



Oxfam International  
Pan Africa Program  
Progress Report 2022

# INFLUENCING FOR AFRICA:

## POST-COVID & BEYOND

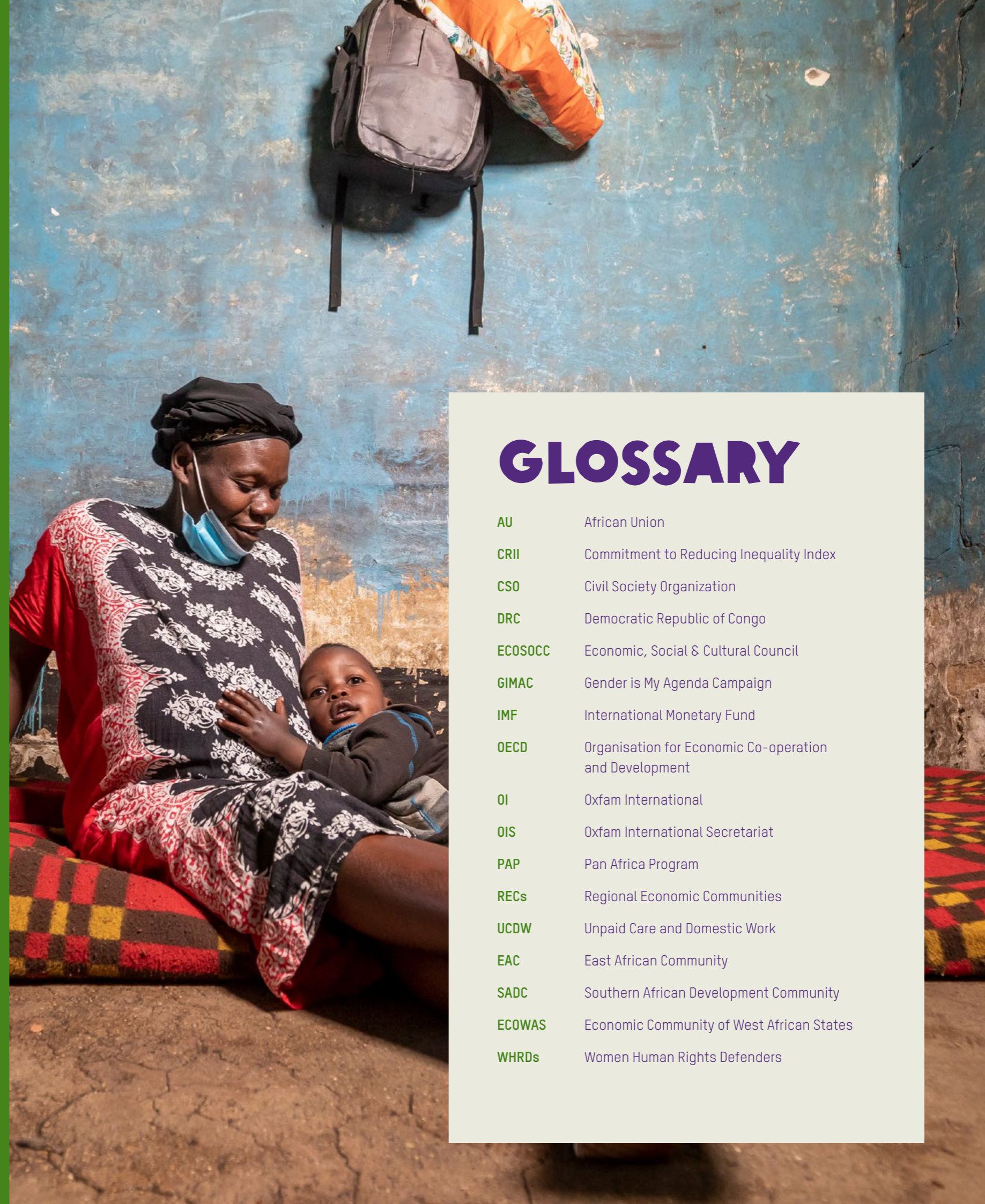


**OXFAM**  
International

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Front cover image: Zakayo David shares the responsibility of taking care of his daughter in a society where taking care of children is perceived as a woman's role. Credit: Julius Ceaser Kasujja/Oxfam.



## GLOSSARY

<b>AU</b>	African Union
<b>CRII</b>	Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index
<b>CSO</b>	Civil Society Organization
<b>DRC</b>	Democratic Republic of Congo
<b>ECOSOCC</b>	Economic, Social & Cultural Council
<b>GIMAC</b>	Gender is My Agenda Campaign
<b>IMF</b>	International Monetary Fund
<b>OECD</b>	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
<b>OI</b>	Oxfam International
<b>OIS</b>	Oxfam International Secretariat
<b>PAP</b>	Pan Africa Program
<b>RECs</b>	Regional Economic Communities
<b>UCDW</b>	Unpaid Care and Domestic Work
<b>EAC</b>	East African Community
<b>SADC</b>	Southern African Development Community
<b>ECOWAS</b>	Economic Community of West African States
<b>WHRDs</b>	Women Human Rights Defenders

# ABOUT THE REPORT

This Pan Africa Program/AU Liaison Office (PAP) Progress Report covers the period from April 2018 until August 2022. These four turbulent years were dominated by the global COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts – which are still being felt, especially by the poorest and most vulnerable people, many of whom are in Africa. The report aims to document the radical changes that the team and its ways of working have undergone as a result, and the progress that has been made by them, and by the partner organisations with whom PAP has collaborated – and without whom our work would not be possible.

This could be seen as the foundational report for the new PAP – its post-pandemic, ground zero report.

It looks at Africa's challenges – which PAP has been set up to help tackle – and documents how the team has been preparing the ground, laying the foundations, and building the partnerships and other relationships that will ensure impactful engagements by Oxfam in Africa at a continental and global level going forward.

It brings together materials and inputs provided by PAP team members, including PAP Director – Peter Kamalingin, Finance & Grants Lead – Victoria Wamalwa, and the leaders of each thematic program area. The Thematic Leads are:

- Alemayehu Tedla (Accountable Governance)
- Felister Gitonga (Gender Justice and Women's Rights)
- Lusungu Kacheche Dzinkambani (Just Economies and Inequality)
- Nanzala Lazarus (Food Systems and Climate Justice)
- Humanitarian and conflict policy (currently vacant – under recruitment)

The authors of this report are independent consultant, Sabita Banerji, and PAP Media and Communications Lead, Victor Oluoch.



Image: Masada Assani, 32, in what used to be her family's house in Macomia, Mozambique. In 2019 Cyclone Kenneth destroyed many in the town in 2019. Photo credit: Tommy Trenchard/Oxfam

# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Peter Kamalingin  
B.L., Director OI PAP/AU Representative

While Africa presents with the highest concentration of inequality and poverty, and the deepest history of dispossession and exclusion, it is important to note that the majority of the issues that confront the continent actually have their roots in global realities. If you look, for example, at the climate crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic, the huge humanitarian crises that we face, the global tax policies, the energy transition, the broken food system, and so on, you come to the understanding that the most urgent issues that confront humanity, cannot be tackled on African soil alone – they demand a truly global response.

The Pan Africa Program, which incorporates the African Union (AU) Liaison Office, is the mechanism through which Oxfam, working with a network of partners and allies, makes informed and authoritative calls for this global response at a continental and global level.

The progress and achievements documented in this report are a testament to the hard work and creativity of the PAP team – most of whom, in its current incarnation, have only been in post since July 2021. It represents the work of many partners, Oxfam country, regional and global colleagues as well as many collaborating Oxfam affiliates. Their achievements are the more impressive in light of the fact that PAP suffered a

significant drop in investment by affiliates after the pragmatic 2017 merging of PAP and AU Liaison office into the Oxfam International Secretariat.

This dis-investment and the observed changes in the internal and external context are some of the factors that prompted our 2019 conference on ‘Rethinking Africa’ and Oxfam’s role – to explore, among other things, how we could ‘do more with less’. We were strongly encouraged to take on new cross-thematic ways of working, where our Thematic Leads channel their work collaboratively towards common set of objectives. The period covered by this report could be seen as the foundational period of the ‘new Pan Africa Program’ and one that speaks more to what the future will look like.

In this report, we have therefore focused as much on the HOW of our work, as on the WHAT we have achieved, as well as the background to how we got to where we are today. This is also why this report should be read and understood as part of an important contribution to the delivery structures and ways of working for a new unified Africa region for Oxfam, of which the Pan African program and the AU Liaison office will be an integral part.

Because another important outcome of the ‘Rethinking Africa’ conference was the recognition that we need to organize

ourselves so that we can be better aligned with the AU and its structures, and to frame our work in a way that gives us a truly continental identity. This would strengthen our ability to leverage Oxfam’s global presence so that we can amplify the issues that are most important to our partners and to the citizens of Africa. That’s why we took the decision, after a lot of consultation, that we would merge all the Oxfam entities in Africa into one region, becoming, from March 2023, one ‘Oxfam in Africa’ (OIA). The new Oxfam Global Strategic Framework (2020-30)<sup>1</sup> was also partly informed by the proceedings and outcomes of the ‘Rethinking Africa’ conference.

It is going to be vitally important that this one Oxfam in Africa structure and its ways of working enable us to draw on all our resources, especially those that come from the Oxfam affiliates, be it human resources, financial resources, technical resources, or resources around relationships and networks at different levels.

In this report, you will read about the progress we have made in laying the foundations for Africa-wide economic, gender and climate justice, for overcoming inequality, for achieving food security, enhancing accountable governance, and for transforming Africa’s humanitarian systems and for realising conflict transformation in

the continent.

These are the issues that are going to remain critical for decades to come. PAP, going into OIA, is dedicated to ensuring that the perspective of the African people and their lived experiences are finding their place in the global space – so that we are truly decolonizing the systems and structures that drive inequality, poverty and exploitation, as well as the way we tell the stories of the people that are impacted by them.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Kamalingin'.

Peter Kamalingin B.L., Director OI PAP/AU Representative

September 2022

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Progress Report covers the period 2018 to 2022 – a period of challenges and change for the world, for Africa and for the Pan Africa Program (PAP). During that period the COVID-19 pandemic hit hard. Although Africa experienced fewer deaths and infections than had been anticipated, it spotlighted the shortcomings in the continent's health systems, economic and political structures and the inequality of its relationships with global partners. This was most starkly evidenced in the global failure to ensure equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines. But the pandemic also undid decades of positive development work and has left the continent poorer, more vulnerable and with less space for civil society to speak out.

## THIS PERIOD BEGAN WITH A MOMENT OF HOPE

PAP's 2019 'Rethinking Africa' conference was an opportunity to confront not just the many challenges facing the continent but to reimagine Oxfam's approach to tackling those challenges. We listened to some hard truths – as well as encouragement and endorsement – from our partners and with their steer have radically reconfigured our team and our ways of working.

## A NEW, UNIFIED WAY OF WORKING

Learning to do more with less, we are working in a less siloed way, with five thematic areas all working to a common set of objectives.

We are supporting and making space for our partners within African civil society to speak out for themselves and supporting them where they need us to do so.

We are engaging with continental and global decision makers at the highest level, through the African Union and through Oxfam's own global policy mechanisms to bring about lasting change in the biggest challenges facing the African people; economic, climate and gender injustice, inequality, precarious food systems, lack of accountable governance and weak humanitarian and conflict policy.



## OUR SUCCESSES AND ACHIEVEMENTS



Image: Ngoya Hellen and her husband Longima Lopila smile to express their gratitude towards GALS (Gender Action Learning System) that has brought them that close Credit: Oxfam

Image: Felicia goes to the market in Garu to shop for fabric she'd like to sew for Christmas. Credit: Nana Kofi Acquah/Oxfam



With the new approach, the new PAP team has succeeded in creating or engaging in several significant opportunities for African civil society to influence continental level policy and supporting them to do so. The strategic focus area in which we have gained the most achievements is in enhancing African civil society's policy advocacy at the AU.

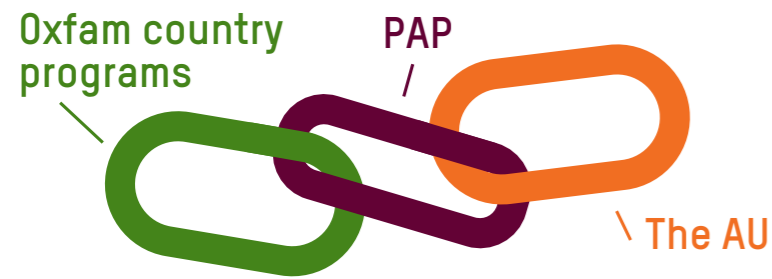
Achievements include convening Africa-wide high-level dialogues around Inequality in Africa, such as the High-Level Panel in Addis Ababa on the side-lines of the Feb 2020 AU Summit with Sierra Leone President H.E. Maada Bio; Launching the Africa Brief on the 'Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index'; Raising our voices against an international financial architecture that is skewed against countries in the Global South.

We looked at the linkages between African cultural practices, food security, and conflict and explored the impact of COVID-19 on small-scale farming, food security and sovereignty in Africa.

We launched our ground-breaking 'Care Policy Score Card,' for assessing country progress towards an enabling policy environment on care; partnering with African and international organizations to call for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines in Africa; and prompting discussion on enhanced Civil Society Organization (CSO) engagement with the AU and its EU partnership process. We have also pledged to support our 116 national humanitarian civil society partner organizations in influencing humanitarian aid systems and responses, after supporting their participation in the 2022 AU Humanitarian Summit.

## PAP AS A VITAL LINK

PAP functions as a vital link between Oxfam country programs and the AU, so engendering a pan-African agenda in country programs and with partners is an important area of work that we anticipate will expand further in future.



So far, we have brought Oxfam country program teams together to develop a strategy for Africa-wide food security, in line with the AU theme of ‘*Strengthening resilience in nutrition and food security on the African continent*’, and to engage in joint planning of the *Fair for All* program. We have also worked with Oxfam in Uganda and Oxfam in Zambia in conducting Fair Tax Monitoring Research to understand the depth of tax-related gender inequalities in the context of Covid-19 and beyond. In 2022, we have coordinated with all countries and regions as well as invested affiliates to develop an Oxfam in Africa Climate Strategy whose roll-out will gain momentum in the pre- and post-COP 27 engagements.



Image: Catharine makes jewelry to sell at her home in Hatcliffe, Harare, Zimbabwe. Credit: Cynthia Matonhodze/Oxfam

## KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM

We have made progress towards developing a knowledge platform to support African countries in their continental influencing on development issues; for example, we created a documentary on the impact of COVID-19 on unpaid care work in African households; conducted research both for influencing energy transition in Zambia and for the Africa Mining Vision as a whole; and published an editorial series highlighting the challenges in the current state of food security in post-COVID-19 Africa.



Image: Hernestine, 38, using Oxfam Handwashing Stand to wash her hands at Mwaka site. Credit: Arlette Bashizi/Oxfam



## LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

We will continue to pursue Oxfam’s vision of a self-reliant, democratic, and peaceful Africa that is responsive to the rights and development needs of her citizens. We will continue to build on the knowledge and experience of Oxfam colleagues, African civil society, African institutions and national governments as well as from experts from around the world to make the needs of African citizens known and acted upon in the appropriate spheres of power. Accordingly, Oxfam International has begun the process of transitioning to the OiA structure which will absorb Oxfam’s current regional structures, as well as PAP itself by April 2023.

The new ‘Oxfam in Africa’ (OiA) model presents opportunities for newer and more integrated ways of working in line with Oxfam’s Global Strategic Framework and ambition. Although PAP as we know it will cease to exist with the emergence of OiA, the new model will benefit immensely from PAP’s experiences. It has paved the way to enable us – and African civil society more widely – to build collective agency to engage more effectively in the continent and the rest of the world. This will strengthen our ability to tackle the major issues of the day and ensure that our youthful continent can fulfill its potential and ambitions and take its rightful place on the world stage.

# INTRODUCING THE (NEW) PAN AFRICA PROGRAM

## WHO WE ARE

The Oxfam International (OI) Pan Africa Program (PAP) is an agency that engages African institutions, nations and their citizens in advocacy, campaigning and influencing.

It incorporates the African Union (AU) Liaison Office in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia – an OI advocacy office established by an MOU signed with the AU in 2006 and on the basis of which a host country agreement is signed with the Government of Ethiopia. The AU Liaison office is the first and only OI advocacy office located in the Global South; it sits alongside Oxfam's other advocacy offices in Brussels for the EU and the UN; in Washington DC, for the Bretton Woods institutions (World Bank and IMF), and in New York, also for the UN.

## WHAT WE DO

Our goal is to realize a self-reliant, democratic, and peaceful Africa that is responsive to the rights and development needs of her citizens.

We work to achieve this in collaboration with social movements, CSOs and their coalitions and alliances, directorates at the AU, Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Governments. PAP's work is now structured under five thematic areas, each addressing a key area of concern for the continent. These are:

- **Gender Justice & Women's Rights:** Seeks to convene and amplify knowledge and narratives that are aimed at breaking down harmful cultural and or social norms and transforming discriminatory institutional settings across the African continent and globally; as well as securing women's economic, social and political participation.
- **Just Economies & Inequality:** Aims at advancing an Africa whose economy and resources are benefiting poor and marginalised people, especially women and girls, and reducing inequality. It influences around financing for development, (debt, aid, taxation, trade, International Financing Institutions) and equitable spending to reduce inequality and benefit the marginalised, women and girls.
- **Climate Justice & Food Systems:** As part of our work under Just Economies and Inequality, PAP actively supports broader and thematic efforts that address citizens' freedom from hunger, right to food, land ownership and climate justice.
- **Accountable Governance:** Focuses on the agency of African citizens and their formations to influence the form and character of the African Union and its institutions, including the RECs so that they are more responsive to the needs, rights and aspirations of the African people. This thematic area operates out of our AU Liaison Office.
- **Humanitarian and Conflict Policy:** Tackles the underlying causes of conflicts in Africa by working with and supporting diverse network of partners, countries and regions to strengthen local leadership, influencing, catalysing and supporting adoption of progressive security and related policies at the national and regional levels anchored on decisions of the African Union Peace and Security Council.

For more detail on each of these thematic areas, please see Appendix A.

# RETHINKING THE PAN AFRICA PROGRAM

*“We will seek to strengthen Oxfam as a network that is deeply rooted in local contexts. We commit to sharing agency and power, both internally and externally. To capitalize on diversity for greater impact, we will explore new ways of organizing ourselves and our work.”*

OI Global Strategic Framework 2020–2030

*“We have determined that the greatest areas of leverage in the context of a complex confederation model is to invest in the ways of working so that the staff are better enabled to work more with others in synergy, initiate and nurture more effective internal and external partnerships.”*

PAP Program Operational Plan 2021–22  
(Internal document)

**In June 2019, PAP entered a new phase, adopting a new approach to our work. This was prompted and shaped by several factors, both internal to Oxfam and external.**

## Internal drivers

### ‘Rethinking Africa’ Conference

The aim of Oxfam’s 2019 ‘Rethinking Africa’ conference was to take a fresh look at Oxfam’s approach in the continent as Africa is transitioning from a history marred by colonialism, indebtedness, racial injustice and slavery and towards a future of entrepreneurship, optimism, empowerment, and opportunity.

The conference brought together leading African thinkers, Oxfam partners, feminists, activists, artists, young entrepreneurs, Oxfam leaders and young Oxfam staff members. It resulted not only in a new approach for PAP, but also helped to shape the principles underlying Oxfam International’s new Global Strategic Framework, with its focus on equality, diversity and inclusivity.<sup>2</sup>

It concluded that Oxfam needs to more intentionally take on global forces, such as multinational companies and hedge funds, that have more power than some of the states, using African values of Ubuntu<sup>3</sup> and Pan Africanism to demand accountability both internally as Oxfam and externally at the national and global level.

Accordingly, PAP was reimagined less as a direct implementer of projects, and more as a facilitator of thought leadership and shaper of the narrative on key and new development issues confronting the continent. These include, but are not limited to the climate emergency, alternative economic models, conflict trends, identity debates, youth agency, governance, women’s rights, local humanitarian leadership, natural resources governance, regional integration and trade.

We recognized that this would require working more purposefully with the countries, regions, partners, affiliates, governments and intergovernmental structures, and needed to realign our ways of working accordingly. To achieve this, we would need to become less bureaucratic, and think more strategically. This led to a series of internal changes to make our program more fit for purpose, described under the ‘Team recalibration’ Strategic Focus Area heading below.

## External drivers

### Post-COVID-19 challenges facing Africa

While Africa had a relatively lower COVID-19 infection and death rate than was anticipated, the pandemic’s wider impacts alongside the continent’s dysfunctional political and economic structures, its trajectory of development, as well as its relationship and place within the international political economy have had devastating consequences for African citizens. Some of the relevant dynamics are explored below.

The pandemic has undone years of development progress made across the continent, exposing vulnerabilities in Africa’s social and economic systems. While Africa accounts for just a small fraction of the total cases of infections, poverty and inequality are rising alarmingly. Disruption in the global supply chains loss livelihoods for millions of poor people and families whose lives depend on trading in Chinese products such as electronics and textiles. The drastic fall in commodity prices has resulted in huge losses in revenues amidst rising debt obligations. Africa’s aviation and tourism sector crumbled with the closure of borders and ban on international passenger flights, and many multinational corporations have shifted billions out of the continent.

Among the host of other challenges facing the continent, and which has been worsened by the pandemic is the servicing of external debt which continues to bleed life-saving revenues that the continent desperately needs to respond to the pandemic.

The pandemic has combined with and magnified the impacts of conflict, spiraling inequality, and an escalating climate crisis to create a food security crisis, leaving millions of Africans on the brink of starvation. The food insecurity challenge is being further intensified by climate induced disasters. Higher average annual temperatures, more extreme weather events such as droughts, floods, locust infestation and less predictable weather patterns spell disaster for food production.

While there has been increased attention on gender issues and gender equality, much is still left to be desired as wide disparities continue to exist between women and men. COVID-19 is rolling back the gains made through the 2003 Maputo Protocol<sup>4</sup> that calls for a range of protections of African women’s rights. Economic and social policies are not only exacerbating inequality, but also entrenching discrimination against women and girls.

The space for civil society, including independent media, to participate in decision making and advocate for government accountability is shrinking alarmingly. COVID-19 has further provoked (and in many cases has been used as an excuse for) an unprecedented wave of restrictions as governments institute mechanisms to limit the operating environment of civil society and freedom of expression. As a result, across the continent, we are witnessing a general decline in democratic culture.

This is also the continent with the youngest population – which represents a huge opportunity, but only if we invest rightly in young people in terms of their health, education, employment opportunities, etc. Investment in public service is going to be particularly important in light of the devastating impacts of the pandemic.

*“Africa, more than other continents and regions where Oxfam has program footprints, is a very dynamic and volatile region. For Oxfam to remain relevant, it must not only realign its change goals with the contexts but must develop strategies that are predictive of trends and therefore, can build contingency plans for program and advocacy adjustments as necessary”*

Program Operational Plan 2022–23  
(Internal document)



Image: Desiré Kwizera (30) a farmer from Bubanza, Colline Cimbizi, Burundi. Credit: Jana Schindler/Oxfam.



## PAP's response to the challenges

Given the context described above, there is a clear need for urgent intervention from African leaders, citizens and Africa's development partners, and this will guide Oxfam's influencing work in Africa in the coming years. The magnitude of the impact of the pandemic-related crisis calls for responses at all levels (national, regional, and international) as swiftly and as completely as possible, laced with a strong spirit of 'global solidarity'.

In addition to the importance of coordinating a united African and global response in the short term, we also needed to consider how to integrate investment in health systems and economic recovery plans into regional development plans in the medium to long term so that future public health crises like the COVID-19 pandemic can be addressed more quickly (or averted entirely) in the future.

Moreover, the economic impact of COVID-19 has meant that agencies such as Oxfam, and the development sector as a whole, have fewer resources at their disposal to confront even bigger challenges. This calls for more innovation and efficiency –

**we must learn to do more with less, which means working smarter, more strategically and more collaboratively than ever before.**

Accordingly, PAP will continue to engage with countries, regions, and affiliates to find ways we can increase synergy and efficiency including via more integrated ways of working and structures.

## Digital governance and inclusiveness

An important aspect of the way we have worked during the past few years is using technology. Oxfam is championing efforts to engage digitally, but is acutely aware of the nature of its audience. For example, when organizing a virtual event with small scale farmers across Africa, we linked with partners to help farmers connect by bringing them into halls with strong internet connectivity. We have been proactively leveraging technology in as much of our work as possible, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic when travel was limited. However, we recognise that there are further challenges with making technology truly democratic, and know that we need to invest in supporting digital capacity and competence going forward.



Image: Amina Ibrahim, 50, mother of 12 children originally from Qararo (about 30 km from Gunagado). She came here in 2017 after drought killed her family, loss of livestock and an outbreak of AWD (probably cholera) endangered her family. Credit: Pablo Tosco/Oxfam Intermon

## Ways of working

The Pan Africa Program originally comprised teams that were focused on specific thematic areas. The upside of this approach was that it promoted specialities and allowed individuals to develop great skills and experience in their fields. However, the downside was that it promoted a siloed approach which could lead to lack of coordination in the implementation of plans as well as country and partner engagements. We recognized that the team needed to work as a whole, while at the same time preserving the specialist skills and knowledge of its individual members.

Our key thematic areas remain the same. But instead of the thematic teams working independently on separate pillars, each is now working towards one program with a common set of Strategic Focus Areas. These are:

1. Enhancing policy advocacy at the African Union
2. Engendering a Pan African agenda in country programs and with partners
3. Creating convergence points for Africa's global advocacy agenda
4. Developing a knowledge platform for African countries
5. Team recalibration

PAP now operates as an advocacy and influencing platform that intentionally feeds its advocacy priorities from and into countries and partners as well as to the global space, which requires working jointly as a team to leverage the support and expertise of other Oxfam teams and civil society partners.

Working in such an environment requires the team members to rely on relationships with countries and partners, where they need to leverage each other's support. Equally important is that the team is prepared for transition to a single Africa platform which will require that advocacy efforts are tightly coordinated, and that it balances this with commitment to influence (not just follow) the global campaign agendas.

For any of the above areas to be effective, we first needed to make sure we had the right team structure and members in place. So, underlying all the other Strategic Focus Areas is Team Recalibration, which, although we list it last after the external-facing strategic focus areas, is the foundation of the new Pan Africa Program – a program best placed to feed into the future.



Image: Ouedraogo (47), a farmer from Yatenga province in Burkina Faso displays maize cobs from her farm after planting improved. Credit: Pro-Org SARL/Oxfam

## Resourcing PAP and its work

Oxfam's latest Global Strategic Framework explains that "...because we want lasting solutions, [we are committed to] tackling the inequalities that keep people poor and vulnerable, and campaigning for genuine, durable change." It is PAP that provides the platform through which this commitment can be realized on the African continent. Through PAP, the organization can channel calls for the global and continental-level systemic change that underpins the poverty, inequality and vulnerability to conflict and natural disasters it is working to eliminate at country level.

PAP and the AU Liaison office affords the Oxfam confederation with an effective way of engaging with continental-level policy and decision-makers. It provides an effective way of bringing together country programs' calls for systemic change and offers an effective mechanism through which we can engage with continental level CSOs. It is a hub for decolonized, continental-level knowledge.

It is vitally important that Oxfam globally continues to adequately resource the Pan Africa structure and its work. PAP is focusing on doing more with less – but to sustain this and ensure ongoing effectiveness, a consistent supply of adequate resources is necessary to enable the small but impactful team to get on with the job. A well-resourced Oxfam in Africa AU liaison office will afford the confederation with the opportunity to grow resources, for larger, longer, country programmes going forward.

*"Oxfam... must now go beyond symptoms to address root causes – go beyond humanitarian response to dealing with the problem of poor governance, exclusion, industrialization and agricultural practices that destroy the environment and cause climate change, and violent conflicts which create humanitarian disasters. Delivering on this means investing in the capacity of Oxfam to support partners and thought leaders in the areas of focus and to convene around new and out-of-the-box thinking. It means valuing and rewarding knowledge as critical component of our work."*

*Rethinking Africa Conference report (Internal document)*

# OUR INFLUENCING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS



Image: Beatrice Achungo Mbendo, a 38-year-old single mother of four and a resident of Muthurwa in Nairobi, lost her job as a domestic worker during the covid-19 pandemic. She was scheduled to receive her first cash transfer in October 2020. Credit: Sven Torfinn / Oxfam Novib.

# 1. ENHANCING POLICY ADVOCACY AT THE AU

## FOCUS

African Union and its institutions

## GOAL

Ensure that Oxfam's advocacy on AU policy is strategic, well researched and well-articulated, and that it adequately represents the priorities and positions of African civil society and Oxfam country programmes.

## OUTCOMES

- i. The views and positions of Oxfam and partners are represented within AU discussions and decision-making processes.
- ii. The AU values, appreciates and respects engagement and consultation with Oxfam and African civil society partners and citizens.

Image: The women of the household sow soya beans on the family farm. The men do the ploughing. Credit: Nana Kofi Acquah/Oxfam.

## Progress

The restructuring of PAP to create a leaner team has necessitated a resetting of the relationship with the AU. This was made more challenging by the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns which prevented PAP teams from engaging face-to-face with AU officials, making relationship and trust-building more challenging. Despite these challenges, PAP has succeeded during the last four years in enriching, informing and facilitating AU policy advocacy on a range of critical issues. Interventions included facilitating policy discussions on EU-AU partnerships, conducting advocacy on vaccines, highlighting policies on Unpaid Care and Domestic Work (UCDW) and prompting AU level commitments to tackling violence against women and girls.

## Deepening the inequality discourse in Africa

Prior to and throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, PAP offered thought leadership and analysis, convening high-level fora that brought together leading Africa thought leaders, heads of governments, civil society leaders, researchers, policy makers to unpack the extent and impact of unbridled inequality in the continent. PAP released multiple briefings on reducing inequality across the continent and between Africa and the rest of the international community.

These included 'A Tale of Two Continents',<sup>5</sup> launched during the 2019 Work Economic Forum-Africa forum in Cape Town. It explores why, in Africa, "the gap between rich and poor is greater than in any other region of the world apart from Latin America" and urging African leaders to turn away from "the path of ever-increasing inequality and poverty" and, instead to choose the path towards prosperity and equality for the many through improving tax systems, investing in better public services and protecting workers' rights.

This provided the basis for a high-level panel on inequality being held during the 2020 AU Summit in Addis Ababa bringing together a select group of African leaders, including Sierra Leone's President, H.E. Maada Bio, who cited his country's ranking (153/157) in Oxfam's Inequality Index as an incentive to undertake further progressive action to address thorny development questions. Sierra Leone has, accordingly, mapped out a bold agenda to tackle problems of poverty, inequality and national development by planning around specific human capital development interventions.

Our February 2022 CR11 briefing was focused on 'Building back fairer after COVID-19'<sup>6</sup>. It emphasized that the continent is facing "a crisis of extreme inequality which is undermining growth, preventing poverty eradication and contributing to insecurity" – and that this has been further deepened by COVID-19, undoing progress that had been made in some countries and exacerbating inequality in those where no progress had been made. The paper lays out a comprehensive plan of measures which could be taken by African governments, the AU and the international community, including the EU, to significantly reduce inequality, eradicate poverty, accelerate growth, and reduce insecurity throughout Africa. A subsequent panel discussion on the CR11 briefing paper, involving key African development finance leaders, concluded that Africa can, with the collaboration of international allies and the right strategies, urgently address inequalities through more proportional tax policies, more spending on public health, education, and social protection, fair wages and international policies designed to reduce or end extreme inequality.

At the time of going to press, PAP is currently working on a new CR11 briefing on OI's latest global CR11 briefing<sup>7</sup>, the first detailed briefing since the onset of the global pandemic.

### Speaking out against inequitable international finance

We worked with partners on a number of debt and development conferences, where we spoke out against international financial architecture that is skewed against countries in the Global South. These included the African Conference on Debt and Development<sup>8</sup>, the Pan-African Media Conference on Debt and Development<sup>9</sup> and the Pan African Conference on Illicit Financial Flows and Taxation.<sup>10</sup>

### Raising the issue of partnership inequality at the EU-AU summit

In the run-up to the EU-AU Partnership Summit, PAP organized a successful side event at which key policy stakeholders advanced policy dialogue on inequality in AU Partnerships. The discussants included Jason Rosario Braganza, Executive Director of The African Forum and Network on Debt and Development<sup>11</sup>; Adelle Onyango, a Kenyan media personality who has gained international recognition for her efforts to empower African women and youth; and Hannah Ryder, the founder of Development Reimagined<sup>12</sup>. They explored how this inequality leads to challenges in fulfilling Africa's multilateral commitments, undermines the ability of the partners to realize their stated objectives on aid and development assistance which have an impact on issues of economic justice.

### Engaging civil society for effective Africa-EU Partnership:

In February 2022, in collaboration with the AU's Economic, Social & Cultural Council (ECOSOCC)<sup>13</sup>, PAP helped convene a webinar on the challenges and opportunities of civil society participation in the AU, particularly Africa-EU partnerships, and solicit civil society views and proposals for enhanced CSO engagement with the AU and its EU partnership process. It was attended by nearly 200 participants including civil society entities representing youth, women, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups across the continent. A joint AU ECOSOCC-Oxfam Communique<sup>14</sup> elaborating the key issues and recommendations emerging from the webinar was distributed to AU member states, African CSOs, AU statutory organs, decision making structures and functional departments. Recommendations included the pressing need to deal with immigration and climate change; strengthening the role of CSOs in the AU-EU partnership; enhancing youth engagement; and the importance of knowledge generation.

### Advocating for the active involvement of African CSOs in the AU-EU partnership:

In February 2022 prior to the AU-EU Summit, as part of the campaign for an equitable and effective AU global partnership, PAP actively participated in and contributed to the successful organization of the joint African and European Civil Society and Local Authorities Forum. PAP contributed to defining and elaborating civil society thematic priorities and key recommendations, which were presented in a joint civil society declaration and submitted to the senior EU and AU political leadership at the Summit. PAP was one of the two civil society representatives (the other being CONCORD) chosen to address the opening session of the Forum on behalf of civil society. Our speech emphasized on the governance challenges of the partnership and amplified civil society calls for an equal and inclusive partnership where citizens and CSOs can effectively participate at all stages of the partnerships including in policy and implementation processes.

### Tackling inequality in national policies

#### Advocating for a Pan African universal social protection agenda:

On the margins of the July 2022 AU Mid-Year Summit in Lusaka, Zambia, PAP and partners convened a high-level dialogue on the right to social protection, in line with the AU theme of 'Strengthening resilience in nutrition and food security on the African continent.' The event aimed to create awareness of the challenges of social protection in Africa and the need to adopt a rights-based approach to ensure equality and build resilience in post-COVID Africa; facilitate discussion and enhance understanding of the draft AU Protocol on the Rights of Citizens to Social Protection and Social Security<sup>15</sup>; create opportunities for sharing experiences, lessons and good practice on rights-based social protection policies, laws and programs in Africa at continental, regional and country levels and provide a platform of dialogue between civil society, the AU, Member states and development partners on progressive and transformative solutions to social protection challenges in Africa. The meeting concluded that while there is constitutional recognition or mention of some form of social protection in more than half AU member states, and while many governments employed social protection measures to address the impacts of the pandemic, social protection coverage in Africa is still as low as an estimated 17% of its total population; far below the 40% social protection coverage target needed to achieve the SDGs. Recommendations included developing integrated and inclusive national strategies for universal social protection; establishing social protection floors; designing policy measures to extend social protection coverage to the informal economy and to foster progressive formalization of enterprises; sound financial architecture; and aligning with the 2020-2030 decade of African women to economic and financial inclusion.

#### Raising awareness of Unpaid Domestic Care Work:

PAP's ground-breaking Care Policy Score Card<sup>16</sup> was officially launched by Her Excellency Mme Bineta Diop, the AU Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security. One hundred copies of this practical tool to assess and track government policies related to UCDW were distributed to the African Union Women, Gender & Youth Directorate, women's rights organizations, and activists at a side event held at the 38th Gender is My Agenda Campaign (GIMAC)<sup>17</sup> session on 3rd February 2022. Mme Diop committed to a greater contribution by Heads of States to discussions on UCDW. She also pledged to advance UCDW discourse by engaging men through the Kinshasa Declaration and calling for action by the heads of AU member states on positive masculinity in leadership. The in-coming Chair of the AU, Senegal's President, H.E. Macky Sall, also promised to continue the discussion on ending violence against women and girls in Africa.

#### Advocating for Vaccines for All:

PAP is supporting and partnering with African and international organizations – including African People's Vaccine Alliance and the international Peoples Vaccine Alliance – calling for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines in Africa. Activities included a webinar on equitable access to vaccines in Southern Africa, participation in a press conference by African CSOs, supporting the development of films to raise awareness on the issue, and engaging with African, European and other global political leaders on the issue. PAP also exploited major publicity opportunities such as the Olympics and the visit to Africa by French President Emmanuel Macron using traditional and social media to highlight the problem of inequitable access to vaccines in Africa.



Image: Amina Aden is the head of Tayo uniforms & embroidery, a small business specialized in providing readily available and affordable school uniforms to Hargeisa and other regions. Credit: Petteirik Wiggers / Oxfam Novib.



Thabiso, a resident of Plum tree in Zimbabwe washing his hands before collecting food during distributions. Oxfam provided food assistance to households in during the Covid-19 pandemic. Photo credit: Tavonga Chikwaya/ Oxfam.

## Strengthening food security and livelihoods

### Supporting AU member commitments on African agriculture development

PAP has been working jointly with the AU and other non-State actors to support a series of engagements with the National Parliamentary Committees on Agriculture across all AU member states. These initiatives will help us engage member states on their commitments under the principles of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP), and to assess their progress. It will also be an opportunity to start supporting the preparatory work for the discussions post 2025 when the current CAADP framework ends.

### Identifying strategies to mitigate negative impacts of COVID-19 on food security

In May 2020, small-scale farming leaders, along with key strategic partners from the East African Community (EAC), Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) convened to discuss the impacts of the pandemic on small-scale farming, food security, and sovereignty. Through a series of webinars, co-convened with CAADP Non-State Actors Coalition<sup>18</sup>, the Eastern and Southern Africa small-scale Farmers Forum<sup>19</sup>, Trust Africa<sup>20</sup> and their members, they defined

current challenges and identified actionable strategies to mitigate the negative impacts of COVID-19 on food security and sovereignty in the regions. The webinars emphasized that the pandemic could severely exacerbate production shortfalls; that market closures have catastrophic impacts on farmers' incomes and local food availability and that women are disproportionately impacted. In addition, nutritious food is becoming more expensive; and at national level, the terms of trade are being negatively impacted. In order to protect small-scale farmers from these impacts, PAP and its partners recommended that governments and funders ensure an inclusive process that will provide farming populations and consumers with safety nets. They should make markets work during COVID-19 by treating small-scale farmers as essential workers (for example, by providing them with hygiene kits), and should target farmers, particularly women and young people, with support packages to sustain livelihoods, ensuring that food supply chains are responsive to both rural and urban populations. In addition, Governments should support sustainable farming practices and healthy menus that are resilient to the effects of climate change. Importantly, they should ensure the budget allocated to the agriculture sector in 2020/2021, amid COVID-19, reflects the commitments in the Malabo Declaration, by progressively investing at least 10% of national budgets to enhance rural farming livelihoods and ensure quality food supply and raw materials.

### PAP and partners also convened a Gender Inequality Dialogue

Drawing on the findings of an Oxfam study, in partnership with the African Economic Research Consortium, on 'Gendered Impacts of COVID 19 on Livelihoods in Africa' undertaken in Ethiopia, Zambia Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa, establishing how the pandemic had impacted particularly strongly on rural women's food systems and productivity. The dialogue concluded with a call on governments to deliver "urgent and determined action to deliver gender equality in our food systems" through strategies such as the promotion of local food systems, ensuring women's rights over land and seeds, and gender responsive governance, including quotas for women's representation.

## Advancing peace and security

### Impact of Peace & Security on Culture & Heritage Protection in Africa

In April 2022, PAP held a dialogue on various aspects of the Impact of Peace & Security on Culture & Heritage Protection in Africa, including linkages between food security, African cultures and traditions relating to food preservation, protection, and preparation, how these can contribute to improving food security on the continent and how conflict disrupts these important indigenous practices. The meeting – a hybrid Pre-Tana<sup>21</sup> Multi-Stakeholders Dialogue in collaboration with the Institute of Peace and Security University of the Addis Ababa – brought together AU Member States, AU special Envoy on Women Peace and Security, African peace and security thought leaders, experts, development partners, research organizations, think tanks, and media, as well as representatives from the AU. H.E. Bankole Adeoye (the AU's Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security) was the keynote speaker.

### Enhancing continental-level humanitarian policy

In May 2022, (along with Trocaire, ICVA, Christian Aid and Caritas) Oxfam supported the participation of African CSO representatives in the AU Humanitarian Summit in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea. Together, these CSOs formed the 'African Humanitarian Organizations Network' whose main aim is to advocate for and influence all actors to invest in the capacity, space, strength and voice of Local Humanitarian Actors in Africa along the commitments reached in the Charter for Change.

In support of this initiative, Oxfam has pledged to support our 116 national humanitarian civil society partner organizations' programs and their leadership and to ensure that they increase their influence over humanitarian aid systems and responses. We also pledged to the AU, its member states and citizens of Africa, to support Africa's aspiration (#6) in Agenda 2063<sup>22</sup> for development that builds "on the potential of African people," and where "citizens of African [are] actively involved in decision making." African CSOs also made a pledge<sup>23</sup> which included the commitment to "contribute our voices and perspectives to advance the efforts of the African Union and the future AU Humanitarian Agency."

In keeping with this pledge, in February 2022, we signed an MOU with African CSOs on the conflicts in the Horn of Africa, especially Ethiopia, supported them to convene an initial strategy meeting, and agreed to provide additional support for advocacy across the continent.

### Supporting African CSO-AU engagements on the Horn of Africa Conflicts

Oxfam supported engagements of African civil society organisations (CSOs) on the mediation process between the parties to the conflict in Northern Ethiopia; these included meetings with the former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo, the AU High Representative for the Horn of Africa, who has been leading mediation efforts since August 2021. The engagement helped CSOs to understand progress on his mediation efforts as well as what contribution, if any, they could make, particularly in strengthening the role of AU in resolving conflicts in the horn of Africa. The insights and outcome from the meeting are already informing Africa-wide partner engagement with the Office of the AU special Envoy on governance and conflicts in the Horn of Africa.

### Supporting the role of women and youth in silencing the guns

On 3 December 2020, PAP collaborated with the GIMAC network and Femmes Africa Solidarité to organize, with the support of the AU Commission Office of the Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security, an historic 'Multi-Country High Level Dialogue on Silencing the Guns: Case Studies from South Sudan, Burundi, DRC and Mali'<sup>24</sup>. The dialogue was held to identify innovative approaches to accelerate the silencing of physical and symbolic guns in Africa. With the collaboration of the Danish Embassy in Ethiopia, it sought to enhance the role of women, youth, refugees, internally displaced persons and returnees' roles in meaningfully contributing to silencing the guns in the continent for sustainable peace and development. A second-high level multi-country dialogue was held in January 2021, mainly to solicit commitments from government authorities and policy makers in making the silencing of guns a reality, informed by the four case study countries of South Sudan, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and Mali. We raised awareness of the issue through the media championing inclusiveness, especially of women and youth, in peace processes, for example, providing an op-ed in the African Arguments journal challenging the absence of women in Ethiopia's national dialogue commission.<sup>25</sup>

## 2. ENGENDERING A PAN AFRICAN AGENDA IN COUNTRY PROGRAMS AND WITH PARTNERS



### FOCUS

Oxfam Country Programs

### GOAL

Increase engagements with country programs to help generate an African agenda with collective continental policy asks that reflect and speak to our country-level priorities. Expand our advocacy reach to all African countries, where practical, to link the various countries, clusters or regions to the Africa level engagements.

### OUTCOMES

- i. Country programs are supported to increase their engagements with AU and RECs
- ii. Engagements of country programs with national governments are amplified in continental spaces
- iii. Country programs are linked for advocacy and policy engagements and benefit from each other
- iv. Partners are unified in developing an African agenda.

Image: Margaret Kikui is the Head of Programs for the Pastoralist Girls Initiative (PGI), a girls' and women's rights organization that works in Kenya's ASALs (arid and semi-arid lands) region. She has been active in development and humanitarian work since 1998. Credit: Henry Bongeirwe/Oxfam.

## Progress

All of the achievements in the previous section - Enhancing Policy Advocacy at the AU - have only been possible through the work of Oxfam's country programs and partners. Over the last three years, PAP has been deliberate in working with country teams and local partner organizations, to develop advocacy agendas and convenings. Oxfam country programs have played an active role in influencing and informing the other strategic focus areas including Enhancing Policy Advocacy at the AU, providing Convergence Points for Africa's Global Advocacy Agenda and Developing a Knowledge Platform for African Countries. As PAP and its successor, Oxfam in Africa, and the new ways of working collaboratively become more embedded, work in this area will be enabled.

### Planning the Fair for All program at country level

In March 2022 PAP's Just Economies and Inequality team brought together a wide group of key Oxfam partners including Tax Justice Network Africa (TJNA)<sup>26</sup>, Fight Inequality Alliance, ROPPA<sup>27</sup>, and FEMNET as well as Oxfam country teams from Uganda, Kenya, South Africa and Nigeria to facilitate joint planning and collaboration around the Fair for All program. This is a program funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, aiming to strengthen civil society and mobilize people across the world to demand and contribute to more inclusive and sustainable trade, as well as respect human rights in value chains, protection of the environment and the promotion of women's economic empowerment.

### Developing country-level knowledge of tax-related gender inequalities

As part of its Fiscal Justice for Women and Girls in Africa Project, the Economic Justice program worked with Oxfam in Uganda and Oxfam in Zambia in conducting Fair Tax Monitoring Research to understand the depth of tax-related gender inequalities in the context of Covid-19 and beyond. Based on the findings, the program is working with the same countries to generate a fiscal policy proposal which will be used for influencing.

### Developing the Africa climate strategy

PAP has been working to align our Climate Justice work with AU member states and with the region's climate-related priorities. Africa has contributed the least to the climate crisis but currently faces its most catastrophic impacts, and this is likely to continue to worsen for Africa's 1.2 billion people. It was this scenario that inspired PAP to convene a meeting of Oxfam colleagues from across the African region in July 2022 to help frame the initial thinking around a Climate Justice Strategy. This strategy will help unify our influencing work with governments and international institutions to adopt actions, policies and practices that are aligned with African priorities. Our climate change interventions and advocacy in Africa are focused (will continue to focus) on three major areas:

- **Climate finance**
- **Food systems**
- **Just energy transition**

Part of the resilience-building efforts to help Africans cope with the effects of climate change will also be tackled through investment in the capacity of AU member states, local authorities and local humanitarian actors not only to mitigate but also to effectively respond to climate induced disasters.

## 3 CONVERGENCE POINTS FOR AFRICA GLOBAL ADVOCACY AGENDA

### FOCUS

Oxfam Global Policy Teams

### GOAL

Take the lead, working with Oxfam's country programs and global policy teams to ensure that African voices are meaningfully informing Oxfam's global position and that they can be effectively represented in the different multi-lateral or bilateral spaces. Work closely with global policy teams to generate the common views of Oxfam country programs together with those of partners and allies to generate a strong Oxfam position which has legitimacy due to the rigours of the process.

### OUTCOMES

- i. Common position from African CSOs which are in harmony with Oxfam's position
- ii. Stronger connection between global team and country programs.

Image: Fantu Gezay, a 51-year-old single mother of six from Raya Azebo district in Southern Tigray, Ethiopia. Fantu lost her house and belongings due to the conflict that broke out in the area in November 2020 in Northern Ethiopia. Credit: Serawit Atnafu/Oxfam

## Progress

PAP has made every effort to input effectively into campaigns against the World Bank, IMF, global climate campaigns etc with limited capacity. Our recent restructuring has made this even more challenging. In order to be a more impactful and sustainable convergence point for global advocacy on Africa there needs to be at least one dedicated policy research post in the team.

### Strengthening the protection of Women Human Rights Defenders

In October 2021, PAP and the GIMAC Network in collaboration with the AU Office of the Special Envoy on Women, Peace, and Security, co-hosted virtual post summit meeting, *'Women Peace Builders and Human Rights Defenders: Acceleration of Action on Reprisals'* which focused on amplifying protection measures against reprisals towards women human rights defenders and peacebuilders in South Sudan, DRC, Niger, Kenya, and Mali. The meeting was positioned around the UN Security Council Resolution on Women, Peace, and Security (UNSCR 1325)<sup>28</sup>, which recognizes the prominent roles of women in peacebuilding. Speakers reflected on the contextual factors that cause the deterioration of their working environment of Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs), especially the increasing incidences of human rights violations, abuse, and reprisals against this group. The AU Special Envoy on Women Peace and Security included recommendations made by the WHRDs in her address to the UN Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security.<sup>29</sup>

### Advising African governments on fulfilling citizens' rights post COVID-19

PAP produced a briefing paper, *'Africa's Extreme Inequality Crisis: Building Back Fairer after COVID-19'*<sup>30</sup> which makes recommendations on how African governments and bilateral donors can shape the fiscal space in the post-Covid 19 recovery period. The brief is premised on the fact that over the past three years African governments exhausted most of their resources to respond to COVID-19, largely focusing on healthcare and social protection. Currently most African governments are now phasing out these measures, leaving no long-term increases in healthcare or social protection, while at the same time, the IMF is recommending fiscal austerity. The paper calls for a reversal of austerity plans and advancing economic measures that promote increasing spending for health, education, and social protection to achieve the SDGs. The report was launch during the World Bank and IMF 2022 Spring meetings.<sup>31</sup>

### Challenging the exclusion of African voices from global tax reform

Through our partner organisation, TJNA, PAP facilitated influencing on the Global Tax Reform Process.<sup>32</sup> The on-going OECD global tax reform process has pushed our advocacy towards challenging the international tax and financial architecture especially given the fact that Africa as a continent has been excluded from this important decision-making process. As such, challenging the political economy of the global tax system was a key piece of our advocacy strategy even from the extractive industries perspective, as Africa is always on the receiving end as long as the international financial system excludes it from such processes.



## 4 DEVELOPING A KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM FOR AFRICAN COUNTRIES

### FOCUS

General

### GOAL

Develop a knowledge platform on which the agenda is derived from the bulk of Oxfam's country program work as well as those of our partners. Pursue the decolonization of research and knowledge agenda while partnering with some continental institutions such as universities and think tanks.

### OUTCOMES

- i. Stronger partnerships built with knowledge institutions across the continent
- ii. Knowledge products from Africa reinforce Oxfam's commitment to building a strong southern campaigns platform PAP supports country programs and partners to coordinate knowledge development and use it for advocacy at regional, continental, and international spaces.



Image: Margaret Kikui meets with a girl who mentors girls who have had to drop out of school. Credit: Madarakapics Photography.

## Progress

As part of our efforts to decolonise our knowledge systems, in addition to being involved in research, we are also consolidating partnerships with academic institutions in Africa. We have formal memoranda of understanding with the University of Nairobi and the Institute of Peace and Security Studies in Addis Ababa University.

### Documentary on the impact of COVID-19 on care work in Households in Africa

As part of the African Women day celebration 28<sup>th</sup> July 2022, PAP's Gender Justice team launched a documentary on *The Impact of COVID-19 on Care Work in Households in Africa*<sup>33</sup> in collaboration with the countries implementing Oxfam's WE-Care program<sup>34</sup>; Kenya, Zimbabwe, Uganda, and Ethiopia. The documentary demonstrated how women and girls shouldered additional responsibilities beyond their daily routines to support their families including care responsibilities at the height of the pandemic taking care of COVID-19 patients and home schooling their children. However, households where men and women were already socialized to share care and domestic work demonstrated higher levels of resilience and responded better to the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on women.

### Research pieces for influencing the Africa Mining Vision

PAP, in partnership with TJNA, facilitated knowledge and research pieces for policy advocacy and influencing work on the Africa Mining Vision<sup>35</sup> and the energy transition with a specific focus on taxation. Two research reports were commissioned; the first was to review the implementation progress of Pillar 3 of the Africa Minerals Governance Framework<sup>36</sup> on fiscal regime and revenue management in AMV implementing countries. This research builds on the Country Mining Vision<sup>37</sup> assessments work that was initiated with support from Oxfam in 2021, which was aimed assessing the domestication progress of four implementing countries: Zambia, Ghana, Uganda and Liberia. This piece of work will continue especially as part of Oxfam's influencing of the AU for a just transition to a greener economy.

### Research piece on taxation, mining and the energy transition in Zambia

The objective of this study was to assess whether Zambia's current mining fiscal regime is fit for purpose for optimal tax revenue collection in the energy transition era. This assessment was aimed at analyzing the country's tax policy preparedness in view of the critical role copper will play in building technologies in the energy transition era. PAP, in partnership with Committee of Fiscal Studies of University of Nairobi, created a database of key legislation on various taxes, and did an analysis of taxation fiscal regimes in several countries<sup>38</sup>, including a data map on the taxation of extractives in Africa<sup>39</sup>. We also partnered with the University of Nairobi's Committee on Fiscal Studies to publish a journal on *'Financing for Development'*<sup>40</sup> covering issues such as cross-border taxation, and taxation of digital transfers.

### Editorial series exploring the state of food security in Africa post-COVID-19

PAP partnered with African Arguments<sup>41</sup>, (a Pan African publication on African politics, business, and culture), on an editorial series exploring the state of food security on the continent considering the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The series focused on how the factors of low public investment in agriculture and climate change combine to heavily strain food systems and agricultural productivity in various African countries especially for the small holder farmers who depend on it not only for food but also for income. In addition, the series explored the solutions and options within, from the government-led pursuit of climate finance, to people-led, grassroots solutions in the rural economy. African Arguments commissioned stories by reporters based on the ground in interior regions of rural Uganda, market towns in Malawi, across conflict areas in Mozambique, and from the under-reported Guinea-Bissau. The stories reached 200,000 readers via social media.

# 5 TEAM RECALIBRATION

## FOCUS

PAP team

## GOAL

Redesign teams and roles to enable PAP team members to develop joint actions especially in setting advocacy priorities, country and partner engagements as well as relating and working with global teams, both in programs and policy.

## OUTCOMES

- i. Advocacy actions are well coordinated and successful
- ii. Projectization approach is avoided
- iii. Expertise of individuals benefits the team
- iv. Team is better enabled and supported to be more prepared to competently transition into the new Oxfam in Africa platform
- v. Key competencies are added to the team

## Progress

The transition to a new way of working – doing more with less – required PAP to scale down its structure and to redesign the job descriptions of its staff, expanding their scope and facilitating the acquisition of new skills and talent.

A key function within the PAP governance structure is the AU Liaison Office in Addis Ababa, established by a memorandum of understanding and a Host Country Agreement signed with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Government of Ethiopia. While PAP and the AU Liaison Office in Addis Ababa originally operated as two separate but linked entities, each with its own Director and teams, this was streamlined in 2020 as part of the OIS restructuring. Both functions merged under a single Director overseeing Pan African policy work. This was not without challenges as the AU Liaison office has not regained its optimal resourcing to the level needed to effectively deliver on its mandate. With the Humanitarian and Conflict Policy lead soon to join the Accountable Governance Lead and other additional support and redeployment plans aligned, we expect that the capacity of the AU Liaison office will be much enhanced from the second a half of FY 2022/23 and into the future.

The new ways of working required a different set of skills and experience. In addition to knowledge and expertise on the particular theme they would be focused on, Thematic Leads now also needed to be adept at convening stakeholders, generating and sharing knowledge and working across functions. As former team members moved on, PAP attracted a new set of team members; all but one of the Thematic Leads has been recruited since July 2021 when Oxfam’s post-COVID-19 hiring freeze was lifted. The Thematic Lead for Humanitarian and Conflict Policy was being recruited at the time of writing this report.

The biggest challenge the team faces is delivering more with fewer resources.

During the transition to our new team and way of working, there was a risk of weakened linkages and reduced on-the-ground evidence from the countries we had phased out from. We addressed these risks by linking more with regional teams and partners and collaborating with peer organizations drawing from their knowledge and presence in these countries for influencing at regional and continental levels. We also built a partnership with the AU through its skills development program (internship program) for the youth.

## PAP Organogram

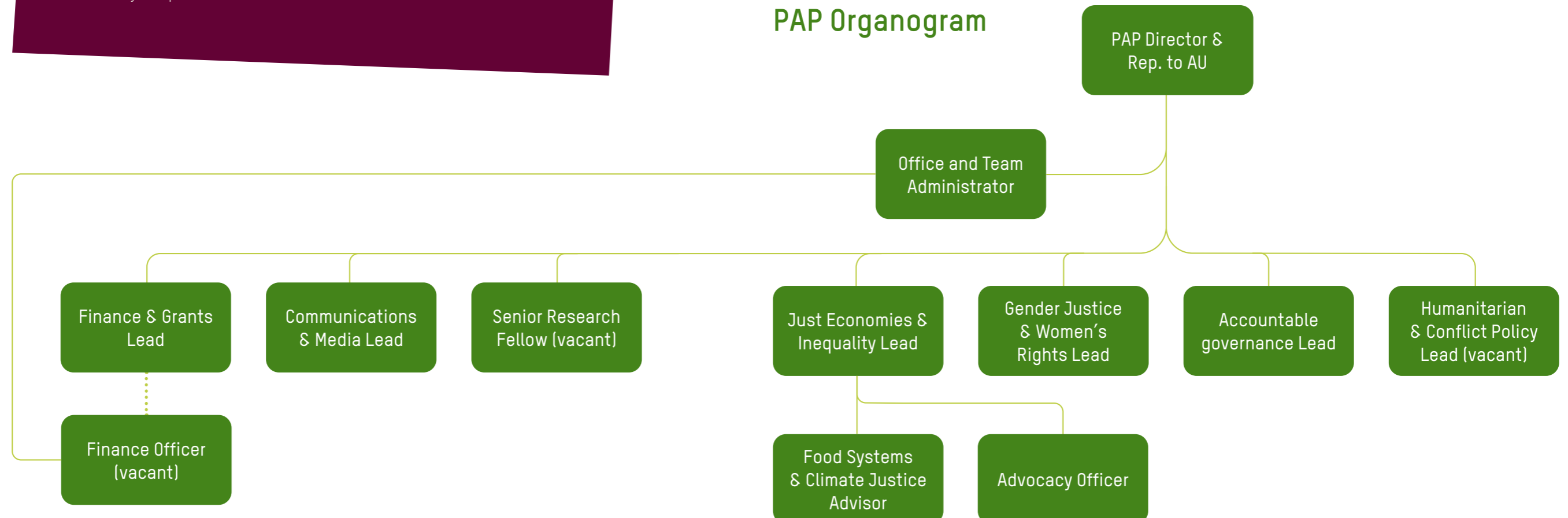




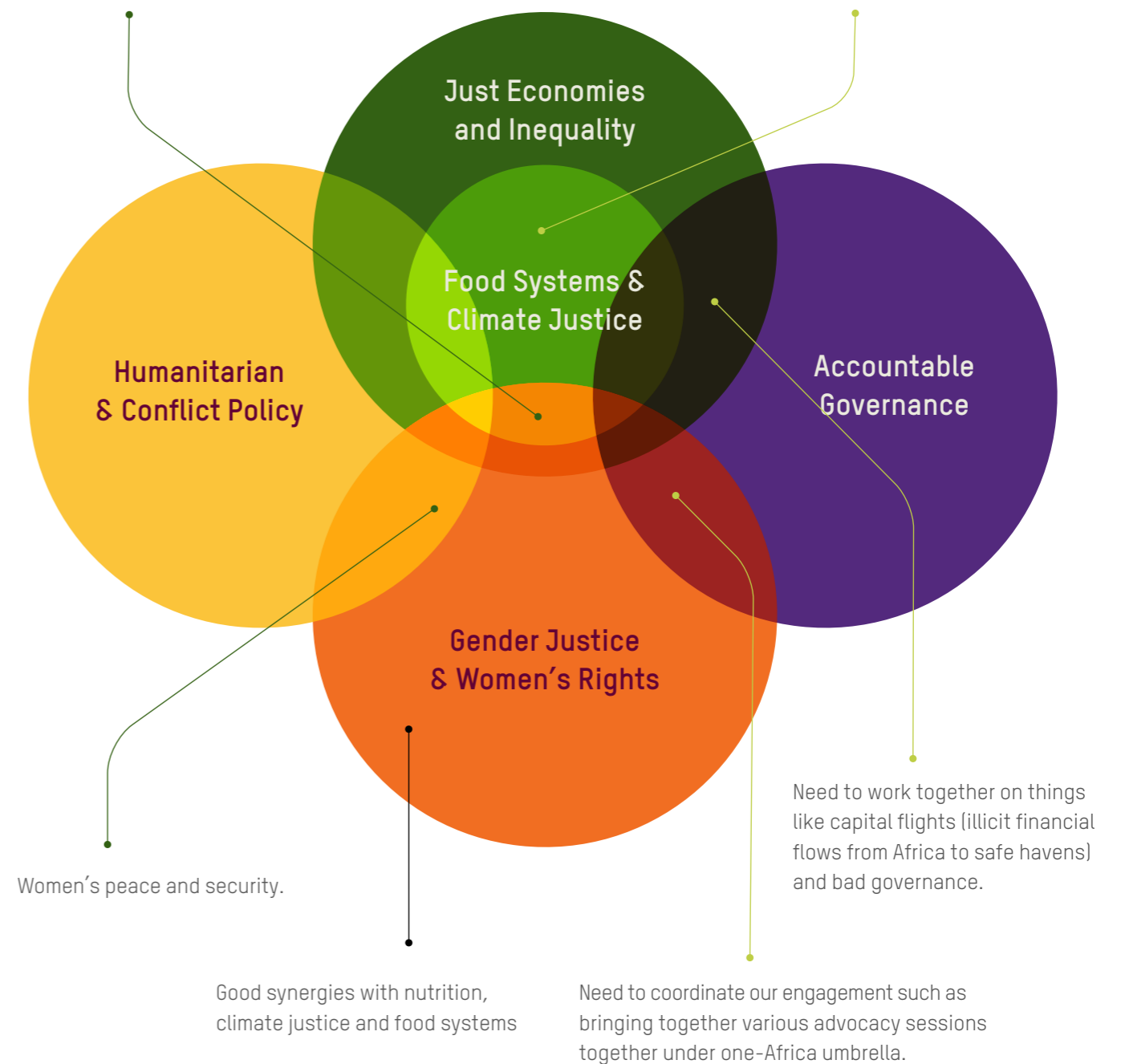
Image: Omar, a resident of Mororo location, in Tana River County, Kenya and his 19 dependents used the money he received from the Kenya Cash Consortium, which includes Oxfam in Kenya, to replant and restock after they lost their mango farms and livestock to floods in 2020. Credit: Lameck Ododo/Oxfam.

## Intersections of the Thematic Areas

This diagram shows some of the key areas in which our thematic areas intersect, although in our new collaborative approach, each of the areas intersects with all the others to a greater or lesser extent. We are working towards even greater intersectionality to ensure that all our actions, advocacy and resources address the essential interdependence of the social and economic issues facing Africans today.

Key overlap is with gender and fiscal justice for women and girls. Currently working on developing fiscal policy to influence African governments on how women and girls are impacted.

Just Economies & Inequality program focuses on issues of financing for development, inequality reduction as well as climate justice and food systems.



# LOOKING TO THE FUTURE – ONE OXFAM IN AFRICA

We have put in place teams, networks and systems that aim to amplify the voices of African citizens to the national, continental and global level in order to achieve Oxfam's vision, PAP's vision, of a self-reliant, democratic, and peaceful Africa that is responsive to the rights and development needs of her citizens.

We will continue to build on the knowledge and experience of Oxfam colleagues, African civil society, African institutions and national governments as well as from experts from around the world to make the needs of African citizens known and acted upon in the appropriate spheres of influence.

Our Gender Justice and Women's Rights work will be mainstreamed in all engagements, but there will be some instances where our work on Gender Justice will be more deliberate, targeted and independent of the projects. These will include advancing African narratives on care work aiming to shift policies and practices across Africa towards the recognition, redistribution, reduction and reward of care and domestic work which is largely provided by women; generating evidence on gender gaps in macro-economic policies and especially relating to the gendered impact of COVID-19; lobbying to increase investments in closing the gender inequality and financing gaps as Africa economies seek to build back from COVID-19; and engaging in continental discourse on gender-responsive budgeting.

The feedback from partners and other stakeholders at our 'Rethinking Africa' conference showed us that we need to consolidate our analysis so that we are able to aggregate and frame our work in a way that gives us a *continental* identity which can amplify and aggregate the voices around the AU, while keeping very much aligned with the AU structures. We also needed to find a way through which we are more effectively connected to Oxfam International as a global entity, and to different affiliates in the global north.

Oxfam International has therefore taken the decision to transition all its entities in Africa into one Oxfam in Africa, with effect from April 2023. This means that instead of being partitioned into different regions, all of Oxfam's presence in the continent will be under a single unified region under one director. This will make it easier for Oxfam and its partners to effectively engage at a continental level, both externally and within the confederation. Oxfam's African affiliate organisations - which include Oxfam South Africa (already established), Oxfam in Kenya and Oxfam in Senegal (in the next year or two) with potential for more in the years ahead - will be an integral part of this single Africa entity. A more unified presence in Africa will help to create a truly globally balanced Oxfam, bringing closer to realisation its vision of ending injustice of inequality and poverty.

# APPENDIX 1. OUTLINE OF PAP THEMATIC AREAS

## JUST ECONOMIES AND INEQUALITY

This program contributes to the two systemic change goals at the GSF level - Just Economies and Climate Justice. The Just Economies and Inequality program aims at advancing an Africa whose economy is benefiting poor and marginalized people especially women and girls and reducing inequality. It conducts programs around financing for development, (debt, aid, taxation, trade, International Financing Institutions) and equitable spending (to benefit the marginalized, women and girls and reducing inequality). Its priorities include:

### Africa's Debt Burden and International Financing Architecture

Cognisant of the fact that the debt burden for Africa is huge and trends have been going up and the fact that rising debt figures have been accompanied by slow growth in general government revenue during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Just Economies and Inequality Program prioritizes influencing around public debt in Africa. The program also advocates around Africa's financing issues including the role of aid, International Financing Institutions on the continent's economy and economic policies

### Inequality Reduction

The program influences around inequality reduction through multiple means such as the periodically produced Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index (CRII); a multidimensional index which ranks countries on their policy performance to reduce inequality through public services, progressive taxation, and labour rights. The report makes recommendations to multiple stakeholders including African governments, AU leaders and the AU commission, the EU, and the international community on what they can do to ensure Africa's successful recovery from the pandemic and address inequality.

### Taxation

Revenue from taxation remains low in Africa while revenue generation remains a priority for the region. The Just Economies and Inequality program programs to ensure African governments are generating adequate taxes and not losing potential tax through among other things incentives and Illicit Financial Flows.

### Fiscal Justice Policy for Women & Girls

The program focuses on understanding the depth of tax related gender inequalities and advance fairness from a gender perspective,

### Fair Trade

The program advances the idea that trade should benefit the marginalized people, facilitate reduction of inequalities and advances enjoyment of human rights.

## CLIMATE JUSTICE & FOOD SECURITY

Under Food Systems and Climate Justice, we actively support broader and thematic efforts that address citizens freedom from hunger, right to food, land ownership and climate justice by:

- Advocating for increased, responsible and accountable public and private investment that supports small scale farmers, especially women in realizing their rights and entitlements to food security, land ownership and climate justice.
- Promoting increased access to productive resources to small holder farmers' (including land, seeds, credit, market and water), and resilience to climate related shocks and stresses for increased food production.
- Empowering poor and marginalized communities especially small-scale women farmers to effectively influence policies and decision-making processes that affects their livelihoods.

The Africa campaigns, modelled around Oxfam's global campaigns, are contextualized to inform and draw from African issues. The program integrates all its interventions and works with other program focus areas to ensure African governments build back economies that value people and the planet over profits.

### We deliver change through:

- Production of policy research and analysis on agriculture and on Oxfam's Global Campaigns on Agriculture and Climate Change e.g. GROW campaign.
- Targeted advocacy and policy promotion on sustainable agriculture and climate justice continental initiatives and instruments e.g monitoring the implementation of Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) compliance and Adaptation Financing.
- Capacity Building of women farmers including Women Rights Organizations (WROs) to participate in on sustainable agriculture and climate justice decision making forums at the national, regional and continental levels.

## GENDER JUSTICE & WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Our work on Gender Justice and Women's Rights seeks to convene and lift up knowledge and narratives that are aimed at breaking down harmful cultural and or social norms and transforming discriminatory institutional settings across the African continent as well as securing women's economic, social and political participation. We support advocacy for increased investment in essential service and ensuring responsible land investment that support small scale farmers, especially women, in realizing their rights and entitlements to food security, employment opportunity and land ownership. We have developed programs focusing on Women Land Rights, Care and domestic work, Violence against Women, Peace and Security.

## HUMANITARIAN & CONFLICT POLICY

In this strategic area of our programming, we focus on tackling the underlying causes of conflicts in Africa. We do this by working with and supporting selected partners, countries and regions to strengthen local leadership, influencing, catalyzing and supporting adoption of progressive security and related policies at the national and regional levels anchored on decisions of the African Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC). We see citizens' effective engagement in peace processes and agreements as essential in securing sustainable peace and conflict transformation, holding their governments to account - hence brokering peace and stability and ensuring a favorable developmental environment. We identify and support movements around women's peace and security in humanitarian influencing, particularly women's movements in humanitarian actions. A major area of work is to support the African Humanitarian Organizations Network (AHON) to engage with the Africa Union, particularly the Directorate of Social and Humanitarian Affairs, to incubate, nurture and strengthen the AU Humanitarian Agency (AHA).

## ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE

A key element of PAP's Accountable Governance work focuses on the agency of African citizens and their formations to influence the form and character of the African Union and its institutions, including the RECs so that they are more responsive to the needs, rights and aspirations of the African people. It draws from a strong track record of our OI-AU liaison role. We invest in increasing the competence, awareness and understanding of the African citizens on the AU architecture, the protocols treaties their related responsibilities as citizens. Priority areas include, but not limited to civic space, rights in the digital era and the youth agency.

# APPENDIX 2. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

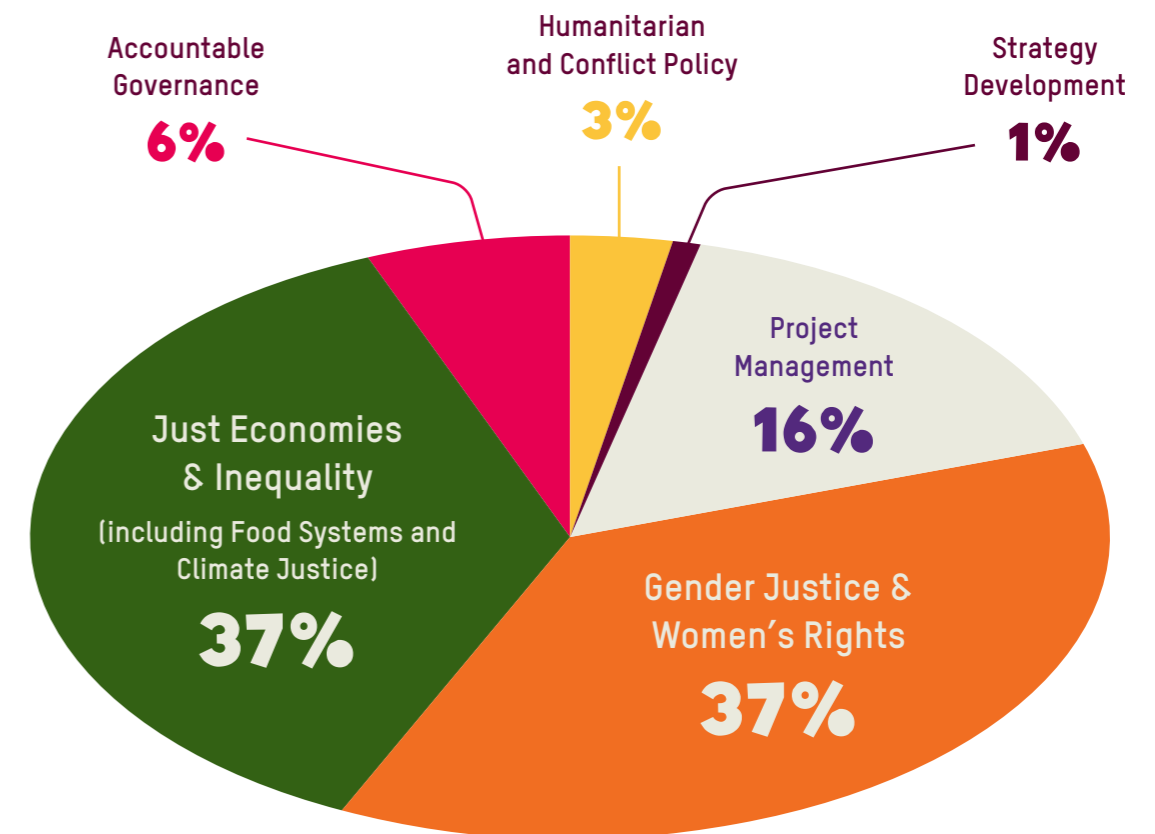
## Overall funding trend

The overall funding trend for the period of this Progress Report is as follows. Figures provided are in Euros.

Thematic area	Budget 19/20	Budget 20/21	Budget 21/22	Budget_22/23
Project Management Cost	405,600	363,263	327,062	417,373
Gender Justice & Inclusive Peace	1,692,433	930,542	247,557	492,080
Just Economies	602,510	782,381	899,663	1,121,462
Peace and security Pillar	133,908	120,764	-	-
Accountable Governance, Youth & Edu	43,136	40,000	36,780	118,573
Strategy Development-RAC	81,918			0
Humanitarian Policy & Conflict Transformation			22,376	235,224
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,959,505</b>	<b>2,236,950</b>	<b>1,533,439</b>	<b>2,384,712</b>

The funding for the program started to decrease with the onset of Covid-19 in 2020 for two years. This was as a result of restrictions imposed by different governments as well as diversion in the funding areas with a key focus being health.

## Total funding per thematic area



# ENDNOTES

- 1 Oxfam International, 2020. Fight Inequality – Together, we can end poverty and injustice: Global Strategic Framework 2020–2030 [https://oi-files-d8-prod.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/2020-11/GSF%202020-2030\\_ENG\\_FINAL\\_0.pdf](https://oi-files-d8-prod.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/2020-11/GSF%202020-2030_ENG_FINAL_0.pdf)
- 2 Ibid.
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- 4 African Union, 2003. Protocol to the African Charter On Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa <https://au.int/en/treaties/protocol-african-charter-human-and-peoples-rights-rights-women-africa>
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- 8 <https://afrodad.org/initiatives/afrodad-conference-on-debt-and-development/>
- 9 <https://afrodad.org/pan-african-media-conference-on-debt-and-development-2021/>
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- 11 <http://www.afrodad.org/>
- 12 <http://developmentreimagined.com/>
- 13 <https://au.int/en/about/ecosocc>
- 14 <https://panafrica.oxfam.org/latest/press-release/civil-society-communicate-engaging-civil-society-effective-africa-eu-partnership>
- 15 The Protocol covers protection of the rights of women and girls; families; older persons; children and young people; health care and sickness benefits; persons with disabilities; occupational health and safety and employment injury and maternity and paternity protection among others. [https://au.int/sites/default/files/newsevents/workingdocuments/36350-wd-e-protocol\\_on\\_social\\_protection\\_and\\_social\\_security.pdf](https://au.int/sites/default/files/newsevents/workingdocuments/36350-wd-e-protocol_on_social_protection_and_social_security.pdf)
- 16 <https://policy-practice.oxfam.org/resources/care-policy-scorecard-a-tool-for-assessing-country-progress-towards-an-enabling-621287/>
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- 19 [www.esaff.org](http://www.esaff.org)
- 20 <https://www.trustafrica.org/en/programme/socio-economic-justice/agriculture-advocacy>
- 21 The Tana High-Level Forum on Security in Africa is an annual meeting that brings together African leaders and stakeholders to engage and explore African-led security solutions <https://tanaforum.org/about/>
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- 37 [https://au.int/sites/default/files/newsevents/workingdocuments/14528-wd-ti10726\\_e\\_original\\_mali.pdf](https://au.int/sites/default/files/newsevents/workingdocuments/14528-wd-ti10726_e_original_mali.pdf)
- 38 <https://fiscallawafrica.wordpress.com/2022/02/07/fiscal-regimes-used-in-the-extractive-industry-a-developing-country-perspective/>
- 39 <https://cfs.uonbi.ac.ke/Data%20Maps>
- 40 <http://uonjournals.uonbi.ac.ke/ojs/index.php/ffd/issue/view/113>
- 41 <https://africanarguments.org/>



## Our partners:

The following lists the key strategic partners that we have collaborated with in the period covered by this Progress Report. The list is not exhaustive but we are grateful to all our partners whether or not funding is involved. Without them, PAP's work would not be possible.

Name	Key areas of engagements Geographic, thematic areas/content, scope
<b>Gender is My Agenda Campaign (GIMAC)</b>	Gender Justice- Unpaid Care and Domestic Work, Women Peace and security, feminist dialogues
<b>Africa Leadership Foundation (ALF)</b>	Unpaid Care and Domestic Work
<b>African Women's Development and Communications Network (FEMNET)</b>	Gender Justice- Unpaid Care and Domestic Work, feminist dialogues
<b>African Economic Research Consortium's (AERC)</b>	Gendered Impact of Covid 19 on Livelihoods in Africa
<b>Institute of Peace and Security Studies - Addis Ababa University</b>	Peace and security Dialogues
<b>The Economic, Social &amp; Cultural Council (AU-ECOSOCC)</b>	Civil society participation in AU, Continental
<b>CONCORD Europe</b>	Civil society role in AU-EU partnership, inter-continental
<b>Africa Platform for Social Protection (APSP)</b>	Promoting Social Protection Rights in Africa
<b>Network of Farmers' and Producers' for West Africa (ROPPA)</b>	Economic justice and promotion of human rights of workers and farmers
<b>African Women's Development and Communications Network (FEMNET)</b>	Engendered fiscal justice in Africa
<b>Tax Justice Network Africa (TJNA)</b>	Tax justice and effective revenue mobilisation in key sectors like the extractives sector in Africa
<b>Fight Inequality Alliance (FIA)</b>	Campaigning against inequality in Africa and the global space
<b>African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD)</b>	Debt management and development financing in Pan Africa
<b>University of Nairobi Centre for Fiscal Studies</b>	Fiscal Justice- mainly taxation
<b>Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA)</b>	Climate justice and food systems
<b>Horn of Africa Youth Network (HoAYN)</b>	Sustainable, equitable and youth-led development in East and the Horn of Africa Region
<b>African Humanitarian Organisations Network (AHON)</b>	Local humanitarian Leadership and strengthening Africa Humanitarian Agency (AHA)

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 Oxfam Ireland  
 Oxfam Italy  
 Oxfam Mexico  
 Oxfam Aotearoa (New Zealand)  
 Oxfam Novib (Netherlands)  
 Oxfam Québec  
 Oxfam South Africa  
 Kadın Emeğini Değerlendirme Vakfı (KEDV- Foundation for the Support of Women's Work, Turkey).

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We are registered in Kenya under a Host Country Agreement with the Government of Kenya. The Host Country Agreement allows us to establish our global Head Office in Nairobi, Kenya.

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