



Foto: Nana Koti Acquah

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Oxfam Denmark



# A FUTURE FOR EVERYONE

In 2023, we changed our name to Oxfam Denmark to make it clear that we are part of the global confederation Oxfam. We build on more than 50 years of experience, but together we can create substantial changes.

All our achievements are based on good collaboration with partners, employees, volunteers, and donors - especially globally. And not least the many people who support our work financially and with active participation.

The year ended in a dramatic way with the escalation of the war in Gaza. The destruction of lives in the enclave and the escalation of violence in the West Bank has created a renewed movement for peace and equal rights. Also, Oxfam Denmark was the first to demand an immediate ceasefire.

Oxfam has been working to improve the lives of Palestinians since the 1950's, and as part of the confederation we quickly scaled up our humanitarian

assistance through our local staff and partners in Gaza.

In line with our new strategy for 2023-27, Oxfam Denmark seeks to empower people to fight for "A just and equal future". We will end extreme economic inequality and climate injustice, give everyone the right to a good education, and, not least, protect and help people in need.

War, conflict, and climate crisis dominated 2023, leading to destroyed homes, lack of food and massive loss of lives. Together with partners and the Oxfam confederation, we have delivered humanitarian assistance to people in Ukraine and the Horn of Africa, among other places.

In addition to our massive humanitarian work, we have produced incisive reports showing how hunger in the Horn of Africa is linked to climate change and extreme profits among the few companies controlling the world's food trade.

That's why we are particularly proud to have reached a global agreement on tax on multinational companies.

And we have taken the first steps towards a tax on the ultra-rich, to ensure funds for good schools, health, and green transition for all.

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*We will end extreme economic inequality and climate injustice, give everyone the right to a good education, and, not least, protect and help people in need.*

Lars Koch,  
Secretary General  
in Oxfam Denmark

In recent years, Oxfam Denmark has joined the climate fight with a focus on inequality.

The richest one per cent of the world are the biggest polluters, while the world's poorest bear the brunt of the consequences – thus, the biggest polluters should also take responsibility for climate change. In the coming years, we will step up our efforts to help the most vulnerable people on the frontline of climate change to adapt and become more resilient.

At Oxfam Denmark, we have known for decades that education is the best weapon against inequality. That's why we support partners in more than 60 countries through the Education Out Loud Fund, the world's largest civil society education fund.

Change comes when people stand together and demand the right to quality education – especially for youth, women, and children.

Thank you to all Oxfam Denmark members, staff, volunteers, donors, and partners.

You are the reason we can create a more equal and fairer future for all.

**Lars Koch,  
Secretary General  
in Oxfam Denmark**



Photo: Hans Bach

# AN EQUAL AND JUST FUTURE

The new strategy marks the change of our name from Oxfam IBIS to Oxfam Denmark.

Oxfam is internationally recognised as one of the most influential humanitarian organisations challenging inequality and building strong partnerships and alliances, both locally and internationally.

With the new name, we emphasise our commitment to the global Oxfam family. Together we can be even stronger in the fight for a more equal and just future for all.

At Oxfam Denmark, we believe that people have the power to create a better future for themselves.

When communities mobilise and stand together, we can make a difference. That's why we support women, youth, indigenous peoples, grassroots groups, and local civil society organisations, among others.

Our mission is to help those in urgent need of humanitarian support, while, simultaneously, working to address the root causes of poverty and inequality, and create more just and sustainable solutions for both people and planet instead.

We know that the causes leading to rising inequality and poverty worldwide are complex - and interconnected.

That is why we work closely with Oxfam globally and with our offices around the world to create change across countries, cultures, and traditional divides.

We believe that we can achieve our goals when we stand together.





Guatemala: Lucas shows how the drought has affected his crops.  
Photo: Pablo Tosco



## ECONOMIC JUSTICE

We challenge economic policies locally, nationally, and internationally in favour of a progressive tax system, holding companies and the wealthiest people accountable, fighting tax evasion and improving living conditions for all.



## CLIMATE JUSTICE

We fight for the richest countries and people to take responsibility for climate change. We help the poorest and most vulnerable populations to become more resilient to natural disasters and help develop green solutions that strengthen food security and sustainable use of natural resources.



## HUMANITARIAN AID

We are one of the world's largest humanitarian organisations. In times of disaster, war, and conflict, we are present in some of the world's hardest-hit areas with both humanitarian response and long-term peacebuilding.

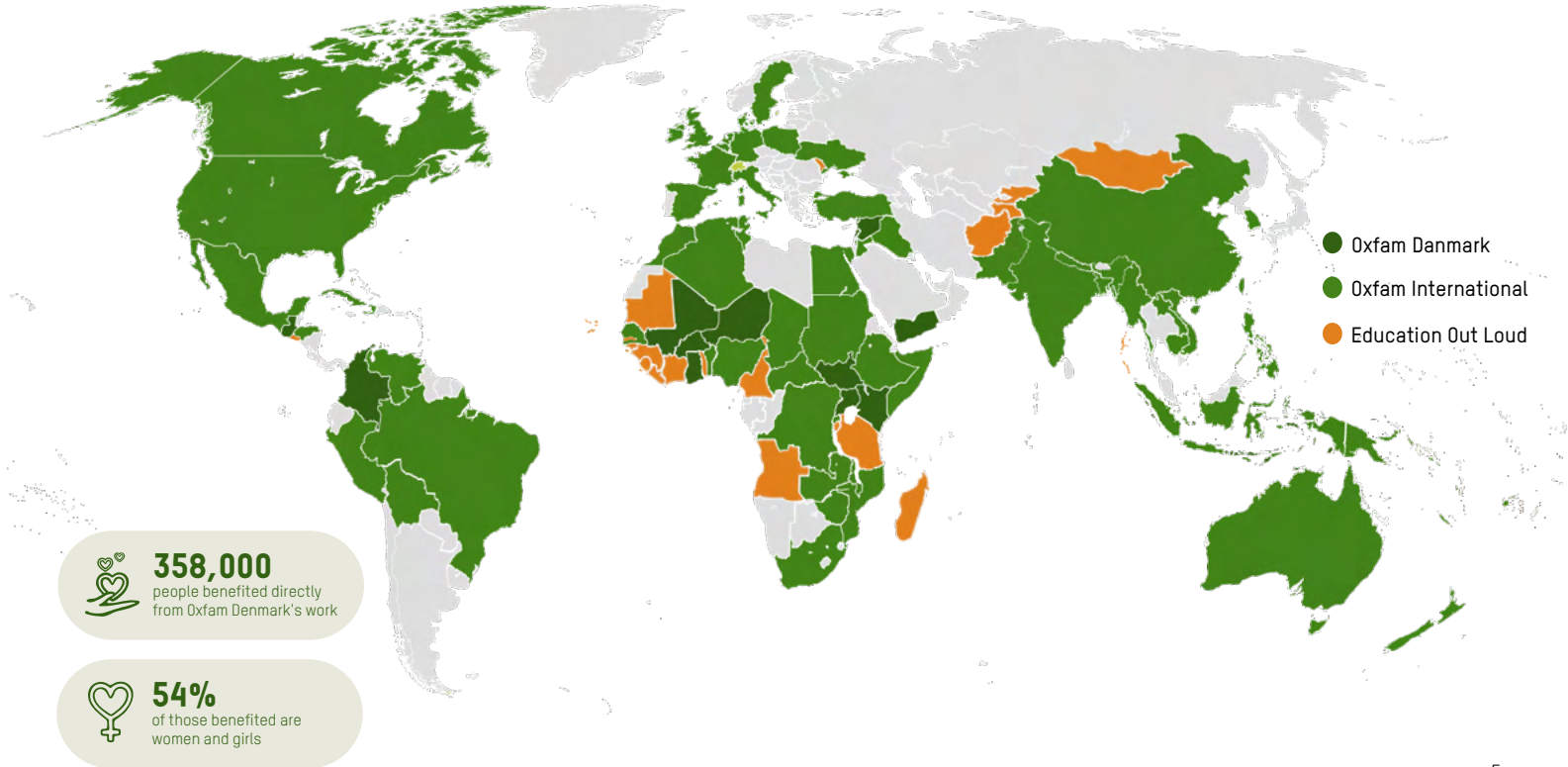


## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Quality education is one of the best weapons against poverty and inequality. That is why we fight for better schools and better teaching materials around the world. We want to ensure access to quality education, so children and young people learn to read, count, and claim their rights.

# WHERE WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Oxfam International consists of 21 affiliates, including Oxfam Denmark, and 40 country offices covering all continents. With the help of several foundations and the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Oxfam Denmark works primarily in Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Ghana, Kenya, South Sudan, Uganda, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria, Yemen, Colombia, and Guatemala. In addition, the Education Out Loud Foundation supports educational activities in 60 countries.



# SUPPORT FROM MEMBERS, PARTNERS, AND FOUNDATIONS

Oxfam Denmark's work depends on donations from our members, collaboration with partners, and support from institutional donors, private foundations, and companies.

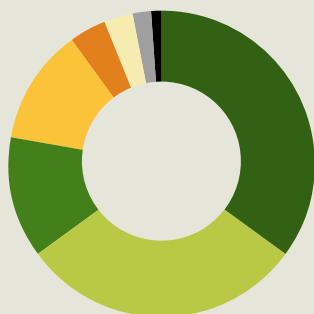
Together with civil society organisations, authorities, and private actors, we have fought to make a difference for the world's poorest and most vulnerable people.

Our efforts include long-term development, humanitarian assistance, and peacebuilding contributing to several of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Thanks to our members, partners, and donors, we have been able to work towards a more just world in 2023.

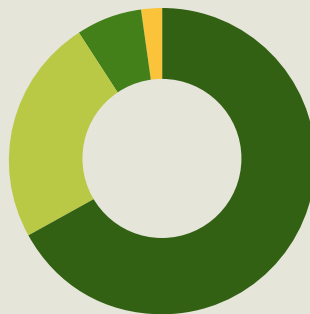
Read more in our Results Report 2023.

## WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM



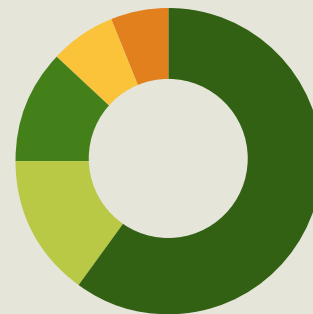
- 35% Danida and the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- 30% Global Partnership for Education
- 13% Norad
- 12% Sida
- 4% The European Union
- 3% Other donors
- 2% Members
- 1% Fundraising and campaigns

## WHERE THE MONEY WENT



- 67% Long-term development projects and support for policy change
- 24% Help to people in urgent need
- 7% Administration
- 2% Fundraising

## WHERE THE MONEY WAS SPENT



- 60% Africa
- 15% Middle East and North Africa
- 12% Latin America
- 7% Asia and the Pacific
- 6% Other locations globally

**Indonesia:** Inequality is evident in many parts of the world.

**Photo:** Tiara Audina



# ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Oxfam Denmark wants a fair world with a more equal distribution of goods, power, and resources. Economic inequality and injustice are on the rise both globally and in Denmark.

That is why Oxfam Denmark works to strengthen the capacity and influence of civil society at local, national, and international levels.

The focus in 2023 was to reduce economic inequality, support fair tax systems, new legislation, and public

services that benefit the most vulnerable.

To achieve all this, Oxfam Denmark has worked closely with civil society organisations in various countries in Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East.

We have strengthened our support of social movements of young people, women, journalists, and indigenous peoples working to fight economic inequality.

## OXFAM'S INEQUALITY REPORT

Every year, Oxfam publishes a report on inequality in connection with the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

In 2023, the report focused on the increased inequality and how the ultra-rich should take more responsibility through wealth taxation, channelling money to investments in health, education, and climate.

The report was a huge success, with analyses and recommendations shared and quoted in both traditional and social media by many elected officials and representatives around the world, all emphasising the need to tackle extreme wealth.





Ghana: Bilengban fetches water with his family.  
Photo: Hans Bach



## 50 NEW LAWS AND BUDGETS

were influenced by Oxfam Denmark's partners in 2023 promoting human rights or improving taxation to benefit the poorest.

# PRESSURE MAKES A DIFFERENCE

### A victory for civil society

Oxfam Denmark supports partner organisations to promote fair tax laws.

In Kenya, Uganda, and Ghana, Oxfam Denmark is strengthening civil society and investigative journalists to reveal how legislation and national budgets affect the poorest people.

Together with partners, we had great success with a media campaign in Kenya.

Here, an analysis of the proposed Finance Bill 2023 showed that the law would increase taxes for the poorest, making their cost of living overly high.

Thanks to the campaign, 15 important changes were made to the Finance Act reflecting the demands of civil society.

### New rights in Colombia

After years of hard work, two civil society partners fighting for the rights of indigenous peoples and small farmers in

Colombia reached an agreement with the Ministry of Mining. The parties agreed that new national guidelines will be developed to guarantee indigenous peoples' rights to participate in development outcomes from energy projects in their territories.

The agreement includes the right to be consulted before and during the activities and to receive financial or other compensation in case of contamination or loss of land.

**East Timor:** Luciana is a leader in the city of Dili, which was hit by flash flooding.

**Photo:** Keith Parsons



# CLIMATE JUSTICE

Climate change hits the world's poorest people the hardest, while we in the Global North are responsible for most of the CO2 emissions causing climate change.

780 million people worldwide currently live below the poverty line, and they are also the hardest hit by severe weather events, floods, or droughts.

Oxfam Denmark fights for more support for reconstruction and compensation when climate disasters strike.

At the same time, we support the poorest and most vulnerable populations to influence the use of natural resources and create

sustainable local development.

In addition, we work to influence policy makers and promote policies that can slow down climate change.

We push for the richest countries and individuals to take responsibility for their carbon emissions and compensate for the damage caused by climate change.

In 2023, Oxfam Denmark conducted new climate research and established close collaboration with alliance partners in the Global South on a green and just transition to phase out fossil fuels.



**38,600 PEOPLE**

in poor and vulnerable communities became more resilient to climate change.

# LOCAL COMMUNITIES BECOME RESILIENT

## Women and youth receive training in agriculture

We support civil society organisations that fight for the right of local communities to take an active role in the management of natural resources.

In addition, we help increase resilience to natural disasters by securing climate-resilient crops and training local farmers - especially women and youth - in sustainable farming practices such as forestry, composting, pest control, and efficient use of water.

For example, 1,250 people in Mali, mainly women and youth, benefited from organic farming training in 2023. In addition, 51 rain gauges were installed on land owned by community groups who can now take rainwater measurements that benefit their horticultural work.

24 women's pastoralist cooperatives were supported to adopt climate-friendly grazing practices for their livestock.

## Advocacy work resulted in a new climate fund

In 2023, Oxfam Denmark worked with local civil society partners to influence

international climate policies. Too many of the world's poorest countries have been affected by climate change due to the huge emissions of rich countries. With this in mind, Oxfam Denmark contributed figures and analyses to Oxfam's reports on climate inequality and climate finance ahead of the COP28 climate summit in Dubai.

The reports received extensive coverage in Danish and international media, and our Secretary General Lars Koch met with both Danish politicians and the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Our hard work became important documentation for civil society, who put strong pressure for a climate fund for loss and damage, which ended up being established during the summit.

The biggest gain was when the Danish government donated DKK 350 million to the work on loss and damage in general, and DKK 175 million directly to the fund.

*"Since the beginning of the project, we have learnt more about how to plant trees and how to take care of them. Now I have three hectares for tree planting."*

Djelika, farm owner

Mali: Djelika received help through an Oxfam project to cultivate land, devastated by drought and flooding.

Photo: Diafara Traoré



# TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION

Education provides students of all ages with learning opportunities and agency.

When education is relevant and of high quality, it empowers the most vulnerable and marginalised people to claim their rights, create their own future, and act on challenges such as social norms that create inequality between women and men.

This is what Oxfam Denmark calls 'transformative education,' and it is also the goal of the work with local partners such as student movements, teachers, and civil society across countries and globally.

Oxfam Denmark has supported civil society partners in their efforts for free, quality public education and to hold governments and other decision-

makers accountable for providing and securing the necessary resources.

This included climate education in technical schools and other vocational training programmes, as well as an education system that contributes to the resilience of teachers and students in crises and is an important pillar in the fight against inequality.

In 2023, we supported education activities in 67 countries. This includes Education Out Loud, the world's largest fund for education and social responsibility, which Oxfam Denmark manages for the Global Partnership for Education.



**44,800 PEOPLE**

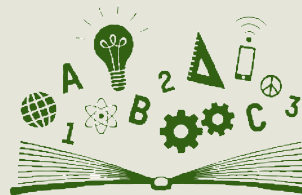
benefited directly from Oxfam Denmark's efforts to ensure quality education for all in 2023.





Ghana: Students listen to the teacher in a school in northern Ghana.

Photo: Hans Bach



In 2023, Oxfam Denmark supported partners to achieve 80 new or improved education policies and budgets that will increase the quality of education for all.

## EDUCATION OPENS NEW DOORS

### **Technical education creates hope for young people**

In 2023, we fought on several fronts to improve access to quality education.

In Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger, Oxfam Denmark supported new models for vocational training.

In Niger, civil society partners have pushed for teachers at ten vocational training centres to teach students green skills related to climate change and work with livestock, gardening, agriculture, and woodworking.

In addition, our partners in Palestine have met with representatives from the government, the Chamber of Commerce, private companies, and trade unions in a network to strengthen vocational education and training to better meet market needs, and this creates hope for young people.

### **People with disabilities get the right to education in Kenya**

In Kilifi County, Kenya, a new policy was adopted in 2023 to guide people with disabilities so they can start the education,

on, they are entitled to. The policy promotes financial support such as scholarships, loan programmes and fee subsidies that will give students with disabilities better opportunities. Part of this success is thanks to the Education Out Loud Fund - a fund that aims to hold education authorities and policy makers accountable.

Since 2019, the foundation has supported civil society to have an impact on promoting quality education systems by pushing for new and better education policies.



Gaza: Palestinians flee their homes to find safety.  
Photo: Abaca/Ritzau

# HUMANITARIAN AID AND PEACEBUILDING

Around 600 million people were affected by war, conflict, and climate change in 2023, while more than 117 million people were displaced.

But one crisis rarely comes alone. In Kenya, Uganda, Burkina Faso, Niger, Mali, South Sudan, Syria, and Yemen, where Oxfam Denmark works, the hunger and food crisis have forced thousands of people to leave their homes in the hope of better conditions for their families.

The increase in the number of new displaced people in need of humanitarian assistance was also exacerbated by the conflicts in Palestine, Yemen, Sudan, and the Sahel region.

Oxfam Denmark works to ensure that people affected by crises receive the protection and support they need to withstand the challenges - also long term.

We do this by improving access to basic services such as water, sanitation and hygiene, protection, and food.

In addition to humanitarian response, we also work with peacebuilding efforts in both emerging and protracted crises with a focus on promoting sustainable livelihoods and social cohesion.

We do this in close partnerships with local women's and refugee organisations.



## 263,000 PEOPLE IN CRISIS

directly benefited from Oxfam Denmark's assistance such as water, sanitation, cash transfers and food in 2023.

# IMPROVING CONDITIONS FOR WOMEN IN YEMEN

## Support to women creates new jobs

After years of conflict in Yemen, job opportunities for internally displaced people are very limited to almost non-existent.

To help women and young people, especially those in crisis, Oxfam Denmark has supported a special initiative to increase the income of vulnerable families.

After receiving grants and entrepreneurial training, 620 women and youth have started their own small businesses such as grocery shops, tailoring, or honey production. The families have increased their economic income.

And it is making a difference. Some of the young people have gained greater social recognition in the community, while others have been able to send their children to school and give them an education.



Yemen: Anhad with her daughter, who she can now support after her divorce.  
Photo: Ayman Fuad

## More countries support women's leadership

Our peacebuilding work happens right down to the local level.

In Burkina Faso, we have brought traditional and religious leaders together to agree to ensure local peaceful coexistence between villages.

In Yemen, Oxfam Denmark and a civil society partner have trained 19 local women's groups and grassroots organisations in leadership and conflict resolution.

*"Oxfam supported me with a financial grant that enabled me to buy a complete set of fishing equipment. It had a positive impact on my life. I was able to catch more fish, and it increased my income, so my family and I had a better life."*

Anhad, fisherwoman

This means that women are now in charge of creating dialogue and mediating between community members and local authorities, making it easier to discuss requests for easier access to water or land.

# WE DID THIS TOO:

## THE READING ROCKET IN GHANA



Photo: Hans Bach

Since 2004, Oxfam Denmark has published The Reading Rocket every year as part of our educational campaign the World in School. In 2023, we visited northern Ghana to meet children and young people who live in a country with a big difference between rich and poor, and where going to school can be very difficult. Among others, we meet Happy, the daughter of the village chief. She loves going to school, where they gather every morning to sing the morning song.

Find out more at [www.heleverdeniskole.dk](http://www.heleverdeniskole.dk)

## ACTION DAY AT CHRISTIANSBORG



Photo: Odrain Soares

Students and politicians met at Christiansborg, the location of the Danish Parliament, to talk about Sustainable Development Goal 4: Good schools and the right to an education for all children. Isabella and Johanne from 5th grade at Hellerup School asked the Minister for Children and Education, Mattias Tesfaye, how he and the government help girls in Ghana, for example, who do not go to school, because their parents cannot afford to buy a school uniform.

Find out more at [www.heleverdeniskole.dk](http://www.heleverdeniskole.dk)



## MORNING BRIEFS ON INEQUALITY

In 2023, we organised several Oxfam Morning Briefs, presenting Oxfam's work and latest reports. With a cup of hot coffee and a croissant, participants could start the day with an engaging presentation on some of today's most pressing issues.

In 2023, we hosted four Oxfam Morning Briefs on the following topics:

- Global inequality (Davos report)
- Gender inequality
- Inequality in education
- Climate inequality

The events featured prominent politicians, association representatives and experts on our panels.



## FOLKEMØDET ON BORNHOLM

At Folkemødet (Festival on Democracy) 2023, Oxfam Denmark hosted events in the 'Beyond Growth Alliance' collaboration with the organisations Rethinking Economics Denmark and New Europe. The aim was to draw attention to the question of how we can better organise our society to create an economy that puts people and planet before profit.

We organised 25 events and activities to help visitors understand what it takes to make this transformation. Keynote speeches by activists from the Global South, action labs, quizzes, and fun games encouraged dialogue and reflection.

## YOUNG PEOPLE AT THE ROSKILDE FESTIVAL

Oxfam Denmark invited festival participants at the Roskilde Festival to reflect on what we want our world to look like and how it can be defined by equality.

During the warm-up days, there were many fun activities and opportunities to engage young people in our work.

Among other things, we brought an inequality wheel of fortune as well as a lot of stickers and tattoos that started great conversations about equality, hope and climate justice among the approximately 6,000 young participants.



# GREAT SUPPORT TO OUR WORK

In 2023, Oxfam Denmark launched several digital campaigns to maximise engagement with our key issues.

The first digital campaign of the year was the Inequality Campaign, where we highlighted the difference between the world's richest and the world's poorest people - and that this difference can easily be levelled out by taxing extreme wealth.

This was followed by the World in School and Climate Campaign.  
Finally, we went out with the message of a ceasefire in Gaza, following the escalation of the Israeli Palestinian conflict in October.

With the four digital campaigns, we collected a total of 51,239 signatures. We appreciate everyone who supports our fight for an equal and fair future for all.



Denmark: Oxfam Denmark staff participate in the #CeaseFireNow campaign.  
Photo: Hans Bach

# GREETINGS FROM OUR MEMBERS



**JAKOB MOLLERUP BENFELDT**

28 years

Member since June 1, 2023

"I decided to support Oxfam Denmark because it makes sense for me to contribute to giving children access to education, as it creates a meaningful difference in the long run. I appreciate your work to support women and children with education and hygiene in countries where opportunities are not as extensive as here in Denmark."



**DITTE MARIE CHRISTENSEN**

38 years

Member since October 1, 2023

"I chose to become a member to support your work in Palestine. It's a terrible situation, so it's important for me to feel that I'm doing something."



**KNUD VILBY**

82 years

Member since October 1, 2014

"Supporting education can only ever do good, and I think it was because of Oxfam's (at that time IBIS') focus and expertise on education that I became a member. Education, especially for girls, is still central to positive development in a society."



**DITTE LUJA AASKOV**

29 years

Member since March 1, 2022

"I support Oxfam Denmark because I appreciate your combined focus on both political and humanitarian work. I consider it crucial to contribute to humanitarian assistance while believing in making a lasting difference through political initiatives in the long term."



Photo: Maria Kofi Acquah

# THANK YOU FOR READING

[www.oxfam.dk/en](http://www.oxfam.dk/en)

Oxfam Denmark

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Denmark