

ACTION FOR EDUCATION

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

31ST DECEMBER 2021

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1. Legal and administrative information

Name

Action for Education

Registered Charity number

1191133

Trustees for the period ended 31 December 2021

Lucy Pigott	(Chair)	... since 3rd September 2020
Ayla Estreich		... <i>since 3rd September 2020</i>
Mark Boot		... <i>since 3rd September 2020</i>
Phoebe Blades		... <i>since 3rd September 2020</i>
Jacob Warn		... <i>since 3rd September 2020</i> <i>(with intermission: 05/01/2021 - 05/09/21)</i>
Dale Kitching		... <i>since 3rd September 2020</i>
Maxine Warn		... <i>since 3rd September 2020</i>

Registered Address

1 Edward Street, Bristol, BS5 6LW

Independent Examiner

Louise Considine
Institute of Chartered Accountants in Scotland
The Grant Considine Partnership
Chartered Accountants
46 High Street
Banchory
Aberdeenshire
AB31 5SR

Bank

1. TransferWise, 56 Shoreditch High Street, London, E1 6JJ, United Kingdom
2. TransferWise, Avenue Louise 54, Room S52, Brussels, 1050, Belgium

2. Trustees' Report

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report and financial statement for the 16 month period since the formation of the charity to 31st December 2021. These statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out by the Charity Commission and comply with the charity's constitution.

Background

Action for Education (AFE) began its work in January 2018 in response to the widespread lack of education and safe space available to asylum-seekers and refugees in Greece. Between 2018 and 2020, AFE was registered under the auspices of *Prism the Gift Fund*, registered charity no. 1099682, On 3rd September 2020, AFE founded its own independent charitable incorporated organisation.

In this report, we share the journey we have come on over the past 16 months since our founding until the end of our first full financial year on 31st December 2021.

Structure, governance and management

Action for Education is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and is registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales (registered number 1191133). It is governed by its Constitution and its only voting members are its charity trustees.

During this year, Action for Education has been governed by between 6 and 7 charity trustees. Our constitution provides for a minimum of three and maximum of twelve trustees. New trustees can be appointed by existing trustees and can serve for three years with trustees eligible for re-appointment.

No trustee remuneration was paid during this period for acting as a trustee.

Trustees met at least six times during this period via video calls, each of which was chaired and minutes recorded on a rotational basis by a member of the Board. The quorum for decisions is two charity trustees, or the number nearest to one third of the total number of charity trustees, whichever is greater, or such larger number as the charity trustees may decide from time to time and, in the event of a split vote, the Chair of Trustees has final decision-making authority.

In between meetings, trustees communicate on a frequent, usually weekly basis, using email. This is how ongoing administrative and other duties are managed. The broad strategy and areas of activity and focus for the charity are reviewed on an ongoing basis because of the fast-changing nature of the refugee crisis.

Objectives and Public benefit statement

Action for Education works for the public benefit to advance the education of refugee children, women and youth in Europe who have become displaced persons or refugees from the countries of their origin due to hostilities, persecution, oppression, discrimination, natural disasters or other like causes in particular but not exclusively by:

1. addressing gaps in formal education provision by the state.
2. promoting holistic education (including social, artistic and physical training) by providing volunteer opportunities, youth work experience programmes and teacher training courses for young persons, providing youth development activities, social and emotional learning opportunities and vocational training opportunities.
3. advance the education of the public regarding the experience of seeking asylum.
4. advancing the education of the charity sector in general on the subject of refugee education
5. promoting research for the public benefit in all aspects of refugee education and to publish the useful results.

Activities conducted to carry out our charitable purpose and

Achievements and Performance

During the first reporting period of *Action for Education*, the following key activities were carried out according to our charitable purpose. These include:

1. **One grant made to our Greek partner**, Δράση για την Εκπαίδευση. This grant, a total of €12,000 made between October and December 2021, supported 2 centres for refugee education on the island of Chios and in Athens. With this grant, our local partner was able to continue providing English lessons, early childhood education and IT classes to beneficiaries.
2. **Support for the *Ojala!* pilot initiative in Spain**. During 2021, Action for Education supported the development of the *Ojala!* project. Funds contributed helped conduct an initial needs assessment on the Canary Islands. Since then, a fully-fledged language app has been developed in partnership with the development company, Cobalt Sign who have provided their services pro bono.
3. **Support for Europe Must Act**, advocating for a humane migration policy. Throughout 2021, Action for Education has been supporting the advocacy and public campaigning activities through the *Europe Must Act* project. This has come in the form of support for a consultant specialising on EU and UN advocacy. This consultant has enabled the project to develop a rigorous and sustained advocacy strategy that raises

awareness on a European level about the gaps of service facing refugees and asylum seekers, from education to livelihoods.

4. **Fundraising and grant-writing.** Throughout the past period, Trustees and volunteers have been actively raising funds for education projects via crowdfunding and grant-writing. We have secured grants from *Refugee Rights Europe*, *Lush Charity Pot*, *Just Trust*, *The Global Whole Being Fund* and *Prism the Gift Fund*.

Grant recipients and spending

During this period, Action for Education made grants exclusively to Δράση για την Εκπαίδευση, the Greek registered non-profit no. 997220609, with the aim of furthering access to education for children and young people in Greece.

Action for Education also made payments towards consultancy activities related to migration-based advocacy and public awareness campaigns to promote integration and a spirit of solidarity in Europe.

Δράση για την Εκπαίδευση has a long-term partnership agreement signed with Action for Education. This allows the Greek organisation to submit grant requests which are then reviewed by the trustees. If approved, a grant payment is made for the requested amount.

Plans for the future

Following the closure of the Chios Hub, the decision has been taken by the Trustees for Action for Education to pass on the remaining project in Athens, The Nest, to another organisation working in the field and to seek to close Action for Education.

Financial Review

In the first full year operating as a registered charity, Action for Education raised an income of €104,930 despite all the difficulties encountered by the effects of Covid-19.

There was an operating surplus of €56,431 and, after exchange gains, has cash reserves of €58,254 all of which are unrestricted funds. This was partly due to some projects being suspended and also to prudent financial management. Some of this surplus is being utilised on these projects during 2022.

The outlook for the future is one of uncertainty. The reduction in available funding across the charitable sector along with a shift in focus towards Ukraine has made accessing funds more challenging than ever.

Principal funding sources

The largest singular source of funds came from the Europe Must Act (EMA) movement. However, the principal source of funds came from grants.

Reserves Policy

The charity aims to maintain reserves sufficient to cover at least 3 months of expenditure (approximately €25,000).

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 31 October 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Lucy Pigott

Lucy Pigott – Chair and Trustee

3. Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Action for Education

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Action for Education CIO

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Action for Education CIO (the Trust) for the period 3 September 2020 to 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Louise Considine

Louise Considine
Institute of Chartered Accountants in Scotland
The Grant Considine Partnership
Chartered Accountants
46 High Street
Banchory
Aberdeenshire
AB31 5SR

Date: 31 October 2022

4. Receipts and Payments Accounts

Action for Education	Charity number: 1191133
Receipts and payments accounts	
For the period 3 September 2020 to 31 December 2021	
	€
	2020 - 2021
Receipts	
Donations	370
Grants	104,560
Total Receipts	104,930
Less Payments	
Payments relating to charitable activities	36,265
Grants	12,000
Governance - accountancy	234
Total Payments	48,499
Net receipts	56,431
Gain on foreign exchange adjustments	1,823
Surplus for the period	58,254
All funds are unrestricted funds.	

5. Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Action for Education

Charity number: 1191133

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

As at 31 December 2021

	€ 2021
All Unrestricted Funds	
Cash funds	
Cash and bank at the start of the period	0
Surplus for the period	58,254
Cash and bank at the end of the period	58,254
Liabilities	
Accruals	4,385
Deferred income	4,800
Total liabilities	9,185

Signed on behalf of the trustees

Lucy Pigott

Lucy Pigott

31 October 2022

6. Notes to the Accounts

1. Presentation Currency

The presentation currency of the financial statements is Euros (€).

2. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity, have been prepared on a cash basis. This means only income received and expenditure incurred during the financial year is included in the accounts.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for a particular restricted purpose.

All funds of the charity are unrestricted for the current period.

3. Trustees' Remuneration and Benefits

No trustees received remuneration during the period while in office.

Trustees' expenses

No trustees were reimbursed for expenses during the period while in office.

4. Related party transactions

Jacob Warn was a trustee from 3 September 2020 to 5 January 2021, and from 5 September 2021. His mother, Maxine Warn, was also a trustee throughout the period. Mr Warn received payments totalling €7,368 for services he provided during the 8 month period he was not a trustee. This was agreed by the trustees excluding Mrs Warn who was not involved in the decision.

Since September 2021 Mr Warn has been paid via Δράση για την Εκπαίδευση, the Greek registered non-profit no. 997220609, who has received grant funding from Action for Education. The grant provided to Δράση για την Εκπαίδευση was for other staff costs and rent, but was not for Mr Warn services.