different fundraising approaches to raise funds cost-effectively from a range of sources, raising awareness of our work and allowing supporters to contribute in ways that are most appropriate for them. This includes but is not limited to fundraising through digital and online campaigns, emails, letters and press advertising; from legacies, events and community fundraising; from philanthropists, trusts, foundations and corporate partners, and our members and other regular supporters.

## **Fundraising standards**

Vision Action fundraising staff are members of the Institute of Fundraising, and we pay a levy to the Fundraising Regulator, and as such abide by the Code of Fundraising Practice. We abide by the Fundraising Regulator's Fundraising promise and strive to ensure our fundraising is open, honest, legal and respectful. We are registered with the Fundraising Preference Service which enables members of the public to control the nature and frequency of direct marketing approaches that they receive, including fundraising communications. Through the Fundraising Preference Service website, members of the public can choose to stop email, telephone, post and/or text messages from a selected charity. During the financial year 2022/23 no member of the public has opted out of contact from Vision Action via the Fundraising Preference Service.

## **Fundraising on our behalf**

Vision Action requires any professional fundraising agencies working on our behalf to adhere to our fundraising standards and this is specified in our contracts with them. We work with several corporate partners who support our work through financial and non-financial donations, as well as employee and customer fundraising. We also receive one-off support from companies. Some of our corporate partners sell goods or services and donate a proportion of the sale price to us. For example, we have Commercial Agreements with several eyewear companies that donate a specified portion of their sales to Vision Action. These agreements are governed by legal agreements in line with current consumer and charitable law.

## **Monitoring of fundraising activities and protecting people in vulnerable circumstances**

Vision Action is committed to ensuring that we always treat the public sensitively and respectfully, taking special care to protect people who may find themselves in vulnerable circumstances.

## **Complaints**

Vision Action has an established complaints procedure. In the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, we did not receive any complaints from members of the public about our fundraising activities. This does not include expressions of dissatisfaction relating to our use of specific fundraising methods.

## **Statement of Public Benefit**

Vision Action is committed to those living in poverty and with limited access to affordable eye care, ensuring increased access to eye tests and properly dispensed spectacles. In doing so, we enable people to work and children to attend and be successful at school.

We have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the Trustees consider how planned activities contribute to the aims and objectives they have set. The principal charitable aim of Vision Action is to fight poverty by transforming access to eye care in developing countries, through working in partnership with and under the direction of the countries' national eye care plans. Vision Action is fully committed to sustainability in each of the countries within which we work.



## Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Company law requires Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming/outgoing resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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# Auditors' Report

## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Vision Action (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as of 31 March 2023 and its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year that ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

## Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances set out in note to the financial statements, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees concerning going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

## Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

## Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken based on these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The objectives of our audit are to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, to perform audit procedures to help identify instances of non-compliance with other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements and to respond appropriately to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations identified during the audit.

In relation to fraud, the objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud, to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatements due to fraud through designing and implementing appropriate responses and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit.

However, it is the primary responsibility of management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

In identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the audit engagement team made enquiries of management, and those charged with governance, regarding the procedures relating to identifying, evaluating and complying with;

1. laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
2. detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they know about any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
3. the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;

As a result of these procedures, we consider the most significant laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements are FRS 102, General Data Protection Regulations, Companies Act, Charities Act 2011, Charities Statement of Recommended Practice and employment law and regulations. We performed audit procedures to detect non-compliance, which may have a material impact on the financial statements. These included reviewing financial statement disclosures and evaluating advice received from external advisors. There were no significant laws and regulations we deemed as having an indirect impact on the financial statements.



The audit engagement team identified the risk of management override of controls as the area where the financial statements were most susceptible to material misstatement due to fraud. Audit procedures performed included but were not limited to testing manual journal entries and other adjustments and evaluating the rationale in relation to any significant, unusual transactions and transactions entered into outside of the normal course of business.

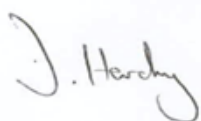
As a large portion of income is received through legacies or grants that relate to future years, the audit engagement team have highlighted completeness of income as an area of significant risk. Audit procedures performed included but were not limited to, proof in total testing of income recorded in the accounts compared to the grant awarded per the grant contract.

It was also identified that the risk of fraud resulting from activities abroad was significantly high. Audit procedures performed included but were not limited to, transaction testing on a sample of overseas expenditure and the evaluation of other independent audit work performed in this area.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Darren Harding ACA, FCCA, DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
Richard Place Dobson Services Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Statutory Auditor

Ground Floor  
1 - 7 Station  
Road  
Crawley  
West Sussex  
RH10 1HT

# Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	3	751,088	105,585	97,824	954,497	714,767
Charitable activities	3	28,527	–	625,023	653,550	682,338
Other	3	525	–	–	525	–
<b>Total income</b>		<b>780,140</b>	<b>105,585</b>	<b>722,847</b>	<b>1,608,572</b>	<b>1,397,105</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>	4					
<b>Raising funds</b>						
Raising donations and legacies		60,945	–	–	60,945	112,786
Other trading activities (rebranding)		210,755	–	–	210,755	–
<b>Total raising funds</b>		<b>271,700</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>271,700</b>	<b>112,786</b>
<b>Charitable activities</b>						
Overseas projects		441,520	32,923	729,778	1,204,221	851,868
Raising awareness		36,529	–	–	36,529	28,197
Sustainability project		–	–	–	–	68,394
<b>Total charitable activities</b>		<b>478,049</b>	<b>32,923</b>	<b>729,778</b>	<b>1,240,750</b>	<b>948,459</b>
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>749,749</b>	<b>32,923</b>	<b>729,778</b>	<b>1,512,450</b>	<b>1,061,245</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>30,391</b>	<b>72,662</b>	<b>(6,931)</b>	<b>96,122</b>	<b>335,860</b>
<b>Net gains on investments</b>		<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	17	<b>(30,361)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>30,361</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>30</b>	<b>72,662</b>	<b>23,430</b>	<b>96,122</b>	<b>335,860</b>
<b>Fund balances brought forward</b>		<b>573,402</b>	<b>91,660</b>	<b>205,190</b>	<b>870,252</b>	<b>534,392</b>
<b>Fund balances carried forward</b>		<b>573,432</b>	<b>164,322</b>	<b>228,620</b>	<b>966,374</b>	<b>870,252</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

# Balance sheet as of 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023	2022
		£	£	£	As restated £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible fixed assets	8	34,957	–	34,957	998
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	9	275,260	–	275,260	353,186
Cash at bank		500,112	341,699	841,811	638,688
		<u>775,372</u>	<u>341,699</u>	<u>1,117,071</u>	<u>991,874</u>
Creditors – amounts falling due within one year	10	(72,575)	(75,957)	(148,532)	(66,761)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>702,797</u>	<u>265,742</u>	<u>968,539</u>	<u>925,113</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>737,754</u>	<u>265,742</u>	<u>1,003,496</u>	<u>926,111</u>
Provisions for liabilities	11	–	(37,122)	(37,122)	(55,859)
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>737,754</u>	<u>228,620</u>	<u>845,924</u>	<u>870,252</u>
<b>Funds</b>					
Restricted funds	17	–	228,620	228,620	205,190
Unrestricted funds					
General funds		573,432	–	573,432	578,773
Designated funds	16	164,322	–	164,322	91,660
Prior year adjustment		–	–	–	(5,371)
<b>Total funds</b>		<u>737,754</u>	<u>228,620</u>	<u>966,374</u>	<u>870,252</u>

\* The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2023, although an audit has been carried out under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011. No member of the company has deposited a notice, under section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

\* The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

\* The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 4th December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Lucy Soar, Treasurer



Nora Colton, Chair

Company Number: 4027804

The notes on pages 34 to 51 form part of these accounts.

# Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 March 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Net cash flows from operating activities	<u>247,040</u>	<u>(174,631)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Investment Income	525	–
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(44,441)	(1,159)
Proceeds from the sale of investments	–	–
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>(43,916)</u>	<u>(1,159)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	203,123	(175,790)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	<u>638,688</u>	<u>814,478</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	<u>841,811</u>	<u>638,688</u>

Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities	2023 £	2022 £
Net (expenditure)/income	96,122	335,860
Investment Income	(525)	–
Depreciation charges	10,482	6,167
Profit on sale of investments	–	–
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	77,926	(321,808)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	81,771	(145,796)
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	(18,737)	(49,054)
Donated shares	–	–
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	<u>247,039</u>	<u>(174,631)</u>

## (a) Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2022 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2023 £
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>638,688</u>	<u>203,123</u>	<u>841,811</u>



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# Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

## 1. Status

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have share capital. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of the same being wound up during the time that they are a member or within one year after they cease to be a member, for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before they ceased to be a member, such amount as may be required not exceeding £1. The company's registered address is Freedom Works, Spectrum House, Beehive Ring Road, Gatwick, West Sussex RH6 OLG.

## 2. Accounting Policies

### a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice which includes Update Bulletin 2 applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective for accounting periods starting after 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and Companies Act 2006.

Vision Action meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value except for investments which are carried at valuation. The accounts are rounded to the nearest £ and prepared in sterling.

### b) Going concern

The charity reported a cash deficit of £92k for the year. The trustees have closely reviewed the cash flow forecasts for the following financial year and income pipeline, and are of the view that the current forecast coupled with the focus on developing new sources of sustainable unrestricted funding and further developing our restricted funding pipeline, the immediate future of the charity is secured, and that on this basis the charity is a going concern and the accounts are prepared on this basis.

### c) Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executors to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate.

Income from grants is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any conditions attached to the grant have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Donations and sponsorship are accounted for when received.

Income from other trading activities includes income earned from trading activities to raise funds for the charity. Income from donated goods is accounted for when the sale takes place.

### d) Resources expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accrual basis, inclusive of VAT which cannot be recovered. Expenditure which is directly attributable to specific activities has been included in these activities. Where costs are attributable to more than one activity, they have been apportioned across the cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of these resources and time spent thereon as follows:

	2023	2022
Rebranding	28%	0%
Raising donations and legacies	8%	26%
Charitable activities	64%	74%

No general publicity costs have been allocated to governance.

Restricted fund costs consist of those directly attributable to specific activities only.

### **e) Tangible assets and depreciation**

Assets in excess of £1,000 intended to be of ongoing use to Vision Action in carrying out its activities are capitalised as fixed assets.

Depreciation is charged, on a straight-line basis, as follows:

Short leasehold building improvements	: 10 years
Computer equipment	: 3 years
Office equipment	: 3 years
Optical equipment	: 4 years
Vehicle	: Limited to the lower of 4 years or the life of the programme

### **f) Employee benefits (including pension costs)**

Expenditure is recognised for wages and salaries resulting from employee service to the charity during the reporting period. A liability for paid annual leave is recognised only if deemed material at the year-end date.

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charity.

### **g) Operating leases**

Expenditure applicable to operating leases is charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis, in the period to which the cost or income relates.

### **h) Gifts in kind**

Gifts in kind are included at current market value where their value is ascertainable and material. The estimated valuation of gifts in kind is based on the value of the contribution to the charity or the valuation the charity would have had to pay to acquire the assets.

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, their receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and economic benefit can be measured reliably. The economic value of donated professional hours can be reliably measured and calculated as hours worked multiplied by the market value of the services provided.

### **i) Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

## **j) Foreign currencies**

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded using the FX rate at the beginning of the month in which the transaction took place. Monetary assets and liabilities are revalued at the FX rate on the first day of the following month. All exchange differences are recorded in the SoFA.

## **k) Fund Accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or specific projects undertaken by the charity.

## **l) Basic financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at the settlement value.

## **m) Debtors**

All debtors are measured and included in the accounts on the basis of their recoverable amount.

## **n) Creditors**

All creditors are measured and included in the accounts on the basis of their settlement amount which the charity has an obligation to transfer to the third party.

## **o) Cash**

Cash at the bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

## **p) Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax under Chapter 3 of Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that surpluses are applied to its charitable purposes.



#### **q) Provisions**

Provisions for future liabilities are recognised when the charity has a legal or constructive financial obligation, that can be reliably estimated, and for which there is an expectation that payment will be made. Provisions for dilapidations are made where the liabilities can be measured with some certainty. Provisions for redundancy and end-of-contract obligations are calculated in accordance with relevant country statutory obligations.

#### **r) Critical judgements and estimations of uncertainty**

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, which are described in note 2, Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The value of professional volunteer time is estimated in the SOFA as hours worked multiplied by the estimated market value for services provided.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects the current and future periods.

#### **s) Investment valuation method**

Investments are valued at market value. Any gains or losses arising on revaluation are recognised in the statement of financial activities.

### 3. Income and legacies

	Unrestricte d £	Designate d £	Restrict d £	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Donations and legacies</b>					
Individual donations and community fundraising	105,695	–	–	105,695	202,273
Corporate Fundraising	10,000	–	–	10,000	714
Unrestricted grants (Other)	22,000	–	–	22,000	–
Unrestricted grants (Transfer from Vision for a Nation) — Note 15	316,755	105,585	–	422,340	134,549
Government grants	–	–	–	–	–
Professional donated hours	7,525	–	–	7,525	30,100
Donations in kind	36,117	–	3,266	39,383	–
Legacies	252,996	–	94,558	347,554	347,131
	751,088	105,585	97,824	954,497	714,767
<b>Total donations and legacies</b>					
	Unrestricte d £	Designate d £	Restrict d £	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>					
Individual donations and community fundraising	–	–	4,496	4,496	10,099
Corporate Fundraising	–	–	143,383	143,383	155,711
Grants	–	–	477,144	477,144	487,665
Members' donations	28,527	–	–	28,527	28,863
<b>Total income from charitable activities</b>	28,527	–	625,023	653,550	682,338
	Unrestricte d £	Designate d £	Restrict d £	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Other</b>					
Profit on disposal of fixed asset	525	–	–	525	–
Other	–	–	–	–	–
<b>Total other</b>	–	–	–	525	–

## Expenditure

a) Total resources expended	Direct costs £	Staff costs £	Support costs (note 4b) £	2023 £	2022 £
Expenditure on raising funds					
Expenditure on raising donations and legacies	24,956	16,006	19,983	60,945	112,786
Expenditure on other trading activities (rebranding)	92,037	48,020	70,698	210,755	–
	<u>116,993</u>	<u>64,026</u>	<u>90,681</u>	<u>271,700</u>	<u>112,786</u>
Charitable activities					
Overseas projects	524,263	532,309	147,649	1,204,221	851,868
Raising awareness	8,307	16,006	12,216	36,529	28,197
Sustainability project	–	–	–	–	68,394
	<u>532,570</u>	<u>548,315</u>	<u>159,865</u>	<u>1,240,750</u>	<u>948,459</u>
Total expenditure	<u>649,563</u>	<u>612,341</u>	<u>250,546</u>	<u>1,512,450</u>	<u>1,061,245</u>

### b) Support costs

	2023 £	2022 £
	106,896	48,886
Staff costs		6
Recruitment costs	3,670	5,932
Premises costs	106	12,506
Printing, postage and stationery	1,408	646
Telephone and internet	1,546	1,626
Travel and meeting costs	35,648	1,077
Office expenditure	45,552	17,219
Depreciation	–	–
Governance (note c)	<u>55,720</u>	<u>10,595</u>
	<u>250,546</u>	<u>98,487</u>
	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>

General overhead cost recovery of £1,948 has been received in the year through restricted funding to cover unrestricted general support costs (2022: £35,454). This has been allocated against support costs on a total cost apportionment basis.

General overhead cost recovery of £853 has been allocated against support cost staff costs (2022: £17,598).

### c) Governance

	2023	2022
	£	£
	34,58	325
Legal and professional fees	5	
Audit fees	6,849	6,741
Audit fees — overseas audit assignments	6,476	—
Cost of AGM and meetings	4,629	3,230
Trustee costs and expenses	3,163	299
Trustee recruitment costs	18	—
	<u>55,72</u>	<u>10,595</u>
	<u>0</u>	

General overhead cost recovery of £393 has been allocated against legal and professional fees (2022: £3,814).

### d) Trustees' remuneration and expenses

Members of the Board of Trustees (who are all directors within the meaning of the Companies Act 2006) receive no remuneration for their services.

Trustees' total reimbursed expenses and payments made to suppliers directly on their behalf in respect of travel and subsistence costs totalled £3,163 for two trustees (2022: £299 for two trustees).

## 5. Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax.

## 6. Net incoming resources for the period

	2023	2022
	£	£
Operating surplus is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	10,482	6,167
Auditor's remuneration	6,849	6,741
Profit on disposal of investments	—	—

## 7. Staff costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries and wages	635,323	447,533
Social security costs	29,173	28,481
Pension costs	34,941	14,676
	<u>699,437</u>	<u>490,690</u>

End-of-contract payments were made in the year to four overseas country staff members (Zambia) due to end of contracts, totalling £32,549 (2022: £Nil).

Retirement benefit payments were made in the year to one staff member per labour law in the overseas country, totalling £Nil (2022: £28,000).

A provision for end-of-contract payments were made in the year for staff wholly attributed to our restricted fund grant activities, totalling £25,943 (2021: £29,915).

The number of employees whose emoluments were more than £60,000 were:

	2023	2022
£60,001 — £70,000	1	—
£70,001 — £80,000	1	1
£80,001 — £90,000	—	—

Key management is defined as the executive Senior Management Team (four executive directors/head of departments). Key management remuneration in the year was £257,415 (2021: £223,726).

Headcount staff within the year

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Programme	3	4
Finance and Administration	2	3
Recycling	—	3
Fundraising and communication	2	2
Overseas in our programme countries	<u>27</u>	<u>13</u>
	<u>34</u>	<u>25</u>



## 8. Tangible fixed assets

	Vehicles £	Furniture & fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>				
At 1 April 2022	54,845	–	1,159	56,004
Additions	33,068	299	11,074	44,441
Disposals	–	–	–	–
<b>At 31 March 2023</b>	<b>87,913</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>12,233</b>	<b>100,445</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 April 2022	54,845	–	161	55,006
Charge for the year	4,822	299	5,361	10,482
Released on disposal	–	–	–	–
<b>At 31 March 2023</b>	<b>59,667</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>5,522</b>	<b>65,488</b>
<b>Net book values</b>				
<b>At 31 March 2023</b>	<b>28,246</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>6,711</b>	<b>34,957</b>
At 31 March 2022	–	–	998	998

## 9. Debtors and Prepayments

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	10,362	–
Gift aid recoverable	3,498	768
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>261,400</u>	<u>352,418</u>
	<u>275,260</u>	<u>353,186</u>

## 10. Creditors

	2023 £	2022 As restated £
Other creditors	29,177	11,357
Accruals and deferred income	104,371	47,983
Social security costs	12,011	5,791
Pension contributions	<u>2,973</u>	<u>1,630</u>
	<u>148,532</u>	<u>66,761</u>

## 11. Provisions for liabilities

	Programme redundancies	Total
	£	£
At 1 April 2022	55,859	55,859
Additions during the year	32,057	32,057
Released during the year	<u>(50,794)</u>	<u>(50,794)</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>37,122</u>	<u>37,122</u>

The programme redundancies provision relates to the liability for end of contract or redundancy costs for overseas staff on fixed term contracts and in posts funded by restricted funds. The provision is calculated in accordance with the relevant country statutory provisions for end of contract / redundancy payments. The provision is expected to give rise to a payment of £25k in the year ending 31 March 2024, with the balance expected to be paid in subsequent years in line with the end of specific funded programmes.

Provisions total £37,122 (2021/22: £55,859) of which £37,122 (2021/22: £55,859) was attributable to restricted funds and £Nil (2021/22: £Nil) was attributable to unrestricted funds.

## 12. Related party transactions

There were no transactions with other related parties in the year.

### 13. Statement of funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources used £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted income funds					
General funds	573,402	780,140	(749,749)	(30,361)	573,432
Designated funds	91,660	105,585	(32,923)	–	164,322
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>665,062</b>	<b>885,725</b>	<b>(782,672)</b>	<b>(30,361)</b>	<b>737,754</b>
Restricted income funds					
Restricted income funds (note 16)	205,190	722,847	(729,778)	30,361	228,620
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>870,252</b>	<b>1,608,572</b>	<b>(1,512,450)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>966,374</b>

#### Statement of funds - previous year

	At 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources used £	Transfers £	Balance 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted income funds					
General funds	337,605	757,630	(426,949)	(3,224)	665,062
Designated funds	–	–	–	–	–
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>337,605</b>	<b>757,630</b>	<b>(426,949)</b>	<b>(3,224)</b>	<b>665,062</b>
Restricted income funds					
Restricted income funds	196,787	639,475	(634,296)	3,224	205,190
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>534,392</b>	<b>1,397,105</b>	<b>(1,061,245)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>870,252</b>

Included within general funds is £Nil unrealised losses on investments (2022: £Nil)

## 14. Last year comparative SoFA breakdown

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	2022 £
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	714,767	–	–	714,767
Charitable activities	42,863	–	639,475	682,338
Other trading activities (recycling)	–	–	–	–
Investments	–	–	–	–
Other	–	–	–	–
<b>Total income</b>	<b>757,630</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>639,475</b>	<b>1,397,105</b>
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds				
Raising donations and legacies	112,786	–	–	112,786
Other trading activities (recycling)	–	–	–	–
<b>Total raising funds</b>	<b>112,786</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>112,786</b>
Charitable activities				
Overseas projects	285,966	–	565,902	851,868
Raising awareness	28,197	–	–	28,197
Sustainability project	–	–	68,394	68,394
<b>Total charitable activities</b>	<b>314,163</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>634,296</b>	<b>948,459</b>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>426,949</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>634,296</b>	<b>1,061,245</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<b>330,681</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>5,179</b>	<b>335,860</b>
Net (loss) on investments	–	–	–	–
Transfers between funds	(3,224)	–	3,224	–
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>327,457</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>8,403</b>	<b>335,860</b>
Fund balances brought forward	337,605	–	196,787	534,392
<b>Fund balances carried forward</b>	<b>665,062</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>205,190</b>	<b>870,252</b>

## 15. Transfer from Vision for a Nation Foundation (Charity no. 1140123)

Taking over of Vision for a Nation Foundation programmes and assets was completed on 30 September 2022.

	2023	2022
	£	£
Tangible Fixed assets (fair value)	34,868	–
Cash transfer - Unrestricted grant	422,340	134,549
Cash transfer - Restricted grant	–	49,451
Prepayments	1,248	–
<b>Total transfer from Vision for a Nation</b>	<b>458,456</b>	<b>184,000</b>

## 16. Designated Funds

Vision Action has put aside two designated funds: Anthony's Eyes Cataract Programme for Sierra Leone in honour of Anthony's legacy wishes, and Investment in Fundraising as agreed with Vision for a Nation trustees through the memorandum of understanding.

	Balance at 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Anthony's Eyes Cataract Programme	91,660	–	32,923	–	58,737
Investment in fundraising	–	105,585	–	–	105,585
	<u>91,660</u>	<u>105,585</u>	<u>32,923</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>164,322</u>

### 1. Anthony's Eyes (Sierra Leone)

- For provision of cataract surgical services in Sierra Leone.

### 2. Investment in fundraising

- Funds from taking over of Vision for a Nation Foundation has been set aside for investment in fundraising.



## 17. Restricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
<b>Zambia</b>					
Specsavers	39,565	103,383	137,791	(5,157)	–
Vision Mundi	5,687	–	1,799	–	3,888
USAID Child Blindness Programme	24,619	60,394	121,395	36,382	–
Support a School	–	1,000	800	–	200
<b>Sierra Leone</b>					
Spectacle Makers	3,850	–	3,208	–	642
Vision Mundi	3,415	–	3,415	–	–
Optometry Giving Sight	26,720	9,652	35,489	(883)	–
Kailahun	4,777	50	1,389	–	3,438
Steel Charitable Trust	1,500	–	375	–	1,125
Optometry Giving Sight–Port Loko	–	84,644	36,603	–	48,041
PALA Tonkolili	–	4,346	–	–	4,346
<b>Ethiopia</b>					
Support a School	8,990	–	5,188	–	3,802
Beatrice Laing	2,500	–	2,923	423	–
USAID Child Blindness Programme	–	71,728	76,549	4,821	–
The Else Kröne-Fresenius-Stiftung (EKFS)	27,589	79,980	86,141	–	21,428
Veta Bailey	2,062	–	1,170	–	892
Essilor Social Impact	–	3,266	3,266	–	–
<b>Ghana</b>					
Medicor Foundation (Vision for a Nation)	14,916	–	19,654	4,738	–
Peek (Vision for a Nation)	29,000	–	–	(29,000)	–
USAID Child Blindness Programme	–	91,003	97,207	6,204	–
Challenges Worldwide	–	8,255	7,671	–	584
CooperVision	–	40,000	6,737	–	33,263
The Else Kröne-Fresenius-Stiftung (EKFS)	–	43,988	38,486	–	5,502
Anonymous Donor	–	25,000	37,833	12,833	–
<b>Remote Mentoring</b>					
Britford Bridge Trust	10,000	–	4,689	–	5,311
James Tudor	–	1,500	–	–	1,500
Karen Sparrow Fund	–	94,658	–	–	94,658
	205,190	722,847	729,778	30,361	228,620

Restricted Funds 2022	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer s £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
<b>Zambia</b>					
Specsavers	64,763	151,631	176,829	–	39,565
Vision Mundi	5,047	11,129	10,489	–	5,687
USAID Child Blindness Programme	–	90,192	65,573	–	24,619
<b>Sierra Leone</b>					
The Clothworkers' Foundation	36,306	69,000	105,306	–	–
Maitri Trust	535	–	535	–	–
Spectacle Makers	–	3,850	–	–	3,850
USAID	–	49,577	49,577	–	–
Vision Mundi	629	18,863	16,077	–	3,415
Optometry Giving Sight	–	71,950	45,230	–	26,720
Kailahun	4,231	10,099	9,553	–	4,777
Vision for a Village	6,153	–	6,153	–	–
<b>Ethiopia</b>					
Support a School	10,728	4,080	5,818	–	8,990
Beatrice Laing	–	7,500	5,000	–	2,500
USAID Child Blindness Programme	–	3,140	6,364	3,224	–
The Else Kröner-Fresenius- Stiftung (EKFS)	–	79,813	52,224	–	27,589
Veta Bailey	–	4,200	2,138	–	2,062
<b>Ghana</b>					
Medicor Foundation (Vision for a Nation)	–	20,451	5,535	–	14,916
Peek (Vision for a Nation)	–	29,000	–	–	29,000
<b>Remote Mentoring</b>					
Britford Bridge Trust	–	10,000	–	–	10,000
Steel Charitable Trust	–	5,000	3,500	–	1,500
<b>Sustainability projects</b>					
Maitri	68,395	–	68,395	–	–
		639,475			
	196,787	5	634,296	3,224	205,190

## Purpose of funding

### 1. Specsavers (Zambia)

- For supporting the integration of primary eye care and school-based eye health programmes.

### 2. Vision Mundi (Zambia)

- For strengthening human resources for eye health in Zambia.

### 3. USAID Child Blindness Programme (Zambia)

- Scale up of School Eye Health in Zambia

### 4. Spectacle Makers (Sierra Leone)

- For purchase, installation and running of 3 power generators located in established Vision Centres (VCs) in Kenema, Bombali and Koidu Districts of Sierra Leone.

### 5a. Optometry Giving Sight (Sierra Leone)

- For essential community eye care services in Bombali & Koidu Districts, Sierra Leone

### 5b. Vision Mundi (Sierra Leone)

- For increasing the uptake of eye care services especially the use of glasses in Bombali & Koidu Districts, Sierra Leone

### 6. Kailahun (Sierra Leone)

- For a community-based eye health in Kailahun district, Sierra Leone.

### 7. Steel Charitable Trust (Sierra Leone)

- For a remote mentoring pilot to offer continuous professional support to eye health workers in Sierra Leone and Zambia

### 8. Optometry Giving Sight (Sierra Leone - Port Loko)

- To increase access to eyecare in Port Loko district through establishing a Vision Centre and training 2 new Optometry technicians.

### 9. PALA Tonkolili (Sierra Leone)

- To refurbish a defunct Vision Centre in Tonkolili district, Sierra Leone.

### 10. Support a School (including Christmas Appeals)

- For school-based child eye care programmes in Sierra Leone, Zambia, and Ethiopia.

### 11. Beatrice Laing (Ethiopia)

- To support a scalability study for school eye health in Ethiopia

### 12. USAID Child Blindness Programme (Ethiopia)

- For Vision4Inclusion: Leave no Child Behind in Ethiopia.

### **13. EKFS (Ethiopia)**

- For ensuring School Eye Health (SEH) for rural communities in Ethiopia.

### **14. Veta Bailey (Ethiopia)**

- Match funding to support scaling up school eye health services in Ethiopia

### **15. Essilor Social Impact (Ethiopia)**

- In-kind gift of glasses for school eye health project in Ethiopia.

### **16. Vision for a Nation – Medicor Foundation (Ghana)**

- For completion Vision for a Nation's Medicor Foundation project for Innovative Eye Care in Ghana's Upper East Regions.

### **17. Vision for a Nation – Peek (Ghana)**

- For completion of Vision for a Nation Foundation contract with Peek. Peek application use in Ghana's Upper East Region.

### **18. Challenges (Ghana)**

- To conduct a market feasibility study for a social enterprise model in Ghana

### **19. CooperVision (Ghana)**

- Supporting school eye health programmes in Ghana

### **20. The Else Kröne-Fresenius-Stiftung (EKFS) (Ghana)**

- Scaling up community based Primary Eyecare in Ghana

### **21. Anonymous Donor (Ghana)**

- Supporting Primary Eyecare in Ghana

### **22. Britford Bridge Trust (Remote Mentoring)**

- For remote mentoring scheme, Sierra Leone and Zambia

### **23. James Tudor**

- To support a remote mentoring pilot scheme.

### **24. Karen Sparrow Fund**

- To support training and education programmes across Zambia, Ethiopia, Ghana and Sierra Leone.

## **18. Related and controlling parties**

There were no related party transactions during the year or previous year.

The trustees are deemed to control the charitable company.

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# In acknowledgement and thanks

## **Our Honorary Patrons are:**

Fiona Bruce

James Chen

Dame Mary Perkins DBE

## **Our Honorary Life Members are:**

Ruth Davies

Felicity Harding

Jeremy Jalie

Tym Marsh

Peter Mills

Brian Mitchell FCA

Frank Norville

David Parkins

David Scott Ralphs

Kath Stott

Clive Williams

Vera Wilton

Bridge Trust, USAID - United States Agency for International Development, Fundacion Vision Mundi, Medicor Foundation, The Spectacle Makers Charity, The Else Kröner-Fresenius-Stiftung, Veta Bailey Charitable Trust.

## **And our Corporate Partners:**

CooperVision, Vision for Life — Essilor's Social Impact fund, Jonathan Hall Opticians, Farther & Sun Limited — trading as Pala Eyewear, Specsavers, Trailblaze IT,

## **Vision Action is a supporter/member of:**

International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), The Coalition for Clear Vision, EYElliance, Clearly, Fundraising Regulator, Institute of Fundraising, BOND, National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO), Charity Finance Group (CFG).

## **We would also like to acknowledge the support of the Institutions, Trusts & Foundations we have worked with:**

Beatrice Laing Trust, The Maitri Trust, The Britford Bridge Trust, Optometry Giving Sight, Scouloudi Foundation, The Clothworkers' Foundation, The James Tudor Foundation, The Steel Charitable Trust, The William Brake Charitable Trust, The Brackengarth Trust, The Britford