

CATALYTICACTION

England & Wales · Charity number 1169604

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2016-10-11

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Activities

Objects: THE RELIEF AND ASSISTANCE OF PEOPLE IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD WHO ARE THE VICTIMS OF WAR OR NATURAL DISASTER, TROUBLE, OR CATASTROPHE IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY(A) PROVIDING DESIGN SERVICES;(B) PROVIDING ADVICE ON BUILDING HOUSING AND ACCOMMODATION AND PUBLIC AND PRIVATE OPEN SPACES; (C) PROVIDING OR ASSISTING IN THE PROVISION OF EDUCATION, TRAINING, ADVOCACY AND ADVICE AND (D) THE PROVISION OF ANY OTHER SUCH CHARITABLE SERVICES AS THE TRUSTEES CONSIDER FIT IN FURTHERANCE OF THE SAID OBJECT.

Activities: CatalyticAction is a charity that uses design and architecture to empower vulnerable children, young people and their communities. We achieve this through built and research projects, delivered using a participatory approach that engages local communities.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Other Finance, Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Accommodation/housing, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Italy
- Jordan
- Lebanon
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-10-31	£207,852	£209,887	-	-
2023-10-31	£273,965	£193,369	-	-
2022-10-31	£192,230	£237,891	-	-
2021-10-31	£272,751	£243,643	-	-
2020-10-31	£151,104	£148,892	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr ANDREA RIGON	Chair	2016-10-11
ANDY HILTON		2016-10-11
Grace Christine Nalty		2024-01-01
Maria Ignacia Ossul Vermehren		2023-12-01
Sandra Jeanette D'Urzo		2020-11-01

Accounts



CatalyticAction

charity number 1169604
info@catalyticaction.org
www.catalyticaction.org

CatalyticAction Trustees' Annual Report

Financial year: 2023-2024

Reporting period: 1 November 2023 - 31 October 2024

Charity number: 1169604





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Introduction

The team at CatalyticAction is proud to have completed its eighth year of operations, continuing to advance our mission through participatory design and research that empowers communities facing adversity. In 2023–2024, we completed **7 projects** and launched **8 new ones**. This includes **6 projects carried over** from the previous year and 6 that will continue into 2024–2025.

This year brought significant challenges in Lebanon. The Israeli war on Lebanon inflicted severe human and material losses, compounding escalating insecurity and widespread displacement, particularly affecting children. Amid these difficult circumstances, CatalyticAction remained committed to supporting communities by creating safe spaces and delivering creative, participatory activities that offered moments of relief, joy, and connection.

Since 2015, CatalyticAction has delivered **79 projects—52 design & build and 27 research—**directly engaging over **3,900 children and young people** and activating more than **53,000 m² of play opportunities**. These achievements are a testament to the resilience of the communities we work with and the dedication of our team, partners, and volunteers.

The Board of Trustees extends its sincere gratitude to all those who supported our work throughout this year—whether through partnerships, funding, or on-the-ground collaboration. Together, we continue to shape inclusive environments that uphold the rights and wellbeing of children and marginalised communities. We are especially grateful for the support received through the **Happold Foundation Organisational Grant**. This multi-year grant has played a vital role in strengthening our strategic capacity, enabling us to revisit past interventions, implement design improvements, and further our commitment to long-term impact and sustainability.





Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a Constitution.

Legal structure

CatalyticAction is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), whose only voting members are its charity Trustees.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

Trustees are appointed and recruited by the existing Board of Trustees, based on the needs and strategic priorities of the charity.

Organisational Structure

The organisation is overseen by a Board of Trustees composed of five members. Operational delivery is led by a core team of six staff members, supported by three consultants and three volunteers. These figures reflect the composition of the team as of the end of the financial year. Additional personnel are contracted on a project-by-project basis depending on need.

Related parties

CatalyticAction works in partnership with NGOs, INGOs, charities, development agencies, and universities in the UK and internationally. The charity also collaborates with private companies that provide pro bono professional support to assist in the delivery of its projects.

Risk Management

The Board of Trustees regularly reviews the risks facing the organisation and ensures that appropriate mitigation measures are in place. The main risks identified are programmatic and compliance-related.

All new projects are subject to risk and partner assessments before financial resources are committed. When working internationally, CatalyticAction consults guidance from the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), as well as local partners and sources. Conflict sensitivity and context analysis underpin the development of all interventions.

The charity conducts health and safety risk assessments for every project. Policies and procedures are in place to ensure the safety of staff, volunteers, and all participants engaged in CatalyticAction's activities. These standards comply with local laws and international best practices.



CatalyticAction has developed ethics and data protection procedures in accordance with UK and local regulations. Safeguarding policies are in place to protect vulnerable children and adults, and all staff and collaborators are trained in these policies and procedures.

The charity's insurance policy is tailored to its operational activities and provides comprehensive cover, including employer's liability, public liability, trustee liability, professional indemnity, legal expenses, and property protection.

CatalyticAction follows a rigorous financial management system to ensure that funds are used in line with the charity's objectives and in compliance with donor-specific requirements.

List of policies and procedures

The charity has adopted the following policies and procedures, which are periodically reviewed and updated and are available here:

- Anti-corruption and Bribery Policy
- Conflict of Interest Policy
- Complaints Procedure
- HR Policies and Procedures
- Procurement Policy and Procedures
- Environmental Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Safeguarding Policy and Procedures
- Partner Assessment Policy
- Privacy and Data Protection Policy
- Insurance Policy
- Schemes of Delegation





Objectives and Activities

Objectives and Aims

The charity's objectives and aims are established in the Constitution. As per the Constitution, the objectives of CatalyticAction are to ensure the relief and assistance of people in any part of the world who are the victims of war or natural disaster, trouble, or catastrophe in particular but not exclusively by:

- a. providing design services;
- b. providing advice on building housing and accommodation and public and private open spaces;
- c. providing or assisting in the provision of education, training, advocacy and advice; and
- d. the provision of any other such charitable services as the Trustees consider fit in furtherance of the said object.

CatalyticAction is a UK-registered charity that uses architecture and participatory design to empower children and their communities, particularly in contexts affected by displacement and crisis. Our work creates inclusive public spaces that support children's wellbeing, learning, and development — from playgrounds to schoolyards, community spaces, and streets.

The charity's primary objective is to improve the lives of vulnerable children by promoting their right to play, learn, and thrive in safe, inclusive environments. Through design, research, and advocacy, CatalyticAction works to ensure that the voices of children and marginalised groups are at the centre of how the built environment is shaped.

During the 2023–2024 reporting period, our work remained grounded in our mission to create child-friendly spaces through participatory processes. We continued to apply our core approach across four interconnected areas:

- **Design & Build** of inclusive spaces
- **Participatory Research**
- **Community Engagement through Co-Design and Play**
- **Advocacy**

We work in close collaboration with local communities, municipalities, NGOs, and global agencies to ensure our projects respond to the needs, aspirations, and challenges of the people we serve. Our efforts are informed by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and guided by the principles of equity, innovation, and community care.



Significant activities

During 2023–2024, CatalyticAction continued to focus on activities that align with our mission to create inclusive, child-friendly public spaces and empower communities through participatory design. Our significant activities included:

- **Design & Build:** Delivering high-quality, co-designed public and educational spaces, from playgrounds to community infrastructure. Each project integrated local materials and skills, ensuring long-term sustainability and community ownership.
- **Participation:** Engaging children, young people, and their communities in all stages of the design process through creative workshops, play-based activities, and hands-on construction phases. This approach strengthened social cohesion and gave participants a voice in shaping their environment.
- **Research:** Advancing knowledge in participatory design through collaborations with universities and research institutions, including studies on child-friendly infrastructure, climate-sensitive design, and inclusive public spaces. Our research outputs informed both our own projects and wider sector practices.
- **Advocacy and Capacity Building:** Promoting participatory methodologies among local authorities, NGOs, and international agencies through training sessions, publications, and events. We also shared our work and lessons learned to influence policies and approaches in humanitarian and development contexts.

In 2023–2024, these activities were delivered across multiple regions, with a strong focus on Lebanon. For a detailed overview of our projects, reach, and impact this year, please see our Impact Report 2024: <https://catalyticaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/CatalyticAction-Impact-Report-2024.pdf>





Achievements and Performance

In 2023–2024, CatalyticAction delivered a wide range of impactful design, research, and capacity-building activities that furthered our mission to support vulnerable children and communities through inclusive, participatory design.

We successfully **completed 7 projects, launched 8 new ones**, and continued work on **6 others** that began in previous years. Our work reached thousands of people through built interventions, training, and co-design processes, with a strong emphasis on Lebanon, where we responded to growing needs due to increasing instability and displacement.

The projects

Design & Build

Teenage Girls' Public Spaces

Karantina, Beirut, Lebanon

June 2023 – May 2024 (12 months)

CatalyticAction completed the Safe Spaces for Girls project in Karantina, Beirut, a co-design initiative focused on enhancing adolescent girls' access to and safety in public spaces. The project included a participatory process with girls to explore their experiences of public space and develop inclusive design responses. With the support of Otto per Mille of the Waldensian Church of Italy and in collaboration with the Beirut Municipality and local NGOs, three interventions were delivered: a mural representing girls' aspirations, an "Outdoor Living Room" with privacy features and seating, and the "L.O.V.E Wall", which includes seating, shelter and a playful photobooth. These spaces were designed and built with the participation of local girls and offer new, dignified and inclusive gathering points in the neighbourhood.





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Project size (in square metres): 238 m²

Project partners:

- Karantina Women Collective
- Ahla Fawda NGO
- Municipality of Beirut

Women-Led Placemaking for Peacebuilding

Tripoli, Lebanon

November 2023 – July 2025 (20 months)

This project, implemented in partnership with Ruwwad Al Tanmeya and funded by UN Women Lebanon, aimed to promote women's civic participation through placemaking. 120 women from the neighbourhoods of Bab al-Tabbaneh and Jabal Mohsen took part in training and co-design activities, which led to the transformation of a market entrance and a public stairway along the neighbourhoods' former demarcation line. The intervention included accessibility improvements, playful and interactive design features, and a large mural developed with artist Marie Joe Yaacoub. These changes contributed to the reactivation of public space and strengthened social cohesion through a community-led design process.



Project size (in square metres): 990 m²

Project partners:

- Ruwwad Al Tanmeya
- Municipality of Tripoli
- UN Women



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Maintenance of Past Built Projects

Al Marj – El Mina – Beirut, Lebanon

May 2024 – October 2024 (6 months)

Thanks to the unrestricted support of the Happold Foundation and other partners, CatalyticAction revisited and maintained three of its earlier built projects. In El Marj, works were carried out at the Jarahieh School to improve thermal comfort and safety, including roof panel replacement and ceiling reinforcement. In Karantina, thermal comfort at the community centre was improved through added windows, fans, and increased ventilation. In El Mina, the Mauj public space intervention received light maintenance works including painting, repairs, and the addition of lighting. These interventions demonstrate the charity's commitment to long-term sustainability and community ownership of its projects.



Project size (in square metres): 620 m²

Project partners:

- Jusoor
- Ecolytik
- Municipality of Mina
- Municipality of Beirut
- Otto per Mille of the Waldensian Church of Italy

Participation

Emergency Response in Karantina

Karantina, Beirut, Lebanon

October 2024 – December 2024 (3 months)



In response to the worsening humanitarian situation in Lebanon in 2024, CatalyticAction activated its previously built spaces in the Karantina neighbourhood as safe and inclusive community hubs. The charity delivered a series of creative and psychosocial support activities for 60 displaced and local children. These included body mapping workshops, interactive circus performances, and participatory games designed to foster connection, wellbeing, and resilience.

The interventions culminated in a ceasefire celebration and the reopening of the Karantina Public Park, restoring its role as a space for healing, joy, and play for the entire community.



Project partners:

- Moving Circus
- Municipality of Beirut

Rihla Initiative

Lebanon

June 2024 – August 2024 (3 months)

Building on long-term work with the Karantina community, CatalyticAction launched the Rihla Initiative to offer children and women access to recreational and cultural opportunities beyond their immediate environment. Organised in collaboration with My Homeland Watanili, the initiative included excursions to BOLD Climbing Gym and the Jabal Moussa Biosphere Reserve. These outings provided moments of relief and bonding for participants. The initiative reinforced the charity's commitment to sustained community engagement and wellbeing beyond the physical interventions.



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Project partners:

- Moving Circus
- My Homeland Watanili

Revisiting the Ibtasem Playground

The Ibtasem Playground was CatalyticAction's first built project, completed in 2015 for Syrian refugee children in Bar Elias. In 2023–2024, the team returned to conduct a participatory evaluation of the site, engaging 74 participants including children, teachers, and local partners. Through focus groups and design workshops, the charity collected feedback on the playground's current use and ideas for improvement. The resulting insights will inform plans for a refurbishment that maintains safety and enhances play value, continuing the charity's long-term support to this community.





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Project partners:

- Jesuit Refugee Service

Research

Co-producing Youth Inclusive Digital Urban Governance (YUP)

El Mina – Bar Elias, Lebanon

September 2023 – September 2026 (36 months)

As part of a global research project led by The Bartlett Development Planning Unit at UCL and funded by Fondation Botnar, CatalyticAction continued to deliver the YUP (Youth Inclusive Digital Urban Governance) project in El Mina and Bar Elias. The research explores the role of young people in urban governance and aims to co-produce a digital tool to enhance youth participation.

Twelve young citizen scientists were trained and supported to lead survey activities, conduct data analysis, and identify key urban challenges faced by youth. The work generated important findings on barriers to civic engagement, highlighting the need for stronger communication channels with local authorities and more inclusive decision-making processes.



Project partners:

- Development Planning Unit (DPU) at University College London (UCL)
- Kota Kita
- SHM Foundation
- Fondation Botnar



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Safe and Inclusive Cities for Girls

January 2024 – December 2024 (12 months)

CatalyticAction contributed to a global Cities4Children brief titled *Safe and Inclusive Cities for Girls and Young Women*, developed in partnership with Save the Children. The publication reviewed gender-sensitive urban planning guides and provided practical recommendations for creating more inclusive and safe cities for girls. It included comparative analysis, real-world case studies, and actionable guidance for practitioners. The brief strengthens the organisation's advocacy and knowledge-sharing role in promoting gender-inclusive approaches to urban development, particularly in informal settings and the Global South.



Project partners:

- Save the Children
- Cities4Children

Sustainable Materials in Lebanon

January 2024 – December 2024 (12 months)

In partnership with Buro Happold, CatalyticAction conducted research on the use of sustainable and natural materials in public space interventions in Lebanon. The project focused on evaluating locally available alternatives suitable for playgrounds and outdoor structures.

The research produced a material selection model based on criteria including safety, durability, cost, and sustainability. It also resulted in a practical decision matrix tool for



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future projects. This work will support the charity in making environmentally responsible design decisions while promoting the use of context-appropriate, low-impact materials.



Project partners:

- Buro Happold

Advocacy

Youth Training Programme

December 2023 – May 2024 (6 months)

CatalyticAction partnered with the School of Co-creators and WeSpring to deliver a participatory urban design training programme for young people in Tripoli. Funded by the Tripoli Entrepreneurs Club, the programme aimed to strengthen youth capacity in the areas of co-design, site analysis, construction, project management, and monitoring and evaluation.

Participants engaged in hands-on learning across three Tripoli neighbourhoods, developing and implementing small-scale urban interventions. The training emphasised community engagement and inclusive design principles. This programme deepened young people's understanding of urban challenges and empowered them to take an active role in improving their built environment.

Project partners:

- School of Co-creators
- WeSpring
- Tripoli Entrepreneurs Club
- Municipality of Tripoli



Frontliners' Wellbeing Training

October – November 2024 (2 months)

CatalyticAction delivered a two-day wellbeing training for 40 frontline workers in Tripoli, in partnership with Himaya and supported by UNICEF. The training was based on UNICEF's 'Frontliners' Wellbeing: Talk to Me' package and aimed to equip participants with practical tools to manage the emotional impact of working in humanitarian crises.

Participants included humanitarian staff, citizen scientists, and local NGO workers. The sessions focused on identifying signs of stress and trauma, building positive coping strategies, and creating supportive environments within their organisations. The training responded to the increased mental health burden on frontliners in Lebanon and reinforced the importance of staff wellbeing in delivering effective community-based programmes.



Project partners:

- Himaya
- UNICEF
- Laser
- Ruwwad Al Tanmeya

Other initiatives

Lectures, workshops and public conferences

Throughout the year, CatalyticAction continued to contribute to global and regional dialogues on participatory design, child- and youth-focused urban interventions, and humanitarian architecture. Our team was invited to present our work and share our expertise at a number of conferences, symposia, and professional development events. These platforms offered opportunities to highlight our projects, foster new collaborations, and engage with academic and practitioner communities.



In **November 2023**, we presented at *Co-design as Activism in the Lebanese Context of Displacement*, organised by the Building and Urban Design in Development (BUDD) programme at the Development Planning Unit (DPU), University College London. The event focused on participatory design in displacement settings.

In **January 2024**, we contributed to two academic events in London:

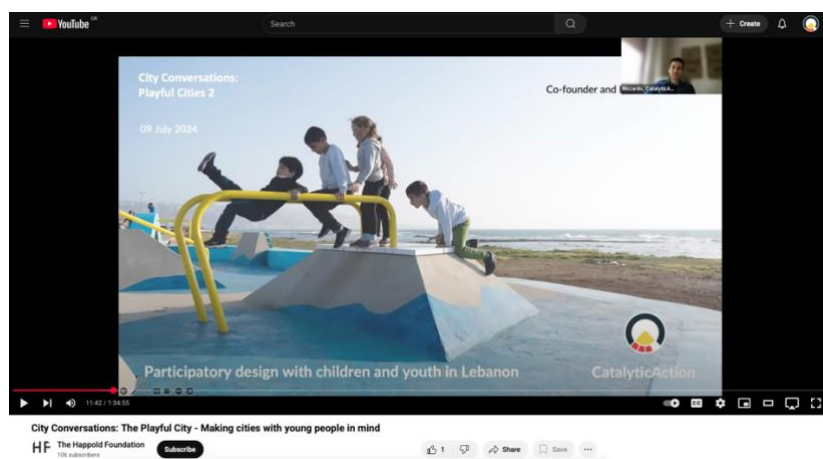
- *Empowering Conflict-Affected Communities in Lebanon through the Participatory Design of Spaces for Children*, hosted by the DPU's Social Development Practice (SDP) programme.
- *Rebuilding Communities through Public Space Interventions*, an online panel organised by MENASP (Middle East and North Africa Social Policy Network).

In **February 2024**, we delivered a continuing professional development (CPD) session titled *CatalyticAction: Forging Links*, hosted online by FUSE Architects. The session explored our participatory design methodology and its application in humanitarian contexts.

In **March 2024**, our Director of Programmes gave a keynote address at a research symposium hosted by Birmingham City University and the Birmingham School of Architecture and Design. Later that month, we were also invited to present our latest updates during a *Discovery Day* in Beirut, organised by PROCOL Lebanon, IGP, and AUB.

In **May 2024**, we participated in the *Participatory Design with Children and Youth in Lebanon* symposium in Geneva, organised by HEAD Genève as part of the HUD research project. The event brought together practitioners and researchers to explore future directions in humanitarian design.

In **July 2024**, we joined the *City Conversations: Playful Cities 2* event hosted by the Happold Foundation. Held online, the event focused on play, inclusion, and youth-centred urban design.





In **September 2024**, we presented our participatory design work with young people in Lebanon at the *International Parklet Symposium 2024* in Bologna. Organised by Bela Urbanism, City Space Architecture, and PlacemakingUS, the symposium facilitated an exchange of experiences on co-designing public spaces.

In total, over **330 individuals** attended the conferences and events in which we took part over the past year. These engagements helped us disseminate the learning from our work, advocate for inclusive design practices, and strengthen networks with academic, humanitarian, and architectural communities.

Statement of public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers and duties. The Trustees are confident that the activities undertaken by CatalyticAction in 2023–2024 further its charitable purposes and deliver tangible public benefit.





Financial Review

In the financial year 2023–2024, CatalyticAction's total income was **£207,852**, while total expenditure amounted to **£209,887**.

At year-end, the charity held **£141,532** in unrestricted reserves and **£19,713** in restricted funds, ensuring continued support for both core operations and ongoing project commitments.

The largest share of income (**61%**) came from **fees for charitable services**, followed by:

- **22%** from **grants**,
- **12%** from **corporate donations**,
- **2%** from **individual donations**,
- and smaller proportions from **bank interest**, **GiftAid**, **other income**, and **reimbursed expenses**.

CatalyticAction has worked on **14 projects** during this financial year, of which **6 will be carried forward** to 2024–2025. The overall cost of these projects is only partially reflected in the financial statements, as part of the implementation costs were incurred by our partners. CatalyticAction benefits from the support of volunteers in an operational capacity as well as in many other vital roles. In accordance with the Charity Commission guidelines on financial reporting, the economic contribution of volunteers is not recognised in the financial statements.

The charity continues to strengthen its financial resilience by diversifying funding sources and building long-term partnerships. Several of the projects secured during this period will run over two to three years, providing good financial security and stability for the upcoming period. The Trustees are confident that the charity remains in a strong position to meet its obligations and deliver on its strategic goals.

Principal funding sources

The main source of funding for the charity during this financial year has been direct project costs (charitable activities) covered by partner organisations.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Trustees aim to hold unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover 6 months of operating expenses to ensure the smooth running of the charity in the event of unforeseen costs and/or a downturn in expected income.

The balance held as unrestricted reserves at the end of the financial year is **£141,532**, which represents approximately **9 months** of operating costs, including staff salaries, based on the current budget. The reserves policy is reviewed annually by the Board of Trustees.



Challenges and Future Plans

CatalyticAction is now entering its **ninth year of operations** with a portfolio of **79 projects** delivered since its establishment. In 2024 to 2025, the charity will continue work on **six projects carried forward** from the previous year while also starting new initiatives and deepening several collaborations.

In 2023 to 2024, two **new trustees** joined the Board, bringing valuable experience and perspectives to support the charity's next phase of growth. **Grace Nalty** brings a strong background in **fundraising and philanthropy**, currently serving as Philanthropy Lead at the British Red Cross, where she manages a major donor portfolio and leads on new business strategies including diaspora engagement and transformational giving. **Dr Ignacia Ossul Vermehren** offers over 15 years of experience in **international development and gender-focused humanitarian work**, having worked with UN agencies and INGOs across the Middle East, including Syria and Somalia. She brings expertise in strategic planning, programme design, and donor engagement from her roles with organisations such as UN Women and TECHO. Their addition has already enhanced the diversity and strategic reach of the Board, strengthening CatalyticAction's capacity to meet its charitable objectives.

Later in the year, a **strategy workshop** was held with trustees and the wider team to co-develop the charity's **2024 to 2029 strategic plan**. This sets out clear directions for increasing CatalyticAction's impact, financial resilience, and sustainability. Strategic priorities include expanding geographic reach; embedding climate resilience and environmental justice into all interventions; strengthening participatory methodologies; and improving long-term outcomes for children and communities.

Environmental responsibility has been elevated as a core strategic commitment. The charity will prioritise **sustainable material use** and the **co-design of climate-adaptive spaces**, reflecting its belief that environmental and social justice must go hand in hand, especially amid climate-induced pressures.

Strategic partnerships remain vital to CatalyticAction's work. The organisation continues to cultivate existing relationships and build new long-term collaborations in Lebanon and internationally, ensuring programme sustainability and deepening impact.

In **2023**, CatalyticAction launched a **crowdfunding campaign** in support of the **Karantina Girls' project in Beirut**, successfully mobilising its supporter network. The project was completed in this financial year and demonstrated how direct engagement can achieve meaningful, community-led impact. Building on this success, the charity will continue to cultivate individual and corporate supporters to deliver independently-funded initiatives.

Drawing on past achievements, CatalyticAction plans to deliver additional **child-friendly and educational spaces**, including public parks, playgrounds, schools, and community centres,



focusing on the wellbeing of marginalised communities. While **Lebanon** remains a key area of intervention, the Board and team are actively exploring expansion into **new geographic contexts**.

CatalyticAction continues strengthening its **impact measurement and monitoring frameworks** to more effectively track outcomes. The annual **Impact Report** remains a core tool for communicating performance and has been well received by donors, partners, and the public.

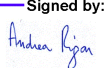
The charity also remains focused on engaging with **students, practitioners, and researchers** through academic partnerships, speaking engagements, and professional forums—helping to inspire the field of participatory design and socially-engaged architecture.

Looking ahead, CatalyticAction will focus on **increasing organisational capacity**, expanding its reach, and deepening its commitment to environmental and social justice—to continue improving the living conditions of children and communities in greatest need.

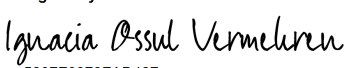
Summer 2025 will mark **ten years since the charity's first project**, and CatalyticAction is planning a series of special events to celebrate this important anniversary and reflect on a decade of impact.

Declaration

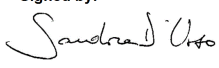
Andrea Rigon
Trustee – Chair
28-08-2025

Signed by:

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Ignacia Ossul Vermehren
Trustee
28-08-2025

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Sandra D'Urzo
Trustee
28-08-2025

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Grace Nalty
Trustee
28-08-2025

Signed by:

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Andy Hilton
Trustee – Treasurer
28-08-2025

Signed by:

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CatalyticAction

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Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A – Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/members of: CatalyticAction

On account the year ended: 31 October 2024

Charity number: 1169604

Set out on pages: 1-38

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31/10/2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees, 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed: 

Date: 28/08/2025

Name: Olugbenga Coker

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): FCCA

Address: 1 Holmdale Road, Chislehurst Kent BR7 6BY



Section A – Statement of financial activities

Period start date: 01/11/2023 to 31/10/2024

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds	Prior year funds
		£	£	£	£
Incoming resources (Note 3)					
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies		38,797	37,491	76,288	74,314
Charitable activities		105,178	21,689	126,867	196,773
Investments		3,044	-	3,044	1,525
Other		1,141	512	1,653	1,352
Total		148,160	59,692	207,852	273,964
Resources expended (Note 6)					
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		8,835	-	8,835	13,336
Charitable activities		111,757	89,295	201,052	180,033
Total		120,592	89,295	209,887	193,369
Net income/(expenditure)		27,568	(29,603)	(2,035)	80,595
Net movement in funds		27,568	(29,603)	(2,035)	80,595
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		113,964	49,316	163,280	82,682
Total funds carried forward		141,532	19,713	161,245	163,277



Section B – Balance sheet

Period start date: 01/11/2023 to 31/10/2024

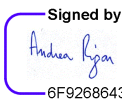
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total this year	Total last year
	£	£	£	£
Current assets				
Debtors (Note 19)	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand (Note 24)	166,234	-	166,234	169,727
Total current assets	166,234	-	166,234	169,727
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Note 20)	4,989	-	4,989	6,450
Net current assets/(liabilities)	161,245	-	161,245	163,277
Total assets less current liabilities	161,245	-	161,245	163,277
Total net assets or liabilities	161,245	-	161,245	163,277
Funds of the Charity				
Restricted income funds (Note 27)	-	19,713	19,713	49,313
Unrestricted funds	141,532	-	141,532	113,964
Total funds	141,532	19,713	161,245	163,277

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

Signed by:

 6F9268643EEA46A...

Andrea Rigon

28/08/2025



Section C – Notes to the accounts

Note 1 – Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with:

- ✓ the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014
- ✓ the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)
- ✓ the Charities Act 2011

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

An explanation as to those factors that support the conclusion that the charity is a going concern;	<i>Not applicable</i>
Disclosure of any uncertainties that make the going concern assumption doubtful;	<i>Not applicable</i>
Where accounts are not prepared on a going concern basis, please disclose this fact together with the basis on which the trustees prepared the accounts and the reason why the charity is not regarded as a going concern.	<i>Not applicable</i>

1.3 Change of accounting policy

- ✓ The accounts present a true and fair view and the accounting policies adopted are those outlined in note 2.

1.4 Changes to accounting estimates

- ✓ No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period (3.46 FRS 102 SORP).

1.5 Material prior year errors

- ✓ No material prior year error have been identified in the reporting period (3.47 FRS 102 SORP).



Note 2 – Accounting policies

2.2 Income

Recognition of income	Yes	No	N/a
These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when: - the charity becomes entitled to the resources; - it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources; and - the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.	X		
Offsetting	Yes	No	N/a
There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.	X		
Grants and donations	Yes	No	N/a
Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS102 SORP).	X		
In the case of performance related grants, income must only be recognised to the extent that the charity has provided the specified goods or services as entitlement to the grant only occurs when the performance related conditions are met (5.16 FRS 102 SORP).	X		
Legacies	Yes	No	N/a
Legacies are included in the SOFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.			X
Government grants	Yes	No	N/a
The charity has received government grants in the reporting period			X
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Yes	No	N/a
Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.	X		
Contractual income and performance related grants	Yes	No	N/a
This is only included in the SoFA once the charity has provided the related goods or services or met the performance related conditions.	X		
Donated goods	Yes	No	N/a
Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.	X		
The cost of any stock of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those gifts at the time of their receipt and they are recognised on receipt. In the reporting period in which the stocks are distributed, they are recognised as an expense at the carrying amount of the stocks at distribution.	X		
Donated goods for resale are measured at fair value on initial recognition, which is the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale, and recognised in 'Income from other trading activities' with the corresponding stock recognised in the balance sheet. On its sale the value of stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds from sale are also recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'.	X		



Goods donated for on-going use by the charity are recognised as tangible fixed assets and included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.	X		
Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as income from donations when receivable.	X		
Donated services and facilities	Yes	No	N/a
Donated services and facilities are included in the SOFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably.	X		
Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with an equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SOFA.	X		
Support costs	Yes	No	N/a
The charity has incurred expenditure on support costs.	X		
Volunteer help	Yes	No	N/a
The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.	X		
Income from interest, royalties and dividends	Yes	No	N/a
This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.	X		
Income from membership subscriptions	Yes	No	N/a
Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in Donations and Legacies.			X
Membership subscriptions which gives a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.			X
Settlement of insurance claims	Yes	No	N/a
Insurance claims are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS102 SORP) and are included as an item of other income in the SoFA.	X		
Investment gains and losses	Yes	No	N/a
This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.	X		



2.3 Expenditure and liabilities

Liability recognition	Yes	No	N/a
Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.	X		
Governance and support costs	Yes	No	N/a
Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.	X		
Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.	X		
Grants with performance conditions	Yes	No	N/a
Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.			X
Grants payable without performance conditions	Yes	No	N/a
Where there are no conditions attaching to the grant that enables the donor charity to realistically avoid the commitment, a liability for the full funding obligation must be recognised.			X
Redundancy cost	Yes	No	N/a
The charity made no redundancy payments during the reporting period.	X		
Deferred income	Yes	No	N/a
No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.	X		
Creditors	Yes	No	N/a
The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts	X		
Provisions for liabilities	Yes	No	N/a
A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date	X		
Basic financial instruments	Yes	No	N/a
The charity accounts for basic financial instruments on initial recognition as per paragraph 11.7 FRS102 SORP. Subsequent measurement is as per paragraphs 11.17 to 11.19, FRS102 SORP.	X		



2.4 Assets

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity	Yes	No	N/a
These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £100			
They are valued at cost.	X		
The depreciation rates and methods used are disclosed in note 9.2.			
Intangible fixed assets	Yes	No	N/a
The charity has intangible fixed assets, that is, non-monetary assets that do not have physical substance but are identifiable and are controlled by the charity through custody or legal rights. The amortisation rates and methods used are disclosed in note 9.5			X
They are valued at cost.			X
Heritage assets	Yes	No	N/a
The charity has heritage assets, that is, non-monetary assets with historic, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical or environmental qualities that are held and maintained principally for their contribution to knowledge and culture. The depreciation rates and methods used as disclosed in note 9.6.1.4.			X
They are valued at cost.			X
Investments	Yes	No	N/a
Fixed asset investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued at initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year end. The same treatment is applied to unlisted investments unless fair value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment.			X
Investments held for resale or pending their sale and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than 1 year are treated as current asset investments	X		
Stocks and work in progress	Yes	No	N/a
Stocks held for sale as part of non-charitable trade are measured at the lower or cost or net realisable value.			X
Goods or services provided as part of a charitable activity are measured at net realisable value based on the service potential provided by items of stock.	X		
Work in progress is valued at cost less any foreseeable loss that is likely to occur on the contract.	X		
Debtors	Yes	No	N/a
Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.	X		
Current asset investments	Yes	No	N/a
The charity has investments which it holds for resale or pending their sale and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date less than one year. These include cash on deposit and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than one year held for investment purposes rather than to meet short term cash commitments as they fall due.	X		
They are valued at fair value except where they qualify as basic financial instruments.	X		



Note 3 – Analysis of income

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds	Prior year funds
		£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies					
Donations and gifts – individuals		962	3,197	4,159	16,030
Donations - Corporates		7,830	17,218	25,048	27,708
Gift Aid		5	1,158	1,163	577
Grants from governments/other charities		30,000	15,918	45,918	30,000
Total		38,797	37,491	76,288	74,315
Charitable activities					
Fees for charitable activities		105,178	21,689	126,867	196,773
Total		105,178	21,689	126,867	196,773
Other trading activities					
Other (exchange gains)		1,141	512	1,653	1,352
Total		1,141	512	1,653	1,352
Income from investments					
Interest income		3,044	-	3,044	1,525
Total		3,044	-	3,044	1,525
TOTAL INCOME		148,160	59,692	207,852	273,965



Note 4 – Analysis of income from charitable grants

Fund name	Description	This year
		£
DPU housing workshop	Housing workshop expenses.	-
EcoHub	Development of a play space in Beirut made using recycled materials.	-
Inclusive playgrounds	Development of 3 inclusive playgrounds. Funded by UNICEF and in partnership with Humanity & Inclusion.	13,696
Impact Lebanon (4th cycle)	Implementation of a program with children for the co-design of safe spaces in Karantina.	-
Safe spaces for girls	Working with adolescent girls in Karantina to develop safe public spaces.	16,908
PROCOL Lebanon (RELIEF Centre) interventions	Facilitation for 2 built interventions in Beirut as part of our research collaboration with PROCOL Lebanon.	-
PROCOL Lebanon expenses	Expenses as part of our work with PROCOL Lebanon.	101
Maintaining past built interventions	Expenses to maintain 3 strategic built interventions implemented by CatalyticAction.	19,943
Rihla initiative	Small grant to fund activities for children.	617
Mauj 2.0	Fund to support the expansion of the Mauj intervention implemented by CatalyticAction in 2022.	1,510
OPE expenses	Expenses for OPE travel.	94
Botnar Cairo	Travel expenses to attend Botnar meeting in Cairo.	-
HUD conference	Travel expenses to attend HUD conference in Geneva.	317
Holcim human rights impact assessment	Fee to deliver a participatory assessment of Holcim activities in Lebanon.	5,267
CSC education grant	Grant to support the education of children in Lebanon who cannot afford the basic costs to attend school (e.g. transports, books).	-
Emergency response in Karantina	Fund to support CatalyticAction's activities in response to the war in Lebanon.	1,237
TOTAL		59,691

Fund name	Description	Last year
		£
AICS Ouzai	Funded by AICS the project objective was to raise awareness about climate change through participatory art with youth.	9,338
Housing workshop	Housing workshop expenses.	3,550
PROCOL exhibition	Exhibition design and implementation to showcase the work of PROCOL Lebanon.	8,000
PROCOL expenses	Expenses as part of our work with PROCOL Lebanon.	2,378
Shelter Forum	Honorarium to attend the MENA Shelter Forum in Jordan.	1,134



UAF	Fund to work with women in Karantina around empowerment and their rights to public spaces.	6,648
Beit el Baraka	Rehabilitation of a public park in Beirut.	7,682
Castel Volturno	Development of a sport-leisure outdoor space for the Black&White association in Castel Volturno (Italy), working with children.	3,294
EcoHub	Development of a play space in Beirut made using recycled materials.	14,000
H&I	Development of 3 inclusive playgrounds. Funded by UNICEF and in partnership with Humanity & Inclusion.	52,960
Impact 4	Implementation of a program with children for the co-design of safe spaces in Karantina.	16,506
Injaz Mina Park	Rehabilitation of a public park in El Mina.	2,356
Karantina safe spaces for girls	Working with adolescent girls in Karantina to develop safe public spaces.	19,420
Stairs activities	Grant for carrying out 3 community activities on the newly rehabilitated public stairs in Beirut (as part of UN-Habitat Beirut stairs project).	639
TOTAL		147,903



Note 6 – Analysis of expenditure

	This year			Last year		
Analysis	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Expenditures on raising funds						
Incurring seeking donations & grants	8,835	-	8,835	13,336	-	13,336
Total expenditure on raising funds	8,835	-	8,835	13,336	-	13,336
Expenditure on charitable activities						
Design & Build	43,917	35,672	79,589	30,042	41,330	71,372
Research and advocacy	47,576	38,645	86,221	30,558	41,360	71,918
Support costs	20,264	14,978	35,242	15,495	21,248	36,743
Total expenditure on charitable activities	111,757	89,295	201,052	76,095	103,938	180,033
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	120,592	89,295	209,887	89,431	103,938	193,369

Note 10 – Details of certain items of expenditure

10.1 Fees for examination of the accounts

	This year	Last year
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees	1,000	1,000

Note 11 – Paid employees

11.1 Staff Costs

	This year	Last year
	£	£
Salaries and wages	111,195	104,995
Social security costs	13,223	12,404
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	7,666	6,821
Other employee benefits	-	-
Total staff costs	132,084	124,220

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000.



11.2 Average head count in the year

		This year	Last year
		Number	Number
The parts of the charity in which the employees work	Fundraising	-	-
	Charitable activities	6	7
	Governance	-	-
	Other	-	-
	Total	6	7

Note 12 – Defined contribution pension scheme or defined benefit scheme accounted for as a defined contribution scheme

12.1

	This year	Last year
	£	£
Amount of contributions recognised in the SOFA as an expense	7,666	6,820

Pensions contribution are treated as employment cost and charged to the relevant projects on the basis of time spent by the staff members working on those projects.

Note 14 – Tangible fixed assets

14.1 Cost or valuation

	Computer Equipment	Total
	£	£
At the beginning of the year	3,553	3,553
At the end of the year	3,553	3,553

14.2 Depreciation and impairments

	Computer Equipment	Total
	£	£
At the beginning of the year	3,553	3,553
At the end of the year	3,553	3,553



Note 19 – Debtors and prepayments

19.1 Analysis of debtors

	This year	Last year
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-

Note 20 – Creditors and accruals

20.1 Analysis of creditors

	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	This year	Last year	This year	Last year
	£	£	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	3,989	5,450	-	-
Other creditors	1,000	1,000	-	-
Total	4,989	6,450	-	-

Note 24 – Cash at bank and in hand

	This year	Last year
Cash at bank and in hand	£	£
Triodos bank	144,533	123,513
Co-operative bank	16,190	2,839
PayPal GBP	1,545	-
PayPal EUR	-	-
Wise EUR	86	450
Wise GBP	456	4,557
Wise USD	106	26,775
Cash USD	3,317	11,592
Cash EUR	-	-
USD Bank	-	-
Transferwise	-	-
LBP cash	1	1
Total	166,234	169,727



Note 27 – Charity funds

27.1 Details of material funds held and movements during the CURRENT reporting period

* Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendible endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds

Fund name	Type PE, EE, R or UR*	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Fund balances carried forward
			£	£	£	£
DPU housing workshop	R	Housing workshop expenses.	1,494	-	(1,494)	0
EcoHub	R	Development of a play space in Beirut made using recycled materials.	4,295	-	(4,295)	0
Inclusive playgrounds	R	Development of 3 inclusive playgrounds. Funded by UNICEF and in partnership with Humanity & Inclusion.	21,441	13,696	(35,137)	0
Impact Lebanon (4th cycle)	R	Implementation of a program with children for the co-design of safe spaces in Karantina.	1,401	-	(1,401)	0
Safe spaces for girls	R	Working with adolescent girls in Karantina to develop safe public spaces.	15,335	16,908	(33,944)	(1,701)
PROCOL Lebanon (RELIEF Centre) interventions	R	Facilitation for 2 built interventions in Beirut as part of our research collaboration with PROCOL Lebanon.	2,750	-	(2,750)	0
PROCOL Lebanon expenses	R	Expenses as part of our work with PROCOL Lebanon.	-	101	(101)	0
Maintaining past built interventions	R	Expenses to maintain 3 strategic built interventions implemented by CatalyticAction.	-	19,944	(3,510)	16,434
Rihla initiative	R	Small grant to fund activities for children.	-	617	(617)	0
Mauj 2.0	R	Fund to support the expansion of the Mauj intervention implemented by CatalyticAction in 2022.	-	1,510	-	1,510



OPE expenses	R	Expenses for OPE travel.	-	94	(94)	0
Botnar Cairo	R	Travel expenses to attend Botnar meeting in Cairo.	-	-	(367)	(367)
HUD conference	R	Travel expenses to attend HUD conference in Geneva.	-	317	(317)	0
Holcim human rights impact assessment	R	Fee to deliver a participatory assessment of Holcim activities in Lebanon.	-	5,267	(5,267)	0
CSC education grant	R	Grant to support the education of children in Lebanon who cannot afford the basic costs to attend school (e.g. transports, books).	2,600	-	-	2,600
Emergency response in Karantina	R	Fund to support CatalyticAction's activities in response to the war in Lebanon.	-	1,237	-	1,237
TOTAL			49,316	59,691	(89,294)	19,713

Last year

Fund name	Type PE, EE, R or UR*	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Fund balances carried forward
			£	£	£	£
AICS Ouzai	R	Development of a design guide to promote play in cities.	-	9,338	(9,338)	0
Housing workshop	R	Housing workshop expenses.	-	3,550	(2,056)	1,494
PROCOL exhibition	R	Exhibition design and implementation to showcase the work of PROCOL Lebanon.	-	8,000	(8,000)	0
PROCOL expenses	R	Expenses as part of our work with PROCOL Lebanon.	-	2,378	(2,378)	0
Shelter Forum	R	Honorarium to attend the MENA Shelter Forum in Jordan.	-	1,134	(1,134)	0
UAF	R	Fund to work with women in Karantina around empowerment and their rights to public spaces.	-	6,648	(6,648)	0



Beit el Baraka	R	Rehabilitation of a public park in Beirut.	-	7,682	(7,682)	0
Castel Volturno	R	Development of a sport-leisure outdoor space for the Black&White association in Castel Volturno (Italy), working with children.	-	3,294	(3,294)	0
EcoHub	R	Development of a play space in Beirut made using recycled materials.	-	14,000	(9,705)	4,295
H&I	R	Development of 3 inclusive playgrounds. Funded by UNICEF and in partnership with Humanity & Inclusion.	-	52,960	(31,518)	21,441
Impact 4	R	Implementation of a program with children for the co-design of safe spaces in Karantina.	-	16,506	(15,105)	1,401
Injaz Mina Park	R	Rehabilitation of a public park in El Mina.	-	2,356	(2,356)	0
Karantina safe spaces for girls	R	Working with adolescent girls in Karantina to develop safe public spaces.	-	19,420	(4,085)	15,335
Stairs activities	R	Grant for carrying out 3 community activities on the newly rehabilitated public stairs in Beirut (as part of UN- Habitat Beirut stairs project).	-	639	(639)	0
RELIEF interventions	R	Facilitation for 2 built interventions in Beirut as part of our research collaboration with PROCOL Lebanon.	2,750	-	-	2,750
CSC education grant	R	Grant to support the education of children in Lebanon who cannot afford the basic costs to attend school (e.g. transports, books).	2,600	-	-	2,600
TOTAL			5,350	147,903	(103,938)	49,316

Accounts



CatalyticAction

charity number 1169604
info@catalyticaction.org
www.catalyticaction.org

CatalyticAction Trustees' Annual Report

Financial year: 2022-2023

Charity number: 1169604





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Introduction

The team at CatalyticAction is proud to have successfully completed its seventh year of operations, and to continue to bring about positive change through participatory design and research that empowers communities to disrupt conditions of poverty and inequality.

The Board of Trustees is extremely grateful to every single person who contributed to bring CatalyticAction's vision and ambitions to reality, including the volunteers, local researchers and community members, who offered vital contributions to the charity's activities.

The Board of Trustees would also like to thank all the donors who believed in the charity's vision and financially supported its activities.

Since 2015, CatalyticAction has been able to support disadvantaged and disenfranchised communities through 71 projects (47 design & build and 24 research), bringing positive change to thousands of people. In particular, it has directly engaged 2,400 children and young people in participatory activities and implemented 52,000 square metres of play space. In the year 2022-2023, the charity initiated 12 new projects, completed 9 (2 of which had started in the previous year). Of the 12 new projects, it is anticipated that 5 projects will be completed in 2023-2024.





Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a Constitution.

Legal structure

The charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) whose only voting members are its charity Trustees.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

Trustees are appointed and recruited by the existing Trustees.

Organisational Structure

The organisational structure comprises a Board of Trustees (currently formed of five trustees), six core staff members, three consultants and three volunteers. Other staff are contracted according to the needs of each project.

Related parties

CatalyticAction works with partner NGOs, INGOs, charities, development agencies, and universities in the UK and overseas. CatalyticAction also partners with private companies, who provide professional pro-bono advice to assist the delivery of the charity projects.

Risk Management

Trustees perform periodic review of the risks facing the charity and put measures in place to mitigate the risks. The principal risks identified are programmatic risks and compliance risks.

The Board of Trustees together with the Senior Management Team assess the risks of any new project before allocating financial resources to it. Prior to entering a new partnership, the charity conducts a partner assessment as part of the due diligence process. When working overseas, we seek advice from the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) as well as from a range of local sources and local partners to assess the risks associated with each new project. Context analysis and conflict sensitivity approaches are the foundation of the development of our interventions.

CatalyticAction carries out a health and safety risk assessment for each project. In response to the covid-19 pandemic, CA developed health and safety procedures to be able to continue to conduct participatory activities while respecting social distancing and other procedures aimed at limiting the spread of covid-19. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety standards for the charity staff and volunteers undertaking work on behalf of CatalyticAction. These procedures always comply with local laws and guidelines as well as best international practices.



CatalyticAction follows recognised research ethics and data protection procedures which have been developed in line with UK and local regulations. Multiple policies and procedures are in place to ensure the safety of vulnerable children and adults who are engaged directly or indirectly in the work of the charity.

CA trains staff and any person doing work on behalf of the charity to comply with the charity's policies and procedures.

CatalyticAction's insurance policies have been specifically tailored to the charity's activities to cover employer's liability insurance, public liability insurance and trustee liability insurance.

The charity follows a rigorous financial management system to ensure that funds are spent following the charity's objectives and the project-specific donor's requirements.

List of policies and procedures

- Anti-corruption and bribery policy
- Conflict of interest policy
- Complaint procedures
- HR policies and procedures
- Procurement policy and procedures
- Environmental policy
- H&S policy
- Safeguarding policy and procedures
- Partners assessment policy
- Covid-19 procedures
- Privacy and Data protection policy
- Insurance policy
- Schemes of delegation

These policies and procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the charity.



Objectives and Activities

Objectives and Aims

As per the constitution, the objectives of CatalyticAction are to ensure the relief and assistance of people in any part of the world who are the victims of war or natural disaster, trouble, or catastrophe in particular but not exclusively by:

- a. providing design services;
- b. providing advice on building housing and accommodation and public and private open spaces;
- c. providing or assisting in the provision of education, training, advocacy and advice; and
- d. the provision of any other such charitable services as the Trustees consider fit in furtherance of the said object.

We use design and architecture to empower vulnerable children, youth and their communities. We achieve this through built and research projects, delivered using a participatory approach that engages local communities.

We work with communities to produce dignified built environments where everyone can take part in the creation of equitable, inclusive and sustainable communities. Through community engagement we build local human capacity that ensures our work has a lasting positive impact.

Participation is at the core of our approach. We believe that to generate sustainable and just interventions, people's and children's visions and ideas must drive interventions. This is why we developed context-specific participatory tools to meaningfully engage with communities in each step of a project cycle.

We work within strategic partnerships where we provide the following services:

- Design & Build
- Participation
- Research
- Advocacy

Significant activities

CatalyticAction's primary charitable contribution is to equip communities with skills in participatory design and construction to empower them to alleviate conditions of poverty and inequalities.

The charity has produced a curated impact report for 2023, which can be viewed here: <https://catalyticaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/CatalyticAction-2023-Impact-Report-1.pdf>



CatalyticAction has been focusing its activities on delivering built facilities that can provide long-term impact for the communities involved. CatalyticAction has also worked on a number of research projects, for which the overall aim was to develop the charity's knowledge of topics that are strictly linked to the charity's practice. Research projects are usually conducted using participatory methods that directly engage people living in the communities where the research takes place. This allows us to build local capacity and to widen the network of people we work with within local communities. The Charity also engages in research aimed at influencing partners' practices towards a more participatory engagement of communities that looks at how empowerment can be achieved through built interventions.





Achievements and Performance

In the year 2022-2023 CatalyticAction worked on 14 distinct projects, including 2 research projects. All of the projects, including research, involved extensive activities of community engagement. For built projects, community members and local partners were involved in the design process from inception to implementation. This approach ensured the long-term sustainability of the projects as both community members and local partners acquired knowledge and skills essential for their long-term operation.

CatalyticAction monitors implemented projects with the support of its local partners. Monitoring and evaluation is carried out mostly through qualitative interviews by our local partners. As they will be managing the spaces built by CatalyticAction on a daily basis, they can provide invaluable feedback on the operation of the projects implemented. CatalyticAction also conducts regular site visits to its projects after implementation to assess their impacts.

The projects

El Mina Public Park

El Mina - Tripoli, Lebanon

May 2023 – October 2023 (6 months)



This [project](#) aimed to enhance the social activities in El Mina public park by incorporating design elements that address the needs of the various community groups. This project is



part of the wider MACAN project funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit in partnership with the Ministry of Social Affairs and in cooperation with INJAZ Lebanon and El Mina municipality.

The design was developed based on our partners' community engagement assessment. We engaged with our partners' Working Group throughout the different phases of the project: from ideation, to design and implementation. We reached out to UN-Habitat Lebanon who rehabilitated the park back in 2019 - making it the first inclusive public space in North Lebanon - to ensure that our design aligns with their vision.

We created the first skatepark in North Lebanon, a new landmark destination for young people. We incorporated five inclusive play stations connected by an accessible path. Play items included a playhouse, swings, a slide, pull up bars, spinning cubes and sensory games. To enhance group gatherings, we added picnic tables, a firepit with circular seatings and added backrests to the existing benches. An 'I ♥ Mina' sign and colourful paint across the park were used to amplify its visual appeal.



Project size (in square metres): 9,550 m²

Project partners:

- Injaz Lebanon
- Municipality of El Mina
- German Cooperation - GIZ (*funding*)



Beirut EcoPlay

Beirut, Lebanon

May 2023 – October 2023 (6 months)



EcoPlay is an eco-friendly playground intervention as part of the EcoHub, a space set up by Ahla Fawda NGO at the heart of Beirut city with the aim to restore ecosystems and promote sustainability through creativity and community engagement. EcoPlay aims to create a play area for all community members using discarded materials. To achieve this, a participatory approach was utilised to research local materials and engage residents and key stakeholders to think about eco-friendly design.

The design of the EcoPlay space was developed based on the locally available discarded materials that we were able to source: plastic bottle caps, car tyres, plastic vegetable crates, wooden pallets, metal pipes, PVC pipes, metal barrels, retired bicycle wheels and flex banners. The materials were sourced from a variety of places: junkyards, vegetable market, tyres shop, printshop and recycling centres. We also worked with the Lebanese startup Plastic Lab to create tabletops made from plastic bottle caps.

Located by a busy road, we used retired flex banners to create a colourful visual separator weaved on the wire-mesh with the help of residents and passers-by. We experimented with alternative flooring surfaces; for instance, we replaced the asphalt with plastic bottle caps to create a colourful path. EcoPlay includes a variety of play items, sensorial elements, colours, greenery, tables and seats.



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Project size (in square metres): 143 m²

Project partners:

- PROCOL Lebanon
- The Neighbourhood Initiative (NI) at the American University of Beirut (AUB)
- Ahla Fawda NGO
- Municipality of Beirut

Inclusive Playgrounds

Abbasiyeh – Rachaya – Mohammara, Lebanon

May 2023 – October 2023 (6 months)

We partnered with Humanity & Inclusion to create inclusive play spaces for all children by rehabilitating three public parks in three governorates in Lebanon: Abbasiyeh in South Lebanon, Rachaya in Bekaa and Mohammara in North Lebanon.

The [project](#) of the inclusive parks focused on two main elements: creating inclusive playgrounds and making the public spaces accessible.

The design of the Abbasieh park aimed to maintain the natural character of the space. The new steel structures have been painted orange to create a colourful contrast with the green of the trees and plants and enhance visibility for people with low vision. We also made use of the existing infrastructures by transforming the non-accessible ramps and bathrooms into features that could be used by everyone.



The design of Mohammara park was informed by the existing play structures that were rearranged to form a new layout and enriched with shapes, colours and music which offer new opportunities for inclusive play experiences.

In Rachaya we divided the park into 4 different areas: two play-stations, a kiosk spot and a resting area, incorporating existing structures to maximise the available resources.



Project size (in square metres): 266 m2 Abbasiyeh, 1,620 m2 Rachaya, 1,780 m2 Mohammara

Project partners:

- Humanity & Inclusion
- UNICEF (*funding*)
- Municipality of Abbasiyeh
- Municipality of Rachaya
- Municipality of Mohammara

Teenage Girls' Public Spaces

Karantina, Beirut, Lebanon

June 2023 – May 2024 (12 months)

Soon after securing the funds through our [crowdfunding campaign](#), we shared the positive news with the girls in Karantina. Over a period of 7 months, we have been engaging over 30 adolescent girls in a participatory programme that is aimed at unpacking girls' needs in public spaces and co- creating a design brief for the built interventions. We conducted 14



participatory activities over multiple weeks, each activity had a specific aim that stemmed from the engagement with the girls combined with the project's aims.



We used different participatory tools including participatory mapping, body mapping, model making, drawing, storytelling, photography, and activation in selected sites of intervention. We learnt a lot from each activity and each girl about their sense of safety, comfort and enjoyment and what it means for a teenage girl in Karantina to have the freedom to use public spaces. This process was highly empowering, and it is the core element of this project, generating an impact that goes beyond the built public spaces.

Together with the girls and artist Roula Abdo we designed and implemented our first public space intervention: a mural that represents adolescent girls' needs and aspirations from public spaces in their city. As we progress with the design phase, we are also working on securing the permits to implement further public space interventions in the neighbourhood areas selected by the girls.

Project size (in square metres): 238 m²

Project partners:

- Karantina Women Collective
- Ahla Fawda NGO
- Municipality of Beirut



Participatory Art for Climate Change

Ouzai, Beirut, Lebanon

November 2022 – December 2022 (2 months)

Working from the colourful ‘warming stripe’¹ showing the annual temperature change in Lebanon between 1901-2021, we used colours and drawings to discuss the urgent topic of climate change with children and youth from Ouzai, Beirut. In partnership with AICS, the aim of this project was to raise awareness on the topic of climate change and enable a safer space for children and youth to express their emotions and discuss the impact this has on them. We successfully engaged 158 children and youth through a [participatory mural](#) that was implemented on a recently built pier in the Ouzai port. Coming from different backgrounds and demographics, the group worked together to shape this vibrant mural: a medium for expression and a tangible contribution to shaping their built environment. As soon as the grey concrete pier turned colourful, children living nearby started using it to play.



¹ ‘[Warming stripe](#)’ graphics are visual representations of the change in temperature, created by climate scientist Professor Ed Hawkins. Each stripe represents the temperature in the location averaged over a year.



Project size (in square metres): 335 m2

Project partners:

- Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development (AICS)
- Lebanese Spotlight
- Borderless NGO

Co-designed Community Centre

Castel Volturno, Italy

January 2023 – ongoing

We collaborated with the local association Black&White to support the co-design of an outdoor community space in Castel Volturno, a coastal city in the south of Italy that has one of the greatest migratory pressures throughout the whole region.

Black&White promotes the inclusion of immigrant people through after-school programmes for children, Italian school for adults, and cross-cultural mediation. The new space aims to create multiple opportunities for community building.

We engaged 70 children and youth of different nationalities and a diverse group of residents who shared with us their needs and visions for the new space. Through different participatory tools we learnt about the daily lives of these young people in the local urban context, their use of public spaces, and the dimensions that affect their well-being.



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Children and youth were then invited to visualise the features that they would like to see built in the new centre. Many indicated sport facilities and spaces where they could eat together, watch a movie, dance; and spaces to build relationships.

Project size (in square metres): 3,630 m²

Project partners:

- Black&White Association
- Development Planning Unit (DPU) at University College London (UCL)



Vital Lebanon Exhibition

Beirut, Lebanon

December 2022 – March 2023 (4 months)

‘Vital Lebanon: Capacities of people; capacities of cities’ is an [exhibition](#) implemented in partnership with the Institute for Global Prosperity’s PROCOL Lebanon which showcased the work and outputs of the RELIEF centre as it transitions into PROCOL Lebanon. The exhibition offered insights into localised scales of livelihood and prosperity that various Lebanese communities have constructed in times of uncertainty. ‘Prosperity’ is dynamic in that it means different things to different people and places.

We helped curate the contents of the exhibition; we researched, designed and implemented the exhibition as an experiential space, providing visitors with opportunities to immerse



themselves physically and mentally into the themes of Uncertainty, Sociality, Vitality and Prosperity.

A form of public engagement was also envisioned as part of the exhibition through interactive design elements, whereby the public could learn, reflect and contribute. The exhibition was animated with an interactive sound performance, a film screening and a live music performance. Citizen scientists from Bar Elias, El Mina, Hamra and Mar Mikhael participated in a panel discussion around the key themes of the exhibition and their role as citizen scientists in various research projects.



Project size (in square metres): 58 m²

Project partners:

- PROCOL Lebanon
- Institute for Global Prosperity (IGP) at University College London (UCL)
- American University of Beirut (AUB)

Beirut Public Spaces Analysis

Beirut, Lebanon

November 2022 – October 2023 (12 months)

The Participatory Analysis of Public Space Projects in Beirut is a research project implemented to map the different public space interventions that took place in Beirut following the port blast in 2020 and that consisted of a physical and lasting component. The project also aimed to inform better co-designed public spaces in order to improve social cohesion in the context of multiple social tensions in Beirut; this was achieved by a shared learning process among participants.

This project produced a participatory assessment of the reconstruction efforts following the Beirut explosion, particularly in relation to public spaces. Data was gathered and analysed through a series of interviews followed by a [participatory workshop](#), bringing together the different stakeholders working on public spaces in Beirut to exchange knowledge with the aim of identifying shared standards among the actors operating in the city on public space projects.

This was complemented by a temporary and participatory public [art installation](#) produced in collaboration with residents of the Karantina neighbourhood, and a [database](#) of public



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space projects. More details about the methodology and the outcomes are available in the published [report](#).

Project partners:

- Development Planning Unit (DPU) at University College London (UCL)
- [MENASP](#)-CP Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) (*funding*)

Learn more: [Project report](#)



Playful Cities Design Guide

London, UK

January 2022 – May 2023 (16 months)

The [Playful Cities Design Guide](#) provides practical and inspirational ideas to facilitate play in our urban centres by addressing these three questions:

- Where can we add play in our cities, and what kinds of spatial elements can support playful experiences?
- How can we design for play in a way that is inclusive of different age groups, abilities, and identities?
- How can play help us to develop a diverse range of skills, as well as to connect to our urban and natural environment?





We worked closely with the ARUP team to develop this guide that would inspire urban practitioners and city authorities to imagine and embed small-scale play elements for children, youths and adults in city design and planning. Working on this guide provided us with the opportunity to reflect back on all the playful interventions we have implemented and share this learning with a wider audience.

Designing for play has the power to generate diverse experiences of the city that may lead to new ways of learning and developing skills, of living in the urban and natural environment, and of cultivating a greater sense of place and community interactions. Also, playful spaces can enable pro- social behaviours that yield substantial benefits for people of all ages.

Project partners:

- Arup
- the LEGO Foundation
- PlacemakingX

Kan Ya Makan

Karantina, Beirut, Lebanon

August 2020 – August 2023 (36 months)



In August 2023 we concluded the programme Kan Ya Makan in Karantina, Beirut. Kan Ya Makan is a child-led program we developed in response to the 4th of August Beirut Blast. It sought to address children's needs by engaging them in a series of activities that explored their relationship with one another and with the environment around them.

The program aimed to engage children in a creative journey of storytelling, arts, play, and spatial interventions. The program unfolded with children reflecting on their personal and



collective experiences of space. The stories that emerged throughout this process allowed them to express themselves and form new relationships with their community and environment. Through conceptual exploration and practical implementation, children were invited to become active agents in shaping the world within and around them.

Many conflicts between nationalities have been resolved, as we consistently worked on creating an inclusive space of accepting and caring for one another. Additionally, the children's relationship to space has improved, so has their understanding of the natural world. They achieved this by learning tools that allow them to pursue the change they want to see in their environment.

Project partners:

- Nusaned
- The Neighbourhood Initiative (NI) at the American University of Beirut (AUB)
- Zayraqoun collective
- Circus hub
- The Chain Effect
- One Hand Puppet
- Clown Me In
- Assabil
- Directorate General of Antiquities
- Impact Lebanon (*funding*)

Mar Mikhael citizen scientist-led intervention

Mar Mikhael – Beirut, Lebanon

March 2022 – March 2023 (12 months)

The Mar Mikhael citizen scientists-led intervention is a project developed and implemented in partnership with PROCOL Lebanon (previously the RELIEF centre) with the aim to support a small group of citizen scientists to lead on an intervention in the neighbourhood and addresses some of the key vulnerabilities that were identified as part of the research project: "Assessing vulnerabilities for urban recovery solutions in Beirut post-explosion".

The citizen scientists developed a social program they named "Mayyel initiative" dedicated to the elderly community in Mar Mikhael. The intervention aimed at enhancing the elderly's sense of belonging to their neighbourhood and reconnecting them to one another through social communal activities e.g.: neighbourhood dinners, cultural events, outings and door-to-door meetings.

Project partners:

- PROCOL Lebanon



Karantina Women Collective

Karantina, Beirut, Lebanon

March 2023 – August 2023 (7 months)

Women have the right to gain access to and participate in public spaces as a realm for expression, dialogue, cultural exchange, social cohesion, and equality. Building on our continuous efforts to advocate for public space rights in Beirut, we launched a pilot advocacy programme that engaged both older and younger women from the Karantina neighbourhood. The programme established the Karantina's women collective for public space rights: 'My Happiness in My Park'.



The programme aimed to capacitate women with the needed skills in advocacy, conflict resolution, and collective action, and build resilient relationships to fight for the right to open and collectively manage the Karantina public park. Throughout the project's activities we sought to create a safer space for community building where women can meet, share, and learn. One of the key outputs of the programme was the co-design of a sustainability action plan and the liaison of the women's collective to local authorities. The women's collective obtained permission from the municipality of Beirut to open their local park and started the implementation of their action plan. For over six months they have been opening the park on a weekly basis. They mobilise, meet, solve issues, reach out to community members to join them, and present their work to local NGOs and press to cooperate in maintaining the sustainability of their efforts.

Project partners:

- Karantina Women Collective
- Municipality of Beirut
- Urgent Action Fund (*funding*)



Co-producing Youth Inclusive Digital Urban Governance (YUP)

El Mina – Bar Elias, Lebanon

September 2023 – September 2026 (36 months)

The YUP research project aims to understand young people's role in urban planning and governance in four cities: Bar Elias and El Mina in Lebanon and, Surakarta and Denpasar in Indonesia, and to explore how young people could collaborate with their local governments to address urban issues that are important for them, using digital platforms. The research is funded by the [Fondation Botnar](#) which is a philanthropic grant-making organisation registered in Switzerland. The YUP project is part of their Technology, Youth, Participation Cities (TYP Cities) research programme.

The project is led by [Kota Kita](#) in Indonesia, and CatalyticAction in Lebanon, working together with The Bartlett Development Planning Unit of University College London, and the [SHM Foundation](#). In each of the project cities, YUP is also working with four citizen scientists, who are young people who have been selected from the cities and who have a demonstrated interest in urban development issues.

Project partners:

- Development Planning Unit (DPU) at University College London (UCL)
- Kota Kita
- SHM Foundation
- Fondation Botnar (*funding*)





Other initiatives

Lectures, workshops and public conferences

Throughout the year, CatalyticAction delivered several lectures, workshops and public conferences with the aim of raising awareness about the role of participatory practices and architecture in the field of sustainable construction and development.

- University IAUUV (Venice), [*Variazioni sul tema* - Lifelines. Politics, Ethics, and the Affective Economy of Inhabiting - n.10](#), 19 December 2022, Venice (Italy) and ONLINE.
- The Development Planning Unit (DPU) at University College London (UCL), [*Designing child-friendly cities: play outside playgrounds*](#), 08 February 2023, LONDON (UK) and online.



- Bayes Business School, *CatalyticAction story in co-designing with children and youth in Lebanon*, 23 February 2023, LONDON (UK).
- MENA Shelter & Settlements Forum, *Beirut's Public Spaces Post Explosion*, 23 February 2023, AMMAN (Jordan) and online.
- Design Done Differently virtual workshop by CAUKIN, *Co-designing built interventions in Lebanon*, 10 May 2023, ONLINE.
- UNDP Eurasia Urban Talks - Summer series #1 Gender Inclusive Cities: Creating Gender Inclusive Cities, [*CatalyticAction's Co-designed interventions in Lebanon*](#), 12 July 2023, ONLINE.



- LSE Cities event (panel discussion), [*From childhood needs to urban reality: strategies to engage kids in urban design*](#), 12 October 2023, LONDON (UK) and online.
- Sustrans Always Learning talks, *Co-designing built interventions in Lebanon*, 24 October 2023, LONDON (UK) and online.



- Weston Williamson + Partners CPD talks, *Co-designing spaces for children in Lebanon*, 26 October 2023, LONDON (UK) and online.

Statement of public benefit

When reviewing the charity activities, the Trustees have regarded the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. The Trustees ensured that the activities undertaken are in line with the charitable objectives of CatalyticAction, and in doing so are satisfied that CatalyticAction's activities meet the requirements on demonstrating public benefit.

Financial Review

During this financial year, the charity raised a total income of £273,965. The charity expenditures for the year were £193,369.

The charity has secured 1 multi-year project which will end in September 2026. In July 2023, the charity received a grant from the Happold Foundation, which provides support for the charity core costs for 3 years. Furthermore, the charity has already secured some projects for 2023-2024 and will work to secure more during the first months of the upcoming financial year.

CatalyticAction benefits from the support of volunteers in an operational capacity as well as many other vital roles. In accordance with the Charity Commission guidelines on financial reporting, the economic contribution of volunteers is not recognised in the financial statements.

CatalyticAction has worked on 15 projects during this financial year, of which 5 will be carried forward to 2023-2024. The overall cost of these projects is only partially reflected in the financial statements as part of the implementation costs were incurred by our partners.

Principal funding sources

The main source of funding for the charity during this financial year have been direct project costs (charitable activities) from partner organisations.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Trustees aim to hold unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover at least 6 months of operating expenses to ensure the smooth running of the charity in the event of unforeseen costs and / or downturn in expected income. The balance held as unrestricted reserves at the end of the financial year is £113,964. The reserves policy is reviewed every year by the Board of Trustees.



Challenges and Future Plans

The charity is now entering its 8th year of operations and has a track record of 71 projects. In 2023-2024 the charity will be working on 5 projects carried forward from 2022-2023 while exploring further new collaborations.

At the beginning of 2023-2024 the charity will recruit two new trustees. The new trustees will bring new skills to the charity board. Later in the year, together with the new trustees and the full team of CatalyticAction, the charity will organise a strategy meeting to set the charity strategy for the next 5 years.

Partnerships for charitable projects remain important for the charity operation. For this reason, we have invested resources to nurture these relationships and worked towards securing new long-term collaborations. The charity will continue to dedicate resources to increase the charity's impact by growing the number of partners and projects.

With the crowdfunding campaign for the project in Beirut, we reached out to our network of supporters. In 2023-2024 we will work to nurture this network and improve our fundraising efforts. We will also aim to grow the network of supporters (individuals and corporate sponsors). Increasing the network of supporters will aim at generating enough income for the charity to be able to conduct strategic projects and activities (as we achieved with the crowdfunded project). The charity will aim to connect with a wider number of supporters through public events, social media and other networking opportunities. This process will hopefully allow the charity to reach a wider number of people and communities in need.

The charity aims at implementing additional educational spaces such as public parks, child friendly spaces, playgrounds, schools, and community centres to better the living conditions of disadvantaged communities. Due to the charity's experience in this context, CatalyticAction predicts that the majority of the projects will be implemented in Lebanon. Nevertheless, the charity staff and the Board of Trustees are working to expand CatalyticAction's activities to other countries.

In 2022 and 2023, the charity has published a curated Impact Report. This document has received positive feedback from partners, donors and supporters. We will continue with the publication of the Impact Report and will also work on increasing the impact monitoring methodologies, tools and indicators to show the positive impact of each project.

Outreach to students and professionals will remain an important activity of the charity. Participating in conferences, lessons, etc. has the potential to inspire students and



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professionals about the social potential of participatory architecture. CatalyticAction has been involved in academic research that will inform the practice of the charity.

In general, the charity aims to increase its capacity over the next few years, so as to improve the living conditions of a higher number of children and other people.

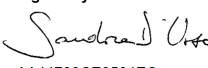
Declaration

Andrea Rigon
 Trustee – Chair
 27-08-2024

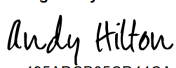
Signed by:

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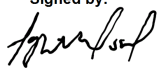
Sandra D'Urzo
 Trustee
 27-08-2024

Signed by:

 AA44799CE0504EC...

Andy Hilton
 Trustee – Treasurer
 27-08-2024

Signed by:

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Ignacia Ossul Vermehren
 Trustee
 27-08-2024

Signed by:

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Grace Nalty
 Trustee
 27-08-2024

Signed by:

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Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A – Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/members of: CatalyticAction

On account the year ended: 31 October 2023

Charity number: 1169604

Set out on pages: 1-44

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31/10/2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees, 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'O. Coker'.

Date: 26/08/2024

Name: Olugbenga Coker

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): FCCA

Address: 1 Holmdale Road, Chislehurst Kent BR7 6BY



Section A – Statement of financial activities

Period start date: 01/11/2022 to 31/10/2023

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds (22-23)	Prior year funds (21-22)
		£	£	£	£
Incoming resources (Note 3)					
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies		54,895	19,420	74,315	191,155
Charitable activities		68,290	128,483	196,773	-
Investments		1,525	-	1,525	181
Other		1,352	-	1,352	894
Total		126,062	147,903	273,965	192,230
Resources expended (Note 6)					
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		13,336	-	13,336	1,321
Charitable activities		76,095	103,938	180,033	236,570
Total		89,432	103,938	193,369	237,891
Net income/(expenditure)		36,630	43,965	80,595	-45,661
Net movement in funds		36,630	43,965	80,595	-45,661
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		77,334	5,348	82,682	128,343
Total funds carried forward		113,964	49,313	163,277	82,682



Section B – Balance sheet

Period start date: 01/11/2022 to 31/10/2023

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total this year (22-23)	Total last year (21-22)
	£	£	£	£
Current assets				
Debtors (Note 19)	-	-	-	6,459
Cash at bank and in hand (Note 24)	169,727	-	167,727	87,322
Total current assets	169,727	-	167,727	93,781
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Note 20)	1,000	-	1,000	11,099
Net current assets/(liabilities)	168,727	-	168,727	82,682
Total assets less current liabilities	168,727	-	168,727	82,682
Total net assets or liabilities	168,727	-	168,727	82,682
Funds of the Charity				
Restricted income funds (Note 27)	-	49,313	49,313	5,348
Unrestricted funds	113,964	-	113,964	77,334
Total funds	113,964	49,313	163,277	82,682

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

Signed by:

 A47B2D87E5FE4CF...

Andrea Rigon

27/08/2024



Section C – Notes to the accounts

Note 1 – Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with:

- ✓ the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014
- ✓ the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)
- ✓ the Charities Act 2011

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

An explanation as to those factors that support the conclusion that the charity is a going concern;	<i>Not applicable</i>
Disclosure of any uncertainties that make the going concern assumption doubtful;	<i>Not applicable</i>
Where accounts are not prepared on a going concern basis, please disclose this fact together with the basis on which the trustees prepared the accounts and the reason why the charity is not regarded as a going concern.	<i>Not applicable</i>

1.3 Change of accounting policy

- ✓ The accounts present a true and fair view and the accounting policies adopted are those outlined in note 2.

1.4 Changes to accounting estimates

- ✓ No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period (3.46 FRS 102 SORP).

1.5 Material prior year errors



- ✓ No material prior year error have been identified in the reporting period (3.47 FRS 102 SORP).

Note 2 – Accounting policies

2.2 Income

Recognition of income	Yes	No	N/a
These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when: - the charity becomes entitled to the resources; - it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources; and - the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.	X		
Offsetting	Yes	No	N/a
There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.	X		
Grants and donations	Yes	No	N/a
Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS102 SORP).	X		
In the case of performance related grants, income must only be recognised to the extent that the charity has provided the specified goods or services as entitlement to the grant only occurs when the performance related conditions are met (5.16 FRS 102 SORP).	X		
Legacies	Yes	No	N/a
Legacies are included in the SOFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.			X
Government grants	Yes	No	N/a
The charity has received government grants in the reporting period			X
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Yes	No	N/a
Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.	X		
Contractual income and performance related grants	Yes	No	N/a
This is only included in the SoFA once the charity has provided the related goods or services or met the performance related conditions.	X		
Donated goods	Yes	No	N/a
Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.	X		
The cost of any stock of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those gifts at the time of their receipt and they are recognised on receipt. In the reporting period in which the stocks are distributed, they are recognised as an expense at the carrying amount of the stocks at distribution.	X		
Donated goods for resale are measured at fair value on initial recognition, which is the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale, and recognised in 'Income from other trading activities' with the corresponding stock recognised in the balance sheet. On its sale the value of stock is charged against 'Income from other	X		



trading activities' and the proceeds from sale are also recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'.			
Goods donated for on-going use by the charity are recognised as tangible fixed assets and included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.	X		
Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as income from donations when receivable.	X		
Donated services and facilities	Yes	No	N/a
Donated services and facilities are included in the SoFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably.	X		
Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with an equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SoFA.	X		
Support costs	Yes	No	N/a
The charity has incurred expenditure on support costs.	X		
Volunteer help	Yes	No	N/a
The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.	X		
Income from interest, royalties and dividends	Yes	No	N/a
This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.	X		
Income from membership subscriptions	Yes	No	N/a
Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in Donations and Legacies.			X
Membership subscriptions which gives a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.			X
Settlement of insurance claims	Yes	No	N/a
Insurance claims are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS102 SORP) and are included as an item of other income in the SoFA.	X		
Investment gains and losses	Yes	No	N/a
This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.	X		



2.3 Expenditure and liabilities

Liability recognition	Yes	No	N/a
Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.	X		
Governance and support costs	Yes	No	N/a
Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.	X		
Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.	X		
Grants with performance conditions	Yes	No	N/a
Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.			X
Grants payable without performance conditions	Yes	No	N/a
Where there are no conditions attaching to the grant that enables the donor charity to realistically avoid the commitment, a liability for the full funding obligation must be recognised.			X
Redundancy cost	Yes	No	N/a
The charity made no redundancy payments during the reporting period.	X		
Deferred income	Yes	No	N/a
No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.	X		
Creditors	Yes	No	N/a
The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts	X		
Provisions for liabilities	Yes	No	N/a
A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date	X		
Basic financial instruments	Yes	No	N/a
The charity accounts for basic financial instruments on initial recognition as per paragraph 11.7 FRS102 SORP. Subsequent measurement is as per paragraphs 11.17 to 11.19, FRS102 SORP.	X		



2.4 Assets

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity	Yes	No	N/a
These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £100			
They are valued at cost.	X		
The depreciation rates and methods used are disclosed in note 9.2.			
Intangible fixed assets	Yes	No	N/a
The charity has intangible fixed assets, that is, non-monetary assets that do not have physical substance but are identifiable and are controlled by the charity through custody or legal rights. The amortisation rates and methods used are disclosed in note 9.5			X
They are valued at cost.			X
Heritage assets	Yes	No	N/a
The charity has heritage assets, that is, non-monetary assets with historic, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical or environmental qualities that are held and maintained principally for their contribution to knowledge and culture. The depreciation rates and methods used as disclosed in note 9.6.1.4.			X
They are valued at cost.			X
Investments	Yes	No	N/a
Fixed asset investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued at initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year end. The same treatment is applied to unlisted investments unless fair value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment.			X
Investments held for resale or pending their sale and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than 1 year are treated as current asset investments	X		
Stocks and work in progress	Yes	No	N/a
Stocks held for sale as part of non-charitable trade are measured at the lower or cost or net realisable value.			X
Goods or services provided as part of a charitable activity are measured at net realisable value based on the service potential provided by items of stock.	X		
Work in progress is valued at cost less any foreseeable loss that is likely to occur on the contract.	X		
Debtors	Yes	No	N/a
Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.	X		
Current asset investments	Yes	No	N/a
The charity has investments which it holds for resale or pending their sale and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date less than one year. These include cash on deposit and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than one year held for investment purposes rather than to meet short term cash commitments as they fall due.	X		
They are valued at fair value except where they qualify as basic financial instruments.	X		



Note 3 – Analysis of income

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds (22-23)	Prior year funds (21-22)
		£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies					
Donations and gifts – individuals		1,610	14,420	16,030	12,328
Donations - Corporates		22,708	5,000	27,708	2,929
Gift Aid		577	-	577	-
Grants from governments/other charities		30,000	-	30,000	175,898
Total		54,895	19,420	74,315	191,155
Charitable activities					
Fees for charitable activities		68,290	128,483	196,773	-
Total		68,290	128,483	196,773	-
Other trading activities					
Other (exchange gains)		1,352	-	1,352	894
Total		1,352	-	1,352	894
Income from investments					
Interest income		1,525	-	1,525	181
Total		1,525	-	1,525	181
TOTAL INCOME		126,062	147,903	273,965	192,230



Note 4 – Analysis of income from charitable grants

	Description	This year (22-23)
		£
AICS Ouzai	Funded by AICS the project objective was to raise awareness about climate change through participatory art with youth.	9,338
Housing workshop	Housing workshop expenses.	3,550
PROCOL exhibition	Exhibition design and implementation to showcase the work of PROCOL Lebanon.	8,000
PROCOL expenses	Expenses as part of our work with PROCOL Lebanon.	2,378
Shelter Forum	Honorarium to attend the MENA Shelter Forum in Jordan.	1,134
UAF	Fund to work with women in Karantina around empowerment and their rights to public spaces.	6,648
Beit el Baraka	Rehabilitation of a public park in Beirut.	7,682
Castel Volturno	Development of a sport-leisure outdoor space for the Black&White association in Castel Volturno (Italy), working with children.	3,294
EcoHub	Development of a play space in Beirut made using recycled materials.	14,000
H&I	Development of 3 inclusive playgrounds. Funded by UNICEF and in partnership with Humanity & Inclusion.	52,960
Impact 4	Implementation of a program with children for the co-design of safe spaces in Karantina.	16,506
Injaz Mina Park	Rehabilitation of a public park in El Mina.	2,356
Karantina safe spaces for girls	Working with adolescent girls in Karantina to develop safe public spaces.	19,420
Stairs activities	Grant for carrying out 3 community activities on the newly rehabilitated public stairs in Beirut (as part of UN-Habitat Beirut stairs project).	639
TOTAL		147,903

	Description	Last year (21-22)
		£
Arup RPC	Development of a design guide to promote play in cities.	24,000
Bar Elias M&E video	Monitoring and Evaluation study and video of the Bar Elias PSI 2 years after completion.	1,000
DeCID	Developing a guide for the co-design of built interventions with children affected by displacement. Research project done in partnership with University College London.	866



Karantina Streets (UN-Habitat + Fondation de France)	Rehabilitation of the area around the Karantina public hospital and park with the aim of making streets safer and more child friendly.	25,445
Habibi International	Partnership for the co-design of a playground in the Bersive refugee camp, Kurdistan region in Iraq.	3,825
Healthy Parks Framework	Conducting a community activity to test the Healthy Parks Framework developed by UCL.	1,150
International Alert	Rehabilitation of a public space in Majdal Anjar using a placemaking approach that engaged local youth and the local municipality.	15,205
Impact Lebanon	Implementation of a program with children for the co-design safe spaces in Karantina.	11,346
PSI Mina	Implementation of 3 'play pockets' public spaces along the corniche of El-Mina (Lebanon), using a participatory approach.	1,062
RELIEF	Ongoing research collaborations with the RELIEF Centre, Institute for Global Prosperity at UCL.	31,000
Social Support Society & Education	Rehabilitation of 2 playgrounds in the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon, using a participatory design approach.	7,538
UNDP	Citizen science-led research in the neighbourhood of Karantina to understand the role of public spaces for wellbeing.	18,012
Beirut stairs	Rehabilitation of 3 public stairs in Beirut in response to the port blast. Project aims to make the stairs more inclusive for vulnerable users, such as children and elderly.	24,139
Stairs activities	Grant for carrying out 3 community activities on the newly rehabilitated public stairs in Beirut (as part of UN-Habitat Beirut stairs project).	1,312
Otto per Mille of the Waldensian Church of Italy	Implementation of 3 'play pockets' spaces in El Mina for vulnerable children in the city.	9,020
TOTAL		174,920



Note 6 – Analysis of expenditure

	This year (22-23)			Last year (21-22)		
Analysis	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Expenditures on raising funds						
Incurring seeking donations & grants	13,336	-	13,336	1,321	-	1,321
Total expenditure on raising funds	13,336	-	13,336	1,321	-	1,321
Expenditure on charitable activities						
Design & Build	30,042	41,330	71,372	-	142,584	142,584
Research and advocacy	30,558	41,360	71,918	-	61,784	61,784
Support costs	15,495	21,248	36,743	18,215	13,987	32,202
Total expenditure on charitable activities	76,095	103,938	180,033	18,215	218,355	236,570
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	89,431	103,938	193,369	19,536	218,355	237,891

Note 10 – Details of certain items of expenditure

10.1 Fees for examination of the accounts

	This year (22-23)	Last year (21-22)
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees	1,000	1,000

Note 11 – Paid employees

11.1 Staff Costs

	This year (22-23)	Last year (21-22)
	£	£
Salaries and wages	104,995	117,795
Social security costs	12,404	13,497
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	6,821	6,708
Other employee benefits	-	-
Total staff costs	124,220	138,000



No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000.

11.2 Average head count in the year

		This year (22-23)	Last year (21-22)
		Number	Number
The parts of the charity in which the employees work	Fundraising	-	-
	Charitable activities	7	7
	Governance	-	-
	Other	-	-
	Total	7	7

Note 12 – Defined contribution pension scheme or defined benefit scheme accounted for as a defined contribution scheme

12.1

	This year (22-23)	Last year (21-22)
	£	£
Amount of contributions recognised in the SOFA as an expense	6,820	6,708

Pensions contributions are treated as employment cost and charged to the relevant projects on the basis of time spent by the staff members working on those projects.

Note 14 – Tangible fixed assets

14.1 Cost or valuation

	Computer Equipment	Total
	£	£
At the beginning of the year	3,553	3,553
At the end of the year	3,553	3,553

14.2 Depreciation and impairments

	Computer Equipment	Total
	£	£
At the beginning of the year	3,553	3,553
At the end of the year	3,553	3,553

14.3 Net book value

Net book value at the beginning of the year	-	-
Net book value at the end of the year	-	-



Note 19 – Debtors and prepayments

19.1 Analysis of debtors

	This year (22-23)	Last year (21-22)
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	-	6,459

Note 20 – Creditors and accruals

20.1 Analysis of creditors

	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	This year (22-23)	Last year (21-22)	This year (22-23)	Last year (21-22)
	£	£	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	-	10,099	-	-
Other creditors	1,000	1,000	-	-
Total	1,000	11,099	-	-

Note 24 – Cash at bank and in hand

	This year	Last year
Cash at bank and in hand	£	£
Triodos bank	123,513	81,218
Co-operative bank	2,839	2,024
PayPal GBP	-	-
PayPal EUR	-	-
Wise EUR	450	-
Wise GBP	4,557	-
Wise USD	26,775	-
Cash USD	11,592	3,860
Cash EUR	-	22
USD Bank	-	-
Transferwise	-	-
LBP cash	1	198
Total	169,727	87,322



Note 27 – Charity funds

27.1 Details of material funds held and movements during the CURRENT reporting period

* Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendible endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds

Fund name	Type PE, EE, R or UR*	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Fund balances carried forward
			£	£	£	£
AICS Ouzai	R	Development of a design guide to promote play in cities.	-	9,338	-9,338	0
Housing workshop	R	Housing workshop expenses.	-	3,550	-2,056	1,494
PROCOL exhibition	R	Exhibition design and implementation to showcase the work of PROCOL Lebanon.	-	8,000	-8,000	0
PROCOL expenses	R	Expenses as part of our work with PROCOL Lebanon.	-	2,378	-2,378	0
Shelter Forum	R	Honorarium to attend the MENA Shelter Forum in Jordan.	-	1,134	-1,134	0
UAF	R	Fund to work with women in Karantina around empowerment and their rights to public spaces.	-	6,648	-6,648	0
Beit el Baraka	R	Rehabilitation of a public park in Beirut.	-	7,682	-7,682	0
Castel Volturno	R	Development of a sport-leisure outdoor space for the Black&White association in Castel Volturno (Italy), working with children.	-	3,294	-3,294	0
EcoHub	R	Development of a play space in Beirut made using recycled materials.	-	14,000	-9,705	4,295
H&I	R	Development of 3 inclusive playgrounds. Funded by UNICEF and in partnership with Humanity & Inclusion.	-	52,960	-31,518	21,441



CatalyticAction

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Impact 4	R	Implementation of a program with children for the co-design of safe spaces in Karantina.	-	16,506	-15,105	1,401
Injaz Mina Park	R	Rehabilitation of a public park in El Mina.	-	2,356	-2,356	0
Karantina safe spaces for girls	R	Working with adolescent girls in Karantina to develop safe public spaces.	-	19,420	-4,085	15,335
Stairs activities	R	Grant for carrying out 3 community activities on the newly rehabilitated public stairs in Beirut (as part of UN- Habitat Beirut stairs project).	-	639	-639	0
RELIEF interventions	R	Facilitation for 2 built interventions in Beirut as part of our research collaboration with PROCOL Lebanon.	2,750	-	-	2,750
CSC education grant	R	Grant to support the education of children in Lebanon who cannot afford the basic costs to attend school (e.g. transports, books).	2,600	-	-	2,600
TOTAL			5,350	147,903	-103,938	49,316

Last year (21-22)

Fund name	Type PE, EE, R or UR*	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Fund balances carried forward
			£	£	£	£
Arup RPC	R	Development of a design guide to promote play in cities.	-	24,000	-24,000	0
Bar Elias M&E video	R	Monitoring and Evaluation study and video of the Bar Elias PSI 2 years after completion.	-	1,000	-1,000	0



DeCID	R	Developing a guide for the co-design of built interventions with children affected by displacement. Research project done in partnership with University College London.	8,200	866	-9,066	0
Karantina Streets (UN-Habitat + Fondation de France)	R	Rehabilitation of the area around the Karantina public hospital and park with the aim of making streets safer and more child friendly.	12,940	25,445	-38,385	0
Habibi International	R	Partnership for the co-design of a playground in the Bersive refugee camp, Kurdistan region in Iraq.	-	3,825	-3,825	0
Healthy Parks Framework	R	Conducting a community activity to test the Healthy Parks Framework developed by UCL.	-	1,150	-1,150	0
International Alert	R	Rehabilitation of a public space in Majdal Anjar using a placemaking approach that engaged local youth and the local municipality.	-	15,205	-15,205	0
Impact Lebanon	R	Implementation of a program with children for the co-design safe spaces in Karantina.	1,900	11,346	-13,246	0
PSI Mina	R	Implementation of 3 'play pockets' public spaces along the corniche of El-Mina (Lebanon), using a participatory approach.	4,500	1,062	-5,562	0
RELIEF	R	Ongoing research collaborations with the RELIEF Centre, Institute for Global Prosperity at UCL.	-	31,000	-31,000	0
Social Support Society & Education	R	Rehabilitation of 2 playgrounds in the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon, using a participatory design approach.	-	7,538	-7,538	0



UNDP	R	Citizen science-led research in the neighbourhood of Karantina to understand the role of public spaces for wellbeing.	-	18,012	-18,012	0
Beirut stairs	R	Rehabilitation of 3 public stairs in Beirut in response to the port blast. Project aims to make the stairs more inclusive for vulnerable users, such as children and elderly.	6,222	24,139	30,361	0
RELIEF video	R	Production of videos as part of our research collaboration with the RELIEF Centre.	1,700	-	-1,700	0
RELIEF interventions	R	Facilitation for 2 built interventions in Beirut as part of our research collaboration with the RELIEF Centre.	4,962	-	-2,212	2,750
CSC education grant	R	Grant to support the education of children in Lebanon who cannot afford the basic costs to attend school (e.g. transports, books).	2,600	-	-	2,600
Stairs activities	R	Grant for carrying out 3 community activities on the newly rehabilitated public stairs in Beirut (as part of UN-Habitat Beirut stairs project).	-	1,312	-1,312	0
Otto per Mille of the Waldensian Church of Italy	R	Implementation of 3 'play pockets' spaces in El Mina for vulnerable children in the city.	3,864	9,020	-12,884	0
Others	R		1,897	-	-1,897	0
TOTAL			48,785	174,920	-218,355	5,350

Accounts



CatalyticAction

charity number 1169604

info@catalyticaction.org

www.catalyticaction.org

CatalyticAction Trustees' Annual Report

Financial year: 2021-2022

Charity number: 1169604





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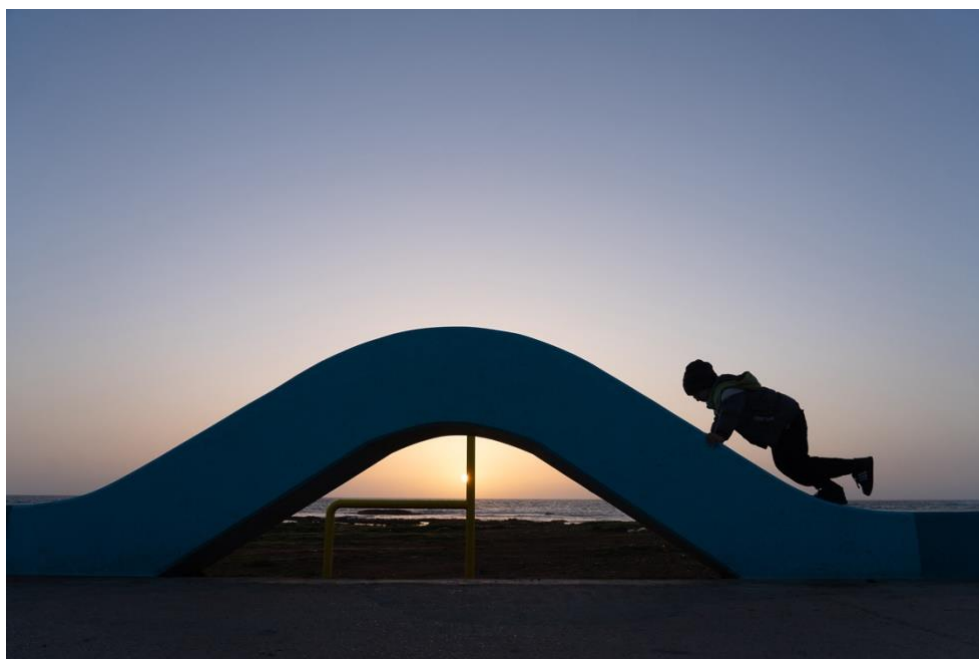
Introduction

The team at CatalyticAction is proud to have successfully completed its sixth year of operations, and to continue to bring about positive change through participatory design and research that empower communities to disrupt conditions of poverty and inequality.

The Board of Trustees is extremely grateful to every single person who contributed to bring the CatalyticAction's vision and ambitions to reality, such as volunteers, local researchers and community members, who offered vital contributions to the charity's activities.

The Board of Trustees would also like to thank all of the donors who believed in the charity's vision and financially supported its activities.

Since 2015, CatalyticAction has been able to support disadvantaged and disenfranchised communities through 58 projects, bringing positive change to thousands of people. In particular, it has directly engaged 1.600 children and youth in participatory activities and implemented 43.000 square meter of play spaces. In the year 2021-2022, the charity initiated 7 new projects, completed 11 (some of which started in 2021). 2 projects will be completed in 2023. The charity also continued working on 1 ongoing research project.



Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a Constitution.



Legal structure

The charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) whose only voting members are its charity Trustees.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

Trustees are appointed and recruited by the existing Trustees.

Organisational Structure

The organisational structure comprises a Board of Trustees (formed by four trustees), seven core staff members, two consultants, three volunteers. Other staff are contracted according to the needs of each project.

Related parties

CatalyticAction works with partner NGOs, INGOs, charities, development agencies, and universities in the UK and overseas. CatalyticAction also partners with private companies, who provide professional pro-bono advice to assist the delivery of the charity projects.

Risk Management

Trustees perform periodic review of the risks facing the charity and put measures in place to mitigate the risks. The principal risks identified are programmatic risks and compliance risks.

The Board of Trustees together with the Senior Management Team assess the risks of any new project before allocating financial resources to it. Before entering a new partnership, the charity conducts a partner assessment. When working overseas, we seek advice from FCO as well as from local sources and work with our local partners to assess the risks of each new project. Context analysis and conflict sensitivity approaches are the foundation of the development of our interventions.

CatalyticAction carries out a health and safety risk assessment for each project. In response to the covid-19 pandemic, CA developed health and safety procedures to be able to continue to conduct participatory activities while respecting social distancing and other procedures aimed at limiting the spread of covid-19. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety standards for the charity staff and volunteers undertaking work on behalf of CatalyticAction. These procedures always comply with local laws and guidelines as well as best international practices.

CatalyticAction follows research ethics and data protection procedures which have been developed in line with UK and local regulations. Policies and procedures are in place to ensure the safety of vulnerable children and adults who are engaged directly or indirectly in the work of the charity.

CA trains staff and any person doing work on behalf of the charity to comply with the charity's policies and procedures.

CatalyticAction is insured to cover staff travelling overseas. The insurance policy has been specifically tailored to the charity's activities to cover employer's liability insurance, public liability insurance and trustee liability insurance.

The charity follows a rigorous financial management system to ensure that funds are spent following the charity's objectives and the project-specific donor's requirements.

List of policies and procedures

- Anti-corruption and bribery policy
- Conflict of interest policy
- Complaint procedures
- HR policies and procedures
- Procurement policy and procedures
- Environmental policy
- H&S policy
- Safeguarding policy and procedures
- Partners assessment policy
- Covid-19 procedures
- Data protection policy
- Insurance policy

These policies and procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the charity.





Objectives and Activities

Objectives and Aims

As per constitution, the objectives of CatalyticAction are to ensure the relief and assistance of people in any part of the world who are the victims of war or natural disaster, trouble, or catastrophe in particular but not exclusively by:

- a. providing design services;
- b. providing advice on building housing and accommodation and public and private open spaces;
- c. providing or assisting in the provision of education, training, advocacy and advice; and
- d. the provision of any other such charitable services as the Trustees consider fit in furtherance of the said object.

We use design and architecture to empower vulnerable children, youth and their communities. We achieve this through built and research projects, delivered using a participatory approach that engages local communities.

We work with communities to produce dignified built environments where everyone can take part in the creation of equitable, inclusive and sustainable communities. Through community engagement we build local human capacity that ensures our work has a lasting positive impact.

Participation is at the core of our approach. We believe that to generate sustainable and just interventions, people's and children's visions and ideas must drive interventions. This is why we developed context-specific participatory tools to meaningfully engage with communities in each step of a project cycle.

We work within strategic partnerships where we provide the following services:

- Design & Build
- Participation
- Research
- Advocacy

Significant activities

CatalyticAction's primary charitable contribution is to equip communities with skills in participatory design and construction to empower them to alleviate conditions of poverty and inequalities.

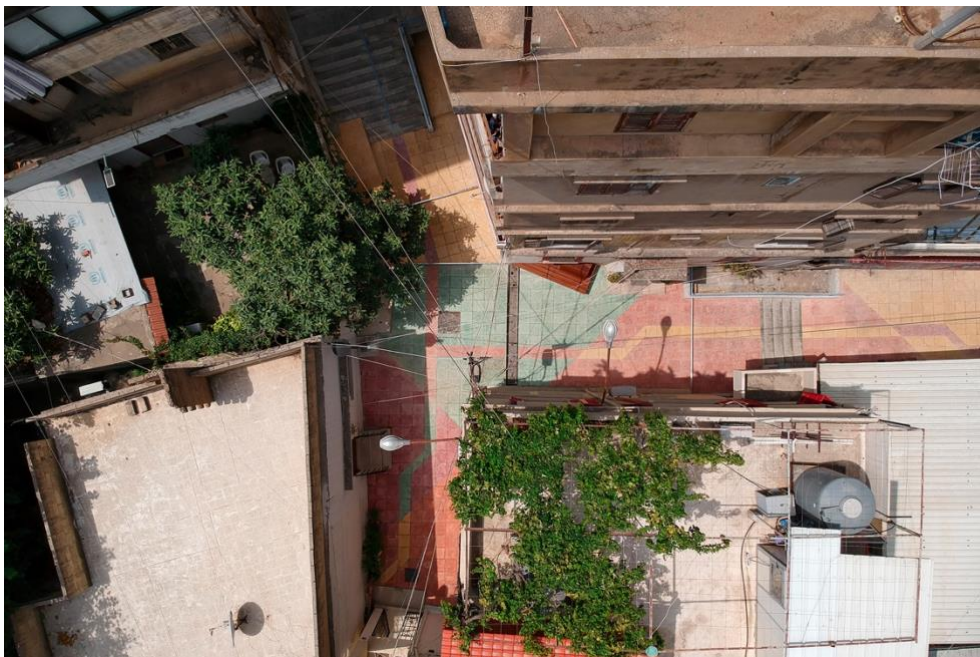
The charity has produced a curated impact report for 2022, which can be viewed here:

<https://www.catalyticaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/CatalyticAction-Impact-report-2022.pdf>



CatalyticAction has been focusing its activities on providing built facilities that can provide long-term impact for the communities involved. CatalyticAction has also worked on a number of research projects, for which the overall aim was to develop the charity's knowledge of topics that are strictly linked to the charity's practice. Engaging in research also aimed at influencing partners' research practices towards a more participatory engagement of communities that looks at how can empowerment be achieved through physical interventions.

A significant part of our activities focused on the response to the Beirut Port Explosion that happened on the 4th August 2020. Given our previous experience working with the affected communities in Beirut, as well as our expertise on participatory design, we have been able to provide a significant contribution to the reconstruction of public spaces as well as community cohesion after this disaster.



Achievements and Performance

In the year 2021-2022 CatalyticAction worked on 13 distinct projects, including 6 research projects (of which one started in 2018). All of the projects, including research, involved extensive activities of community engagement. For built projects, community members and local partners were involved in the design process from inception to implementation. This approach ensured the long-term sustainability of the projects as both community members and local partners acquired knowledge and skills essential for their long-term operation.

CatalyticAction monitors implemented projects with the support of its local partners. Monitoring and evaluation is carried out mostly through qualitative interviews by our local partners. As they are the ones who will use the spaces built by CatalyticAction on a daily basis, they can provide valuable feedback on the operation of the projects implemented. The charity also conducts regular site visits to its completed projects to assess their impact.

The projects

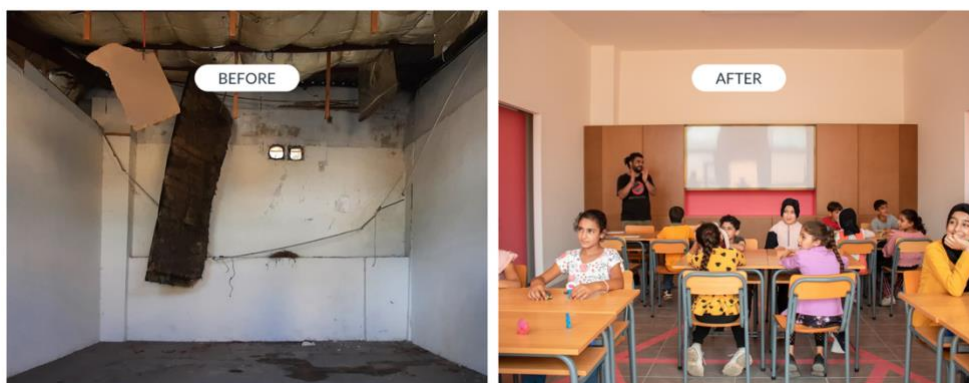
Educational Centre

Karantina - Beirut, Lebanon

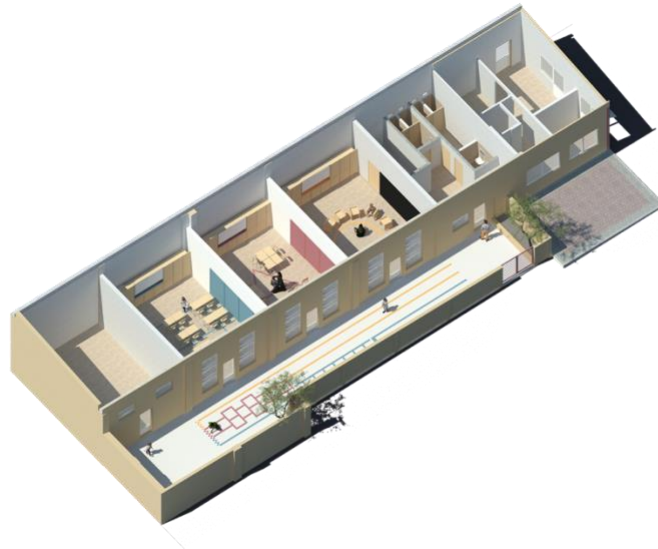
September 2021 – May 2022 (9 months)

This project aimed at setting up an informal indoor learning space in Karantina to answer the lack of educational facilities in the neighbourhood. The design was conducted in collaboration with the local community and key stakeholders through different co-design sessions. In particular the participatory design activities were structured to aim at restoring the participants' connection to physical learning and help them imagine their ideal, post-covid-19 learning space based on their individual and collective needs and aspirations.

The project rehabilitated and transformed an unused public building that was heavily damaged into a child friendly, playful and safe space.



Almost two years after the catastrophic event, many buildings in the neighbourhood remained destroyed with no clear plans for rehabilitation. Reusing existing buildings is one of the key elements in the implementation of built interventions with a low environmental impact. In close collaboration with the community and the municipality, we were able to identify the site of intervention: a derelict storage space.



We adapted the existing layout of the building to create new spatial configurations that enable a variety of activities. The result of this project is a child-friendly multipurpose space, where children, youth and the wider community can meet and engage in activities, contributing to both improved resilience and mental health.





Project size (in square metres): 370 m²

Project partners:

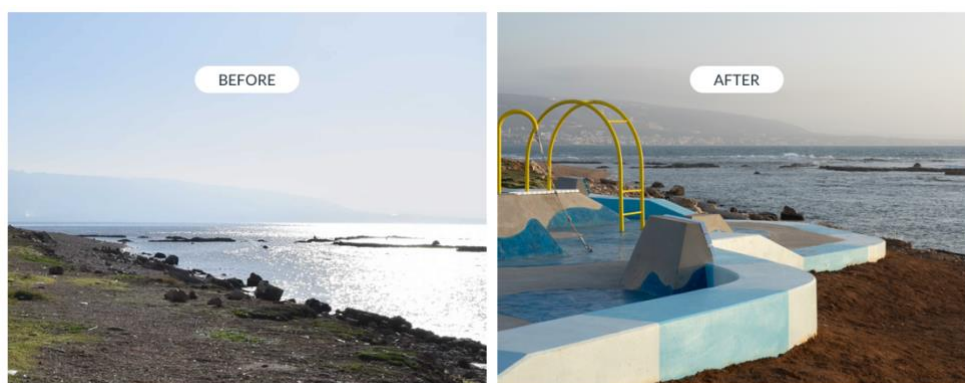
- Terre des Hommes Italia
- Municipality of Beirut
- Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo (*funding*)

Mina Participatory Spatial Intervention

El Mina, Lebanon

July 2021 – May 2022 (11 months)

The corniche of El Mina is one of the few public spaces in the city that is accessible at any time of the day and used by diverse communities. This project focused on an area of the corniche that is near some of the most vulnerable neighbourhoods of El Mina. While part of the corniche was refurbished, the section we selected to work on lacks vital infrastructure.



This project is underpinned by a participatory approach which engages [citizen scientists](#) in the research, design, activation and monitoring phases. Starting with research, citizen scientists carried out space use observations to get a better understanding of the site. The next part of the project saw citizen scientists come up with design ideas and develop the design brief of this intervention. They observed a lack of seating, with users of the space having to bring their own chairs and tables. Other important aspects they thought could be improved were creating an infrastructure that is more suitable for children and wheelchair users, a place that is safe and accessible for all.

Building on the design brief we developed the preliminary design that was presented in a series of design consultations with citizen scientists, the municipality, as well as the public on the site of intervention. The feedback collected during these consultations was then incorporated into the final design. The final design consists of three different stations spread across the corniche to enhance existing uses of the space, creating a leisure infrastructure for all, a child friendly space, a safe and accessible space to all. Reflecting the name of the project MAUJ (waves in Arabic), the design for these spaces is influenced by the sea. Each station is bordered by a long, multi-level bench which can be used to sit on and play along.

The bench is made out of concrete dyed in shades of blue to enhance the feeling of proximity to the sea.



The floor of these spaces is interspersed with blue cement flooring representing water. Amongst the water there are a number of different 'rocks' on which children can play, climb up the rocks and jump off them into 'water'. This is enabled through steel components that create ladders to climb with and poles to slide down. One of the stations also has speaking pipes that have the look of periscopes extending from the water. To increase accessibility, access ramps were added in front of each station. Fish silhouettes were painted on the sidewalk connecting the stations in a fun promenade. A windmill attracts passers-by from a far distance, inviting them to come and enjoy the space and the beautiful sea view.



We used local material and hired local skilled labourers to boost the local economy, develop local skills and increase the sense of ownership. The citizen scientists conducted site supervisions and observations during the construction to monitor the interaction of users of

the corniche with the new intervention. We also planned a series of community activities to [activate the space](#) post implementation.



Project size (in square metres): 290 m²

Project partners:

- RELIEF Centre
- El Mina Municipality
- Waldensian Church of Italy - Otto per Mille (*funding*)

Public Space as a Means to Mitigate Conflict

Majdal Anjar, Lebanon

September 2021 – May 2022 (9 months)

We tailored a [placemaking methodology](#) as part of International Alert's program 'Creating Space for Peace' in the town of Majdel Anjar in the Bekaa Valley, Lebanon. Working with the youth in Majdel Anjar, this project began with training sessions in which participants got familiar with the project and learned about placemaking, social research, participatory design, and public space.



The youth selected the site of intervention: an unrehabilitated section of a public park in Majdel Anjar. They conducted field observations to better understand its users and uses. In a design training session, the youth developed their design ideas. The preliminary design was ready for the youth group to present to the municipality and the community in a public design consultation. The final design was prepared based on the feedback received.

The public space design centres around a quiet seating area offering different seating options for individual or group activities. It includes tables that can be used for deskwork or for playing board games, the table is designed to accommodate wheelchair users. A steel shading structure covers a part of the amphitheatre, and trees are planted to provide some shade.



An active zone was developed along the existing oval path, this includes distance markings on the floor to encourage walking or running, two children play stations which include speaking pipes and monkey bars, and playful concrete stumps. To improve accessibility to and within the public space, accessible paths were incorporated. We also added colourful mosaic tiles on the benches, the amphitheatre and floor as a visually attractive link across the site.

As part of the construction phase of this project, we trained some of the youth group on site supervision to help monitor the progress of work. Local workers were hired from the town and its surroundings. As the construction was completed, we worked with the youth to activate the public space. We concluded with a reflection on the impact of this project on youth and their wider community.



Project size (in square metres): 2,420 m²

Project partners:

- International Alert
- Majdal Anjar Municipality
- Youth Dialogue Group (Majdal Anjar)
- Swiss Embassy in Beirut (*funding*)

Public Stairs Rehabilitation

Beirut, Lebanon

June 2021 – July 2022 (13 months)

This project aimed to rehabilitate and enhance the social activities on the stairs of St Nicholas, Vendome and Laziza in the neighbourhoods of Mar Mikhael and Gemmayzeh, Beirut. This was achieved by fixing damages, adding furniture, increasing play opportunities and improving accessibility.



Through a series of participatory workshops with the stairs users, the design for this project involved direct engagement with residents of these neighbourhoods with a focus on using Minecraft to co-design with youth.



The designs incorporated creative seating options spread along the stairs, in strategic locations, to enable the users to enjoy the social character of the stairs. A landmark shade structure and a stage were designed to facilitate social and cultural activities.

To increase accessibility, especially for the elderly residents, handrails were added. To make the stairs more playful, we integrated interactive sensory play items such as speaking pipes, rolling spheres and built a slide. We also added coloured tiles to create playful floor spaces for gathering and to bring a variety of colour to the staircases.



Once the construction was completed, we activated these public space interventions through community activities. These activities enhanced the community's sense of belonging to the space and created opportunities for community building.

Project size (in square metres): 1,520 m²



Project partners:

- UN Habitat Lebanon
- Block by Block
- UNIDO
- Municipality of Beirut

Playground to Cope and Thrive

Kurdistan region, Iraq

January 2022 – October 2022 (10 months)

We partnered with Habibi International to co-design a playground in the Bersive refugee camp in the Kurdistan region in Iraq. This project sought to capacitate the local community through the co-designing and building of a playground following a series of virtual training and coordination sessions.



We trained four facilitators who engaged children in co-design activities to understand their needs and vision for their new playground. The impact of this learning process has continued beyond the completion of the playground with the facilitators still using the engagement tools they learned to work with students in the classrooms.

Learning from the input of children, facilitators and our partners, we translated the ideas into a technical design. The design was based on the available skill set and materials. The design aimed to transform a courtyard into a space where children could play a wide range of games.



Starting from ball games, to different sensory wall games such as the xylophone, as well as offering elements that trigger imagination and role play such as the steering wheel. The playground also offers opportunities for everyone to sit and relax through several seating options.



For the construction, our partners hired local builders to implement the project. We explained the design details and guided the implementation through direct communication with the foreman in charge.

Project size (in square metres): 220 m²

Project partners:

- Habibi International

School Courtyard Rehabilitation

Kamed El Laouz & Ghazze, Lebanon

February 2022 – June 2022 (5 months)

We worked in partnership with the Society for Social Support and Education (SSSE) on the rehabilitation of two of their schools' courtyards in Kamed El Laouz and Ghazze in Bekaa, Lebanon. School courtyards are very important spaces for socialising, relaxing, engaging in physical activities, learning and most importantly having fun.



In Kamed El Laouz we rehabilitated the indoor toddlers' playground and the outdoor elementary school courtyard. We rehabilitated the outdoor courtyard by animating it to encourage a variety of activities that benefit all students.

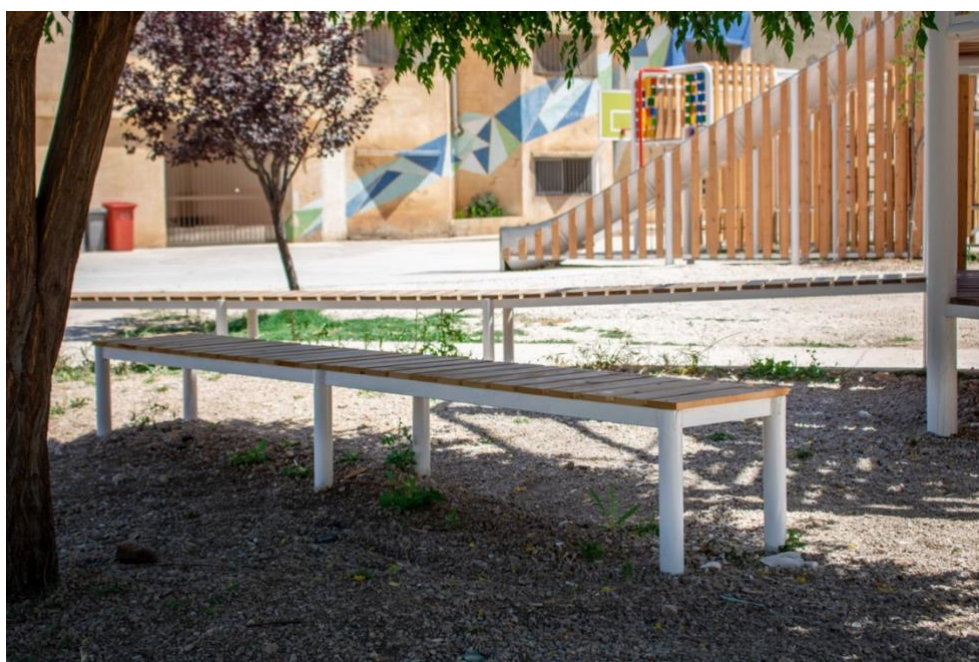


The design was developed through participatory activities with the students, teachers and our partner, and it focused on creating different play areas: a group sports play area encouraging sports activities such as running, football, basketball; a resting, learning and performance area with an outdoor amphitheatre and a stage; an active play area equipped with sloped volumes, pull up bars, and tree stumps; and an exploratory, quiet and natural area developed around a large tree and animated by adding play elements such as speaking pipes.



We also enlarged the seating area running all around the courtyard, incorporated shading elements, water taps and animated the space with colourful floor paint. The rehabilitation included fixing the water drainage.

In Ghazze, we conducted maintenance on the [playground](#) we built in 2017. Together with the maintenance we also incorporated new play elements to address the school's and community's needs such as the addition of a new shade to cover the amphitheatre.





Project size (in square metres): 1,200 + 1,460 m²

Project partners:

- Society for Social Support and Education
- Arche Nova (*funding*)

Supporting Inclusive and Integrated Recovery in Karantina

Karantina – Beirut, Lebanon

November 2021 – February 2022 (4 months)

The project sought to develop and implement citizen science-led research in the neighbourhood of Karantina, Beirut. The aims of this project were to capacitate the local community, to identify the needs within their neighbourhood's public spaces and to develop ways in which residents can participate in the design of more inclusive and resilient public spaces. The research focus area was on public spaces formed of street nodes and their users' diverse experiences.



The project involved preparing the Public Spaces Survey Toolkit and selecting the locations for the study. The toolkit was adapted from the Ghel's Institute Public Life Tools that were developed to conduct observations of public spaces to gain further understanding of public life. The selected offer an equal representation of the neighbourhood's diverse areas.





We recruited 10 citizen scientists (local researchers) who were trained throughout the different phases of the project. They collected the data and contributed to the analysis through a series of research consultations, which involved contributions from a wider group of community members.

Co-designed public space interventions in Karantina had a positive impact on the community and restored hope for serious change. This [research highlighted](#) the importance of improving public spaces in Karantina, and offers ample data to inform future interventions in the area.

Project partners:

- UNDP
- Karantina neighbourhood committee

Learn more: [Blog post](#)

Prosperity Index

El Mina, Lebanon

January 2021 – July 2022 (19 months)

As part of our collaboration with the RELIEF Centre at the Institute for Global Prosperity (University College London), the project explored what prosperity means for people and how it can be achieved inclusively to benefit all residents of El Mina, a coastal city located in the North Governorate of Lebanon.



We adopted a participatory approach where data was collected by citizen scientists (local researchers) and used to develop urban interventions that address their own community's needs and to create positive change in the neighbourhoods. We recruited 18 citizen scientists who were an integral part of the research process. They provided consultations to prepare surveys, and played an active role in conducting the data collection, analysing it.



The data collection phase included an infrastructure survey, a building condition survey, household surveys, qualitative interviews, and focus group discussions. The household survey sampled 1,023 households across 22 neighbourhoods in El Mina: in both Mina 3 and Mina Jardins cadastres.



To address some of the challenges to prosperity in the city of El Mina we tailored a participatory spatial intervention which harnessed the potential of the corniche, a sea promenade, as a public space for everyone. We also hosted a town hall meeting to present the research back to the community, key stakeholders and local authorities and discuss together how the research data can inform future projects in El Mina.

Project partners:

- UCL PROCOL Lebanon
- RELIEF Centre
- Institute for Global Prosperity
- El Mina Municipality
- UK's Economic and Social Research Council (*funding*)
- The British Academy (*funding*)

Learn more: [Project report](#)

Healthy Park Framework

London, UK

September 2022 – October 2022 (2 months)

We ran a community engagement workshop in Kilburn Grange Park in London to test two of the characteristics of the Healthy Parks Framework: 'Open and Communicated to all' and 'Welcoming and Inclusive'. This framework is designed to help park managers and residents better understand their own parks and plan healthy parks for the future.



We engaged a diverse group of 34 park users who were residents, visitors and passers-by. We learned about their experiences using the park. Children were encouraged to join through a fun drawing activity using giant colourful chalk.

Some participants shared with us how the park helps them cope with the daily struggles. For instance, the outdoor gym area is attractive to many, there is no need to pay a fee to exercise and this was essential especially with the rising cost of living in the UK. Similarly, the old playground area represents a safe space for mothers to meet and enjoy their time while their children play nearby.

Such engagements contribute heavily to a truly impactful research project. Working with communities and giving them a platform to participate in research, enables them to contribute to decisions that affect their lives.





Project partners:

- Development Planning Unit (at UCL)
- Institute for Environmental Design and Engineering (at UCL)
- Camden Council

Play Spaces for IDPs in Ukraine

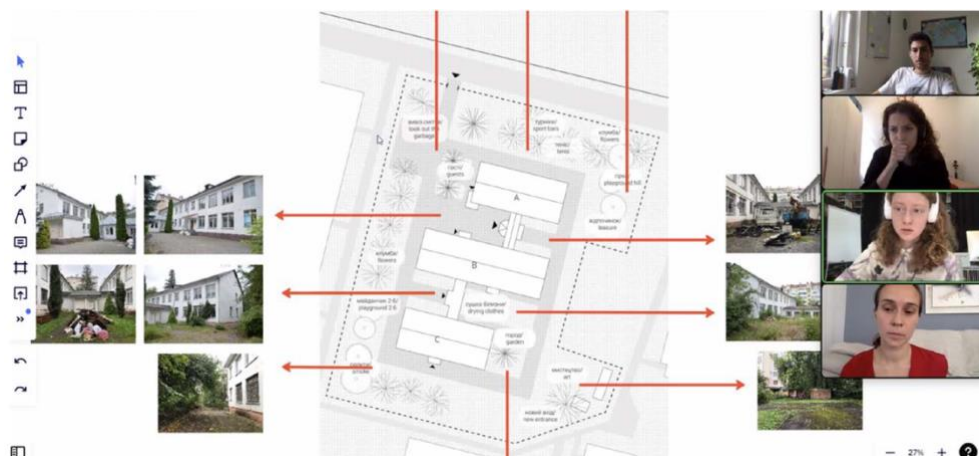
Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine

July 2022 – October 2022 (4 months)

We have collaborated with CO-HATY in Ukraine to support the co-design of a play area in a housing project that hosts internally displaced people (IDP). CO-HATY is a local collective that has been renovating existing buildings to provide comfortable living conditions for people in need.

Our collaboration focussed on the rehabilitation of a former kindergarten in Ivano-Frankivsk to provide good homes for 140 internally displaced people. We have been working with the CO-HATY team to support them in developing a set of co-design activities for the rehabilitation of the outdoor spaces. After analysing the results from the participatory design activities, we provided support for the technical design phase, sharing our expertise in designing spaces for children.

Regarding the design of the space, we discussed with the CO-HATY team about the different types of play that they could aim to enable, including physical, imaginative and collaborative play. We then provided practical examples of how we achieved this in our most recent projects in Lebanon, focusing also on inclusive play. The playground will be built toward the end of 2022/early 2023.



Project partners:

- CO-HATY



ONGOING

The following projects started in the 2021-2022 and will be completed in 2022-2023.

Arup Playful Guide

January 2022 – May 2023 (16 months)

We have partnered with Arup to develop a guide that can help practitioners to embed play in city design and planning. The guide will illustrate a broad range of possibilities to design for play in different urban spaces, and for people of different ages, abilities, and identities.

The guide is scheduled to be published in July 2023.

Project partners:

- Arup
- the LEGO Foundation
- PlacemakingX

Mar Mikhael citizen scientist-led intervention

Mar Mikhael – Beirut, Lebanon

March 2022 – March 2023 (12 months)

The Mar Mikhael citizen scientists-led intervention is a project developed and implemented in partnership with PROCOL Lebanon (previously the RELIEF centre) with the aim to support a small group of citizen scientists to lead on an intervention in the neighbourhood and addresses some of the key vulnerabilities that were identified as part of the research project: “Assessing vulnerabilities for urban recovery solutions in Beirut post-explosion”.

The citizen scientists developed a social program they named “Mayyel initiative” dedicated to the elderly community in Mar Mikhael. The intervention aimed at enhancing the elderly’s sense of belonging to their neighbourhood and reconnecting them to one another through social communal activities e.g.: neighbourhood dinners, cultural events, outings and door-to-door meetings.

Project partners:

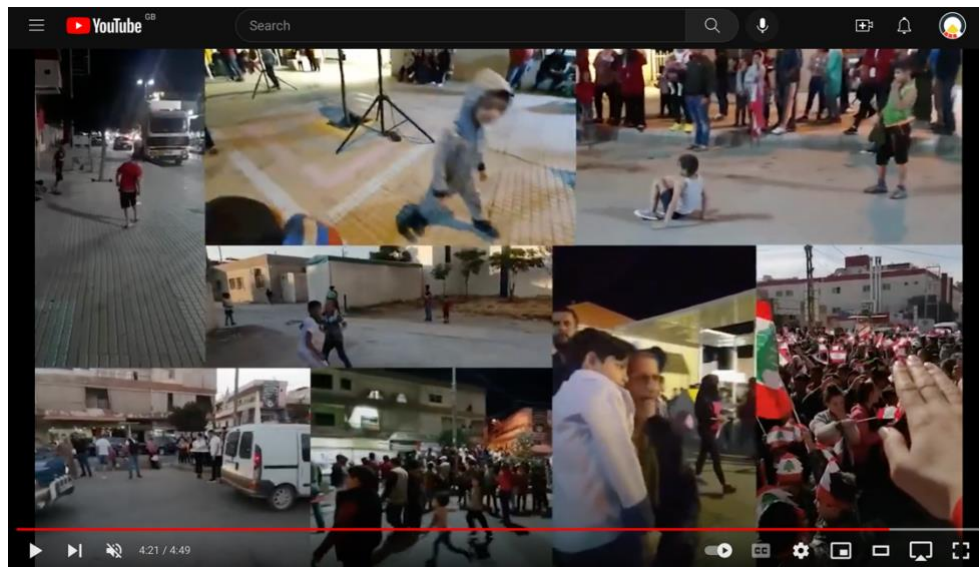
- PROCOL Lebanon

RELIEF Centre research partnership in Lebanon

The [RELIEF Centre](#) (now called PROCOL Lebanon) is a transdisciplinary research collaboration that focuses on one of the world’s pressing challenges of the moment: how to build a prosperous and inclusive future for communities affected by mass displacement.

This collaboration started in 2017-2018 and was renewed also in the current financial year.

Among the activities we conducted as part of our work with RELIEF Centre, this year we carried out an evaluation of the PSI Intervention we built in [2019 in Bar Elias](#). Two years after its completion, in September 2021, our team designed an evaluation programme to assess the intervention's impact over time. The results of the evaluation were documented through an [academic paper](#) and a [video](#).



Other initiatives

Lectures, workshops and public conferences

Throughout the year, CatalyticAction delivered several lectures, workshops and public conferences with the aim of raising awareness about the role of participatory practices and architecture in the field of sustainable construction and development.

- UCL Institute for Global Prosperity, *Participatory Spatial Interventions*, within the British Academy Symposium: [Infrastructural Solutions for Lebanon's Turbulent Times: Research, Innovations, Interventions](#), London, 23 November 2021.
- The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), *CatalyticAction*, within the panel discussion: Urban futures: The innovative solutions we see, 26 November 2021.
- Development Planning Unit at UCL – CatalyticAction, *Co-designing built interventions with children affected by displacement (DeCID)*, London, 02 December 2021.
- 'Acting Through Architecture' module at University of Cambridge, *Co-design in the Lebanese context of displacement*, Cambridge, 11 February 2022.
- The Bartlett School of Architecture at UCL, *Co-design in the Lebanese context of displacement*, London, 22 March 2022.

- Holcim Foundation, Holcim Next Generation Accelerator (NGX) Workshop 2022, Zurich, 30 March 2022 – 03 April 2022.
- Resilient Cities Network, *Co-designing Play*, within the Cities on the Frontline Speaker Series #7: Creating Resilient Cities – The Role of Play in Planning, *Online*, 05 May 2022.
- Politecnico di Torino, [*Participatory design in the context of displacement: Stories from Lebanon*](#), within the 'Mind the GAP' lecture series, Torino, 17 May 2022.
- American University of Beirut, *Co-designing Beirut's public spaces as a response to the Beirut port explosion*, 22 June 2022.
- Arup, *Translating Ideas into Design Solutions*, Proximity of Care Design Guide - Training, *Online*, 20 July 2022.

In June 2022, three members of CatalyticAction attended the UN-Habitat, [World Urban Forum 11](#) in Katowice (Poland). During this event CatalyticAction gave 4 talks; 3 as guest speakers and 1 as organisers.



As organisers:

- [*DeCID Handbook - A practical guide for co-designing built interventions with children affected by displacement in the urban context*](#), 29 June 2022.

As guest speakers:

- *Co-designing Public Spaces in Lebanon*, at the event: [*Public Space Academy: a transformative learning experience for a new approach to urban complexity built around public space*](#), 28 June 2022.
- *Reflections from the ground - applying the Block by Block methodology*, at the [launch event: Playbooks and tools for people-centered smart cities](#), 28 June 2022.

- *Play in Times of Crises*, at the event: [Real Play Coalition -Expanding the Partnership for Play](#), 29 June 2022.

WUF11 was a great opportunity to network with potential partners as well as advocating for the work of the charity, our participatory design approach and its impact. Many practitioners were inspired and connected with CatalyticAction's members attending WUF11. Through our DeCID Handbook for co-designing built interventions with children, published by two United Nations agencies, we have been able to disseminate our approach to other organisations and scale up our impact. This advocacy component through dissemination of our learning and the results of research are a strategic component of our work.

On March 14th 2022, we had the honour to meet UN-Habitat Executive Director, Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif during [her visit at the Development Planning Unit at UCL](#). UN-Habitat is a United Nations agency whose mandate is closely linked to our work. We gave her a copy of the DeCID Handbook and shared few anecdotes and learnings about the projects we completed in Lebanon with UN-Habitat.





Statement of public benefit

When reviewing the charity activities, the Trustees had to regard the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. The Trustees ensured that the activities undertaken are in line with the charitable objects of CatalyticAction, and in doing so are satisfied that CatalyticAction's activities meet the requirements on demonstrating public benefit.

Financial Review

During this financial year, the charity raised a total income of £192,230.
The charity expenditures for the year were £237,891.

The charity has already secured some projects for 2022-2023 and will work to secure more during the first months of the upcoming financial year.

CatalyticAction benefits from the support of volunteers in an operational capacity as well as many other vital roles. In accordance with the Charity Commission guidelines on financial reporting, the economic contribution of volunteers is not recognised in the financial statements.

CatalyticAction has worked on 13 projects during this financial year, of which 3 will be carried forward to 2022-2023. The overall cost of these projects is only partially reflected in the financial statements as part of the implementation costs were incurred by our partners.

Principal funding sources

The main source of funding is incomes from charitable projects implemented.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Trustees aim to hold unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover 6 months of operating expenses to enable the smooth running of the charity in the event of unforeseen costs and / or downturn in expected income. The balance held as unrestricted reserves at the end of the financial year is £77,297 which represents approximately 6 months of operating costs, including staff salaries, based on the current operating budget. The reserves policy is reviewed every year by the Board of Trustees.



Challenges and Future Plans

In the first few months of 2022-2023 the charity will be working on 4 projects secured towards the end of 2021-2022. Further new collaborations are being explored, some of which have been initiated during the UN-Habitat World Urban Forum 11.

In 2022-2023 the charity is planning to improve its fundraising strategy. Over the past 5 years the charity has funded its operations mostly through strategic partnerships with larger organisations. For this reason, we have invested resources to nurture these relationships and worked towards securing long-term collaborations with key partners, such as UNICEF and UN-Habitat. The charity will continue to dedicate resources to increase the charity's impact by growing the number of partners and projects.

Over the past 6 years, the charity also slowly grew its network of supporters (individuals and corporate sponsors). In 2022-2023 we will aim to expand this network as well as continue working on securing strategic partnerships with key organisations. Increasing the network of supporters will aim at generating enough income for the charity to be able to conduct strategic projects and activities. The charity will aim to connect with a wider number of supporters through public events, social media and other networking opportunities. This process will hopefully allow the charity to reach a wider number of people and communities in need.

As the charity is now entering its 7th year of operations and has a track record of 58 projects, in 2022-2023 we will look for new grant opportunities that can provide substantial funding for the charity activities.

The charity aims at implementing additional educational spaces such as public parks, child friendly spaces, playgrounds, schools, and community centres to better the living conditions of disadvantaged communities. Due to the charity's experience in this context, CatalyticAction predicts that the majority of the projects will be implemented in Lebanon. Nevertheless, the charity staff and the Board of Trustees are working to expand CatalyticAction's activities to other countries.

The charity is planning to expand its current Board of Trustees to at least a total of 5 members. The charity is also looking for specific persons to join the charity as patrons; individuals who will be actively promoting the work of CatalyticAction without having to be involved in its operational management.

In 2022, the charity has extensively worked on improving its media outreach strategy increasing the awareness among the general public and like-minded organisations about the work of CatalyticAction and its impact. The charity will continue to work on this strategy in the next year. As part of this strategy, we are planning to launch a new website at the beginning of 2023.



Outreach to students and professionals will remain an important activity of the charity. Participating in conferences, lessons, etc. has the potential to inspire students and professionals about the social potential of participatory architecture. CatalyticAction has been involved in academic research that will inform the practice of the charity.

In general, the charity aims to increase its capacity over the next years, so as to improve the living conditions of a higher number of children and other people.

Declaration

Andrea Rigon
Trustee – Chair
19-07-2023

Andy Hilton
Trustee – Treasurer
19-07-2023

Sandra D'Urzo
Trustee
19-07-2023



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A – Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/members of: CatalyticAction

On account the year ended: 31 October 2022

Charity number: 1169604

Set out on pages: 1-48

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31/10/2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees, 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'O. Coker'.

Date: 28/08/2023

Name: Olugbenga Coker

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): FCCA

Address: 1 Holmdale Road, Chislehurst Kent BR7 6BY



Section A – Statement of financial activities

Period start date: 01/11/2021 to 31/10/2022

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds	Prior year funds
		£	£	£	£
Incoming resources (Note 3)					
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies		16,237	174,918	191,155	266,970
Charitable activities			-	-	5,500
Investments		181	-	181	95
Other		894	-	894	186
Total		17,312	174,918	192,230	272,751
Resources expended (Note 6)					
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		1,321	-	1,321	-
Charitable activities		18,215	218,355	236,570	243,643
Total		19,536	218,355	237,891	243,643
Net income/(expenditure)		2,224	43,437	45,661	29,108
Net movement in funds		2,224	43,437	45,661	29,108
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		79,558	48,785	128,343	99,235
Total funds carried forward		77,334	5,348	82,682	128,343



Section B – Balance sheet

Period start date: 01/11/2021 to 31/10/2022

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total this year	Total last year
	£	£	£	£
Current assets				
Debtors (Note 19)	-	6,459	6,459	
Cash at bank and in hand (Note 24)	87,322	-	87,322	129,343
Total current assets	87,322	6,459	93,781	129,343
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Note 20)	11,099	-	11,099	1,000
Net current assets/(liabilities)	76,223	6,459	82,682	128,343
Total assets less current liabilities	76,223	6,459	82,682	128,343
Total net assets or liabilities	76,223	6,459	82,682	128,343
Funds of the Charity				
Restricted income funds (Note 27)	-	5,348	5,348	48,975
Unrestricted funds	77,334	-	77,334	79,368
Total funds	77,334	5,348	82,682	128,343

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

Andrea Rigon

Andrea Rigon

30/08/2023



Section C – Notes to the accounts

Note 1 – Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with:

- ✓ the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014
- ✓ the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)
- ✓ the Charities Act 2011

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

An explanation as to those factors that support the conclusion that the charity is a going concern;	<i>Not applicable</i>
Disclosure of any uncertainties that make the going concern assumption doubtful;	<i>Not applicable</i>
Where accounts are not prepared on a going concern basis, please disclose this fact together with the basis on which the trustees prepared the accounts and the reason why the charity is not regarded as a going concern.	<i>Not applicable</i>

1.3 Change of accounting policy

- ✓ The accounts present a true and fair view and the accounting policies adopted are those outlined in note 2.

1.4 Changes to accounting estimates

- ✓ No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period (3.46 FRS 102 SORP).

1.5 Material prior year errors

- ✓ No material prior year error have been identified in the reporting period (3.47 FRS 102 SORP).



Note 2 – Accounting policies

2.2 Income

Recognition of income	Yes	No	N/a
These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when: - the charity becomes entitled to the resources; - it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources; and - the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.	X		
Offsetting	Yes	No	N/a
There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.	X		
Grants and donations	Yes	No	N/a
Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS102 SORP).	X		
In the case of performance related grants, income must only be recognised to the extent that the charity has provided the specified goods or services as entitlement to the grant only occurs when the performance related conditions are met (5.16 FRS 102 SORP).	X		
Legacies	Yes	No	N/a
Legacies are included in the SOFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.			X
Government grants	Yes	No	N/a
The charity has received government grants in the reporting period			X
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Yes	No	N/a
Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.	X		
Contractual income and performance related grants	Yes	No	N/a
This is only included in the SoFA once the charity has provided the related goods or services or met the performance related conditions.	X		
Donated goods	Yes	No	N/a
Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.	X		
The cost of any stock of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those gifts at the time of their receipt and they are recognised on receipt. In the reporting period in which the stocks are distributed, they are recognised as an expense at the carrying amount of the stocks at distribution.	X		
Donated goods for resale are measured at fair value on initial recognition, which is the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale, and recognised in 'Income from other trading activities' with the corresponding stock recognised in the balance sheet. On its sale the value of stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds from sale are also recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'.	X		



Goods donated for on-going use by the charity are recognised as tangible fixed assets and included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.	X		
Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as income from donations when receivable.	X		
Donated services and facilities	Yes	No	N/a
Donated services and facilities are included in the SOFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably.	X		
Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with an equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SOFA.	X		
Support costs	Yes	No	N/a
The charity has incurred expenditure on support costs.	X		
Volunteer help	Yes	No	N/a
The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.	X		
Income from interest, royalties and dividends	Yes	No	N/a
This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.	X		
Income from membership subscriptions	Yes	No	N/a
Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in Donations and Legacies.			X
Membership subscriptions which gives a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.			X
Settlement of insurance claims	Yes	No	N/a
Insurance claims are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS102 SORP) and are included as an item of other income in the SoFA.	X		
Investment gains and losses	Yes	No	N/a
This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.	X		



2.3 Expenditure and liabilities

Liability recognition	Yes	No	N/a
Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.	X		
Governance and support costs	Yes	No	N/a
Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.	X		
Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.	X		
Grants with performance conditions	Yes	No	N/a
Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.			X
Grants payable without performance conditions	Yes	No	N/a
Where there are no conditions attaching to the grant that enables the donor charity to realistically avoid the commitment, a liability for the full funding obligation must be recognised.			X
Redundancy cost	Yes	No	N/a
The charity made no redundancy payments during the reporting period.	X		
Deferred income	Yes	No	N/a
No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.	X		
Creditors	Yes	No	N/a
The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts	X		
Provisions for liabilities	Yes	No	N/a
A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date	X		
Basic financial instruments	Yes	No	N/a
The charity accounts for basic financial instruments on initial recognition as per paragraph 11.7 FRS102 SORP. Subsequent measurement is as per paragraphs 11.17 to 11.19, FRS102 SORP.	X		



2.4 Assets

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity	Yes	No	N/a
These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £100			
They are valued at cost.	X		
The depreciation rates and methods used are disclosed in note 9.2.			
Intangible fixed assets	Yes	No	N/a
The charity has intangible fixed assets, that is, non-monetary assets that do not have physical substance but are identifiable and are controlled by the charity through custody or legal rights. The amortisation rates and methods used are disclosed in note 9.5			X
They are valued at cost.			X
Heritage assets	Yes	No	N/a
The charity has heritage assets, that is, non-monetary assets with historic, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical or environmental qualities that are held and maintained principally for their contribution to knowledge and culture. The depreciation rates and methods used as disclosed in note 9.6.1.4.			X
They are valued at cost.			X
Investments	Yes	No	N/a
Fixed asset investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued at initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year end. The same treatment is applied to unlisted investments unless fair value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment.			X
Investments held for resale or pending their sale and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than 1 year are treated as current asset investments	X		
Stocks and work in progress	Yes	No	N/a
Stocks held for sale as part of non-charitable trade are measured at the lower or cost or net realisable value.			X
Goods or services provided as part of a charitable activity are measured at net realisable value based on the service potential provided by items of stock.	X		
Work in progress is valued at cost less any foreseeable loss that is likely to occur on the contract.	X		
Debtors	Yes	No	N/a
Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.	X		
Current asset investments	Yes	No	N/a
The charity has investments which it holds for resale or pending their sale and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date less than one year. These include cash on deposit and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than one year held for investment purposes rather than to meet short term cash commitments as they fall due.	X		
They are valued at fair value except where they qualify as basic financial instruments.	X		



Note 3 – Analysis of income

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds	Prior year funds
		£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies					
Donations and gifts – individuals		11,266	1,062	12,328	20,778
Donations - Corporates		2,929	-	2,929	-
Gift Aid		-	-	-	125
Grants from governments/other charities		2,042	173,856	175,898	251,567
Total		16,237	174,918	191,155	272,470
Other trading activities					
Other (exchange gains)		894	-	894	186
Total		894	-	894	186
Income from investments					
Interest income		181	-	181	95
Total		181	-	181	95
TOTAL INCOME		17,312	174,918	192,230	272,751



Note 4 – Analysis of income from charitable grants

	Description	This year
		£
Arup RPC	Development of a design guide to promote play in cities.	24,000
Bar Elias M&E video	Monitoring and Evaluation study and video of the Bar Elias PSI 2 years after completion.	1,000
DeCID	Developing a guide for the co-design of built interventions with children affected by displacement. Research project done in partnership with University College London.	866
Karantina Streets (UN-Habitat + Fondation de France)	Rehabilitation of the area around the Karantina public hospital and park with the aim of making streets safer and more child friendly.	25,445
Habibi International	Partnership for the co-design of a playground in the Bersive refugee camp, Kurdistan region in Iraq.	3,825
Healthy Parks Framework	Conducting a community activity to test the Healthy Parks Framework developed by UCL.	1,150
International Alert	Rehabilitation of a public space in Majdal Anjar using a placemaking approach that engaged local youth and the local municipality.	15,205
Impact Lebanon	Implementation of a program with children for the co-design safe spaces in Karantina.	11,346
PSI Mina	Implementation of 3 'play pockets' public spaces along the corniche of El-Mina (Lebanon), using a participatory approach.	1,062
RELIEF	Ongoing research collaborations with the RELIEF Centre, Institute for Global Prosperity at UCL.	31,000
Social Support Society & Education	Rehabilitation of 2 playgrounds in the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon, using a participatory design approach.	7,538
UNDP	Citizen science-led research in the neighbourhood of Karantina to understand the role of public spaces for wellbeing.	18,012
Beirut stairs	Rehabilitation of 3 public stairs in Beirut in response to the port blast. Project aims to make the stairs more inclusive for vulnerable users, such as children and elderly.	24,139
Stairs activities	Grant for carrying out 3 community activities on the newly rehabilitated public stairs in Beirut (as part of UN-Habitat Beirut stairs project).	1,312
Otto per Mille of the Waldensian Church of Italy	Implementation of 3 'play pockets' spaces in El Mina for vulnerable children in the city.	9,020
TOTAL		174,920



	Description	Last year
		£
Terre des Hommes Italia + UNICEF Lebanon	Rehabilitation of 3 public spaces in Beirut to promote safe spaces for children.	63,586
Karantina video	Producing a video illustrating the rehabilitation of the Karantina public park after the Beirut port blast.	1,398
Himaya + UNICEF Lebanon	Rehabilitation of 2 public parks in Beirut to promote safe spaces for children.	15,896
Urban forest	Facilitate an activity with children to plant a native forest in an urban park in Beirut.	358
Real Play City Challenge	Grant award to scale up the project implemented in 2017 in Bar Elias. The aim of the award is to support practitioners to promote play in cities.	3,443
Karantina streets (UN-Habitat + Fondation de France)	Rehabilitation of the area around the Karantina public hospital and park with the aim of making streets safer and more child friendly.	31,898
Beirut stairs	Rehabilitation of 3 public stairs in Beirut in response to the port blast. Project aims to make the stairs more inclusive for vulnerable users, such as children and elderly.	9,665
Otto per Mille of the Waldensian Church of Italy	Implementation of 3 'play pockets' spaces in El Mina for vulnerable children in the city.	4,032
Impact Lebanon	Implementation of a program with children for the co-design safe spaces in Karantina.	16,945
RELIEF	Multiple research collaborations with the RELIEF Centre, Institute for Global Prosperity at UCL. Aims to speed up transitions to sustainable, prosperous societies in the context of mass displacement, to improve the quality of people's lives.	102,223
TOTAL		249,444



Note 6 – Analysis of expenditure

Analysis	This year			Last year		
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Expenditures on raising funds						
Incurred seeking donations & grants	1,321	-	1,321	-	-	-
Total expenditure on raising funds	1,321	-	1,321	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities						
Design & Build	-	142,584	142,584	-	152,703	152,703
Research and advocacy	-	61,784	61,784	-	66,443	66,443
Support costs	18,215	13,987	32,202	1,086	28,704	29,790
Total expenditure on charitable activities	18,215	218,355	236,570	1,086	247,850	248,936
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	19,536	218,355	237,891	1,086	247,850	248,936

Note 10 – Details of certain items of expenditure

10.1 Fees for examination of the accounts

	This year	Last year
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees	1,000	1,000

Note 11 – Paid employees

11.1 Staff Costs

	This year	Last year
	£	£
Salaries and wages	117,795	113,029
Social security costs	13,497	13,989
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	6,708	5,939
Other employee benefits	-	-
Total staff costs	138,000	132,957

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000.



11.2 Average head count in the year

		This year	Last year
		Number	Number
The parts of the charity in which the employees work	Fundraising	-	-
	Charitable activities	7	7
	Governance	-	-
	Other	-	-
	Total	7	7

Note 12 – Defined contribution pension scheme or defined benefit scheme accounted for as a defined contribution scheme

12.1

	This year	Last year
	£	£
Amount of contributions recognised in the SOFA as an expense	6,708	5,939

Pensions contribution are treated as employment cost and charged to the relevant projects on the basis of time spent by the staff members working on those projects.

Note 14 – Tangible fixed assets

14.1 Cost or valuation

	Computer Equipment	Total
	£	£
At the beginning of the year	3,553	3,553
At the end of the year	3,553	3,553

14.2 Depreciation and impairments

	Computer Equipment	Total
	£	£
At the beginning of the year	3,553	3,553
At the end of the year	3,553	3,553



Note 19 – Debtors and prepayments

19.1 Analysis of debtors

	This year	Last year
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	6,459	-

Note 20 – Creditors and accruals

20.1 Analysis of creditors

	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	This year	Last year	This year	Last year
	£	£	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	10,099	-	-	-
Other creditors	1,000	1,000	-	-
Total	11,099	1,000	-	-

Note 24 – Cash at bank and in hand

	This year	Last year
Cash at bank and in hand	£	£
Triodos bank	81,218	115,876
Co-operative bank	2,024	2,807
PayPal GBP	-	157
PayPal EUR	-	-
Cash USD	3,860	1,224
Cash EUR	22	22
USD Bank	-	9,116
Transferwise	-	127
USD-LBP cash	198	14
Total	87,322	129,343



Note 27 – Charity funds

27.1 Details of material funds held and movements during the CURRENT reporting period

* Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendible endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds

Fund name	Type PE, EE, R or UR*	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Fund balances carried forward
			£	£	£	£
Arup RPC	R	Development of a design guide to promote play in cities.	-	24,000	-24,000	0
Bar Elias M&E video	R	Monitoring and Evaluation study and video of the Bar Elias PSI 2 years after completion.	-	1,000	-1,000	0
DeCID	R	Developing a guide for the co-design of built interventions with children affected by displacement. Research project done in partnership with University College London.	8,200	866	-9,066	0
Karantina Streets (UN-Habitat + Fondation de France)	R	Rehabilitation of the area around the Karantina public hospital and park with the aim of making streets safer and more child friendly.	12,940	25,445	-38,385	0
Habibi International	R	Partnership for the co-design of a playground in the Bersive refugee camp, Kurdistan region in Iraq.	-	3,825	-3,825	0
Healthy Parks Framework	R	Conducting a community activity to test the Healthy Parks Framework developed by UCL.	-	1,150	-1,150	0
International Alert	R	Rehabilitation of a public space in Majdal Anjar using a placemaking approach that engaged local youth and the local municipality.	-	15,205	-15,205	0



Impact Lebanon	R	Implementation of a program with children for the co-design safe spaces in Karantina.	1,900	11,346	-13,246	0
PSI Mina	R	Implementation of 3 'play pockets' public spaces along the corniche of El-Mina (Lebanon), using a participatory approach.	4,500	1,062	-5,562	0
RELIEF	R	Ongoing research collaborations with the RELIEF Centre, Institute for Global Prosperity at UCL.	-	31,000	-31,000	0
Social Support Society & Education	R	Rehabilitation of 2 playgrounds in the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon, using a participatory design approach.	-	7,538	-7,538	0
UNDP	R	Citizen science-led research in the neighbourhood of Karantina to understand the role of public spaces for wellbeing.	-	18,012	-18,012	0
Beirut stairs	R	Rehabilitation of 3 public stairs in Beirut in response to the port blast. Project aims to make the stairs more inclusive for vulnerable users, such as children and elderly.	6,222	24,139	30,361	0
RELIEF video	R	Production of videos as part of our research collaboration with the RELIEF Centre.	1,700	-	-1,700	0
RELIEF interventions	R	Facilitation for 2 built interventions in Beirut as part of our research collaboration with the RELIEF Centre.	4,962	-	-2,212	2,750
CSC education grant	R	Grant to support the education of children in Lebanon who cannot afford the basic costs to attend school (e.g. transports, books).	2,600	-	-	2,600



Stairs activities	R	Grant for carrying out 3 community activities on the newly rehabilitated public stairs in Beirut (as part of UN-Habitat Beirut stairs project).	-	1,312	-1,312	0
Otto per Mille of the Waldensian Church of Italy	R	Implementation of 3 'play pockets' spaces in El Mina for vulnerable children in the city.	3,864	9,020	-12,884	0
Others	R		1,897	-	-1,897	0
TOTAL			48,785	174,920	-218,355	5,350

Accounts



CatalyticAction Trustees' Annual Report

Financial year: 2020-2021

Charity number: 1169604



Figure 1 – Safe Park in Karm Al Arees, Beirut



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Introduction

The team at CatalyticAction is proud to have successfully completed its fifth year of operations, and to continue to bring about positive change through participatory design by empowering communities to disrupt conditions of poverty and inequality.

The Board of Trustees is extremely grateful to every single person who contributed to bring the CatalyticAction's vision and ambitions to reality, such as volunteers who offered vital contributions to the charity's activities.

The Board of Trustees would also like to thank all of the donors who believed in the charity's vision and financially supported its activities.

Since 2015, CatalyticAction has been able to support disadvantaged and disenfranchised communities through 41 projects, bringing positive change to thousands of people. In particular, it has brought essential educational spaces to over 8,500 vulnerable children. In the year 2020-2021, the charity initiated 11 new projects, of which 6 were completed in 2021 and 5 will be completed in 2022. The charity also continued working on 1 ongoing research project. The number of new built projects has increased drastically compared to 2019-2020 because:

- Covid-19 restrictions eased.
- Increased need for built projects following the Beirut port blast on the 4th August 2020.



Figure 2 - Inclusive public park in Ghobeiry

Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a Constitution.

Legal structure

The charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) whose only voting members are its charity Trustees.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

Trustees are appointed and recruited by the existing Trustees.

Organisational Structure

The organisational structure comprises a Board of Trustees (formed by 4 trustees), eight core staff members, two consultants, three volunteers. Other staff are contracted according to the needs of each project.

Related parties

CatalyticAction works with partner NGOs, INGOs, charities, development agencies, and universities in the UK and overseas. CatalyticAction also partners with private companies, who provide professional pro-bono advice to assist the delivery of the charity projects.



Risk Management

Trustees perform periodic review of the risks facing the charity and put measures in place to mitigate the risks. The principal risks identified are programmatic risks and compliance risks.

The Board of Trustees together with the Senior Management Team assess the risks of any new project before allocating financial resources to it. Before entering a new partnership, the charity conducts a partner assessment. When working overseas, we seek advice from FCO as well as from local sources and work with our local partners to assess the risks of each new project. Context analysis and conflict sensitivity approaches are the foundation of the development of our interventions.

CatalyticAction carries out a health and safety risk assessment for each project. In response to the covid-19 pandemic, CA developed health and safety procedures to be able to continue to conduct participatory activities while respecting social distancing and other procedures aimed at limiting the spread of covid-19. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety standards for the charity staff and volunteers undertaking work on behalf of CatalyticAction. These procedures always comply with local laws and guidelines as well as best international practices.

CatalyticAction follows research ethics and data protection procedures which have been developed in line with UK and local regulations.

Policies and procedures are in place to ensure the safety of vulnerable children and adults who are engaged directly or indirectly in the work of the charity.

CA trains staff and any person doing work on behalf of the charity to comply with the charity's policies and procedures.

CatalyticAction is insured to cover staff travelling overseas. The insurance policy has been specifically tailored to the charity's activities to cover employer's liability insurance, public liability insurance and trustee liability insurance.

The charity follows a rigorous financial management system to ensure that funds are spent following the charity's objectives and the project-specific donor's requirements.

List of policies and procedures

- Anti-corruption and bribery policy
- Conflict of interest policy
- Complaint procedures
- HR policies and procedures
- Procurement policy and procedures
- Environmental policy
- H&S policy



- Safeguarding policy and procedures
- Partners assessment policy
- Covid-19 procedures
- Data protection procedures
- Insurance policy

These policies and procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the charity.



Objectives and Activities

Objectives and Aims

As per constitution, the objectives of CatalyticAction are to ensure the relief and assistance of people in any part of the world who are the victims of war or natural disaster, trouble, or catastrophe in particular but not exclusively by:

- a. providing design services;
- b. providing advice on building housing and accommodation and public and private open spaces;
- c. providing or assisting in the provision of education, training, advocacy and advice; and
- d. the provision of any other such charitable services as the Trustees consider fit in furtherance of the said object.

We do so by empowering vulnerable children and their communities through participatory built interventions.

We champion the co-production of dignified built environments where everyone can take part in the creation of equitable, inclusive and sustainable communities.

We achieve this through practical projects in:

- Humanitarian architecture
- Multidisciplinary research

Our work has a direct positive impact on:

- **Children's wellbeing:** We aim to improve children's wellbeing through the process of co-design, creating safe and nurturing places that address their needs, acknowledge their rights and materialise their desires.
- **Social Cohesion:** Our projects enhance a sense of belonging and inclusion between diverse groups of people as they come together throughout the project cycle.
- **Local economy:** We create job opportunities and boost the local economy by hiring local labourers, adopting context-appropriate technologies and purchasing local materials.
- **Built environment:** Our projects create and rehabilitate spaces, delivering good quality sustainable and cost-effective built interventions that are dignified and inclusive to all community members.

The following four **values** are embedded in our approach:

- Valuing local knowledge
- Capacity building
- Supporting local economy
- Enabling equal engagement

Significant activities

CatalyticAction's primary charitable contribution is to equip communities with skills in participatory design and construction to empower them to alleviate conditions of poverty and inequalities. During this financial year, CatalyticAction has been focusing its activities on providing educational facilities that can provide long-term impact for the communities involved. CatalyticAction has also worked on a number of research projects, for which the overall aim was to develop the charity's knowledge of topics that are strictly linked to the charity's practice. Engaging in research also aimed at influencing partners' research practices towards a more participatory engagement of communities that looks at how can empowerment be achieved through physical interventions.



Figure 3 – Neighbourhood intervention in Karantina, Beirut



Achievements and Performance

In the year 2020-2021 CatalyticAction worked on 12 distinct projects, including 3 research projects (of which one started in 2018). All of the projects, including research, involved extensive activities of community engagement. For built projects, community members and local partners were involved in the design process from inception to implementation. This approach ensured the long-term sustainability of the projects as both community members and local partners acquired knowledge and skills essential for their long-term operation.

CatalyticAction monitors implemented projects with the support of its local partners. Monitoring and evaluation is carried out mostly through qualitative interviews by our local partners. As they are the ones who will use the spaces built by CatalyticAction on a daily basis, they can provide valuable feedback on the operation of the projects implemented. The charity also follows up directly on projects by conducting regular site visits.

The projects

Karantina Neighbourhood Intervention

Beirut

December 2020 – June 2021 (7 months)

The Karantina neighbourhood intervention is a project developed to provide the area's residents with a safe, inclusive and playful public space. In Karantina, the availability of safe and accessible public space is highly lacking - as is the case in much of Beirut. By transforming an area of neglected and unused public land into a safe and child friendly public space, this project seeks to tackle this absence. To ensure the space accurately reflects both the needs and desires of its users, the project employed co-design methods that allowed the neighbourhood's diverse voices to be heard.

Phase 1 – Identifying the site of intervention

The first phase of this project involved finding a suitable space for the intervention to be carried out. To do this we used various selection methodologies including participatory observation, mapping, and interviewing local community members and key stakeholders to find plots of public land that would ensure accessibility to all.

Phase 2 – Participatory design process

The project began with a community clean-up activity as the site was filled with rubbish and it was important to start activating the space so that the visualisation and transformation of the space could begin. With the help of volunteers, recruited citizen scientists and the CatalyticAction team, the site was gradually cleared. The clean-up of the space also provided an opportunity for us to ask children and other residents what they'd like from this new space.

After the clean-up and focused research of the space and its surroundings, our team put together a preliminary design to be shown to Karantina's residents at a community design consultation on site. The consultation allowed us to gauge the different priorities of the community and what they sought from the space. This included calls for greenery, seating areas in the shade, lighting to keep women safe, and a safe place that could be used by all age groups.

Phase 3 – Technical design

In response to this consultation, we identified three priorities that informed the final design of the space: a space that was child friendly, leisure infrastructure that could be used by all and somewhere that felt safe. The public space was thus designed to create a safe space that both enabled adults to gather with their friends and children to have a fun and exciting place to play. We encouraged this by designing features that could be left to the interpretation of their users.

Phase 4 – Construction

For the construction phase of the project, we hired workers from the local area, including residents who lived in the building by the site. Throughout the process we also negotiated with residents in the immediate surrounding to ensure that decisions around the construction worked for everyone.



Figure 4 - Neighbourhood intervention in Karantina, Beirut



Since the space has opened it has been exciting to see how children and other residents have chosen to use each of its elements. Their new ways of interacting with it continue to surprise us. But, most of all we're pleased that this space is an area Karantina's residents can use without needing to abide by opening hours and prohibitive restrictions. We hope it will mark the beginning of similar interventions that ensure the neighbourhood's streets are safe and welcoming for its children and their families to enjoy.

This Karantina Neighbourhood Intervention was implemented in parallel with the Karantina Participatory Spatial Intervention (Karantina PSI) research project. Part of the GCRF project "[Assessing vulnerabilities for urban recovery solutions in Beirut post-explosion](#)" with the Relief centre, IGP and DPU at UCL, this project aims to ensure a longer participatory process with residents by following an inclusive citizen science approach. These citizen scientists continue to monitor the use of this spatial intervention, to learn from it for future interventions and to reflect on the benefit of co-design processes for Beirut's recovery.

For more info visit: <https://www.catalyticaction.org/karantina-neighbourhood-intervention/>

Size of the allocated area for the intervention (in square metres): 270 m²

Project partners:

- Terre des Hommes Italia
- UNICEF
- Neighbourhood Initiative - American University of Beirut (AUB)
- Municipality of Beirut

Safe Space – Kan Ya Makan

Karantina Public Park, Beirut

December 2020 – July 2021 (8 months)

Kan Ya Makan is a project we developed in response to the 4th of August Beirut Blast. It sought to address children's needs post-explosion by engaging them in a series of weekly activities that explored their relationship with space, and the environment around them.

Kan Ya Makan means once upon a time, with a play on the Arabic words, *Kan Ya Makan* emphasises place - *Makan*. Building on the idea of storytelling, this project was about children co-creating environments through narratives.

The project included the creation of "*Beit Byoot*" - an outdoor child friendly safe space designed with the children.



Figure 5 - Safe Space in Karantina Park, Beirut

Throughout Karantina's difficult history, the recent 4th of August blast has been one of the most distressing and destructive events that the neighbourhood has experienced. It not only impacted the neighbourhood's built infrastructure, but it has also had a profound effect on people's safety, security and wellbeing. [Plan International](#) warned of the particular impact this crisis could have on children's mental health, highlighting the urgency for psychosocial support to address their needs.

Through the Kan Ya Makan program, we have sought to support children through these challenging circumstances. Kan Ya Makan is a child-led program that was designed to engage children in a creative journey of storytelling, arts, play, and spatial intervention. It sought to encourage exploration and enable children to express their visions for the spatial environments around them. The program unfolded with children reflecting on their personal and collective experiences of space. The stories that emerged throughout this process allowed them to express themselves and form new relationships with their community as well as their environment. Through conceptual exploration and practical implementation, the children were invited to become active agents in shaping the world within and around them. The program was divided into three phases, with each part exploring a different aspect of children's relationship to space:

- Phase 1 – Safe and personal space
- Phase 2 – Stories of places
- Phase 3 – Sharing stories of change



Figure 6 - Model making activity as part of Phase 2: Stories of places

For more info about the contents of each phase please visit:

<https://www.catalyticaction.org/co-creating-childrens-environments-through-narratives/>

Size of the allocated area for the intervention (in square metres): 265 m2

Project partners:

- Nusaned
- Impact Lebanon
- Neighbourhood Initiative - American University of Beirut (AUB)
- Municipality of Beirut

Safe Parks

Karm Al Arees and Kaskas public parks, Beirut

January 2021 – June 2021 (6 months)

In response to the Beirut port blast on the 4th of August 2020, we partnered with UNICEF Lebanon and Himaya to rehabilitate two neglected public parks in Beirut - Karm Al Arees Park and Kaskas Park. The rehabilitations focussed on transforming these parks into inclusive, accessible and child friendly spaces that could be used by the local community for everyday use, activities and gatherings. Working in close coordination with the Municipality of Beirut and Himaya NGO, the design for these parks was centred on making public spaces that could be used and enjoyed by everyone.



Figure 7 - Karm Al Arees Public Park

We took a participatory approach to the rehabilitation of the parks, engaging with community members to understand what changes were most needed and desired. This involved consultations with the garden's department of the municipality, informal interviews with residents and gaining insights from students from the American University of Beirut, who had previously run activities in Karm Al Arees park. We also worked in close collaboration with our partner Himaya who are conducting a two-year program with children in the parks led by trained young facilitators from the area who had clear ideas about what they thought the park needed.



Figure 8 - Play towers in Karm Al Arees Park



Figure 9 - Kaskas Public Park

For more info about the specific interventions implemented in each park visit:
<https://www.catalyticaction.org/karm-al-arees-and-kaskas-public-safe-parks/>

Size of the allocated area for the intervention (in square metres): 2,280 m²

Project partners:

- Himaya
- UNICEF
- Municipality of Beirut

Ghobeiry Public Park

Ghobeiry

February 2021 – August 2021 (7 months)

Ghobeiry Public Park is a project we conducted in the area of Ghobeiry, a municipality on the outskirts of Beirut in the Baabda District of Mount Lebanon Governorate. In partnership with Terre Des Hommes Italy, and funded by UNICEF Lebanon, this project involved the rehabilitation of the park. It focussed on making the space more accessible for its multi-generational and varied users, including children from the schools nearby and caregivers for whom the park is a vital public space. The design for the rehabilitated park was informed by participatory design methods involving interviews with key stakeholders and hands-on workshops with children. The project was also underpinned by the desire to work within the existing features of the park, naturally a very green and vibrant space.

The design for Ghobeiry Public Park built upon the existing features of the park, including an abundance of trees providing natural shade and an empty pavilion with lots of potential. It also focussed on creating spaces which catered to its different users. To this end, the design involved the building of five new spaces. Two of these made use of the existing pavilion to create a space for resting and an open classroom which could be used for activities and workshops. The other three areas were centred on the theme of play, with a variety of coloured walls each indicating a different focus.



Figure 10 - Ghobeiry Public Park

For more info please visit: <https://www.catalyticaction.org/ghobeiry-park/>

Size of the allocated area for the intervention (in square metres): 2,470 m²

Project partners:

- Terre des Hommes Italia
- UNICEF
- Municipality of Ghobeiry

Karantina Streetscape

Karantina, Beirut

May 2021 – December 2021 (8 months)

Karantina's urban public space project sought to upgrade the streets in the neighbourhood of Karantina, both around the Beirut Governmental Hospital and the Public Park. An area that bustles with cars, this project focussed on making Karantina's streets more pedestrian and child friendly by improving the infrastructure in the neighbourhood. The design interventions for this project were underpinned by a participatory approach ensuring input from the local community around their needs, visions and aspirations for the space.

We conducted a range of participatory activities and interviews with children, young people and caregivers. For the children and younger residents involved in these workshops, we encouraged them to view themselves as architects. Exploring the site with our team members, they reflected on what they liked, disliked and thought could be improved around the site. Their ideas included adding seating areas, lights, play items, speed bumps, shading and greenery. However, they brought a range of ideas and there was a vibrant debate about where each of these items should be placed and what should be prioritised. In addition to these workshops, we also conducted informal interviews with regular users of the area including caregivers, business owners and military officers. A common theme they alluded to was the need to slow down cars to ensure children's safety, the need for adequate seating so the space is suitable for stopping, and the importance of colour and greenery for making the streets appealing. These workshops and interviews were complemented using observational methods carried out by our team to assess how the area is used both by vehicles and pedestrians.



Figure 11 - Enhancing Streetscape in Karantina, Beirut

Building on this participatory phase, the design centred on four key areas: slowing the traffic; making the area inclusive and pedestrian friendly; creating play opportunities for children and enhancing existing social activities. In order to tackle the issue of traffic and make the area safer for pedestrians, the design involved adding a new roundabout, replacing the old median strip, and introducing speed bumps and road markings to regulate car parking and movement. To increase the safety of pedestrians and make the area more accessible, the design focussed on improving the existing sidewalks, creating pedestrian crossings and building access ramps. Part of this involved creating a new sidewalk under a

group of existing trees which allowed for natural shade. On this new sidewalk, we implemented a long bench which aims to tackle the issues of cars parking in spaces where pedestrians should be able to gather. By adding more trees to the sidewalks, roundabouts and new median in front of the hospital, the intervention also created more shade, giving the area the feel of an urban park. Finally, to facilitate play, we built a long and colourful bench along the sidewalk which can be used for seating, jumping off and running along. There are also floor games along the pavement for children to interact with as they use the space.

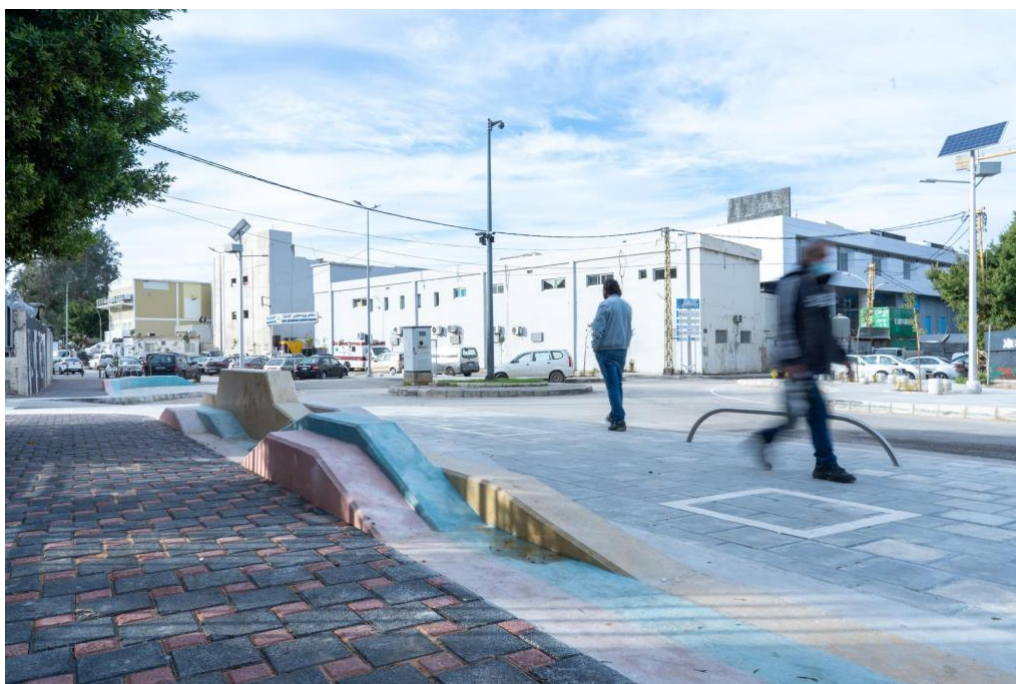


Figure 12 - Enhancing Streetscape in Karantina, Beirut

By improving the infrastructure around the Karantina public hospital and Karantina Public Park, this intervention has made the area more accessible, sociable and fun for the neighbourhood's residents. It has encouraged social activity with its range of gathering spaces and provided entertainment for children through the playful aspects of the project. This is complemented by the traffic intervention solutions which have made the area feel a lot safer.

For more info please visit: <https://www.catalyticaction.org/karantina-streetscape/>

Size of the allocated area for the intervention (in square metres): 3,000 m²

Project partners:

- UN-Habitat Lebanon
- Fondation de France
- Municipality of Beirut

Assessing Vulnerabilities for Urban Recovery Solutions in Beirut

Beirut

January 2021 – June 2021 (6 months)

In collaboration with the [IGP-RELIEF Centre](#) at UCL, this [GCRF](#) funded research project seeks to provide insight into the changing landscape of local vulnerabilities following the Beirut explosion on August 4th 2020. The project focuses on the badly affected neighbourhood of Mar Mikhael and intends to generate in-depth understanding of the evolving vulnerabilities of the neighbourhood to help inform future interventions and public policies that can address them. This research brings together urban economists, social scientists and urban designers to collect quantitative survey data, as well as community consultations data through focus groups and semi-structured interviews. The research project builds on the Prosperity Index work that the IGP-Relief Centre has been conducting in Lebanon for the past three years and focuses on the three thematic areas of Livelihood and employment, Housing security and Mental health and wellbeing. The research was conducted six months after the blast.



Figure 13 - Citizen scientists household survey training

For more info visit: <https://www.catalyticaction.org/assessing-vulnerabilities-for-urban-recovery-solutions-in-beirut-lebanon-with-the-relief-centre/> and <https://www.relief-centre.org/relief-centre-conference-2021-1/catalyticaction-public-spaces-and-vitality>

Project partners:

- Institute for Global Prosperity (University College London)
- UK Research and Innovation (UK Research and Innovation)

ONGOING

The following projects started in the 2020-2021 and will be completed in 2022.

Educational Centre

Karantina, Beirut

September 2021 – May 2022 (9 months)

This project aims at setting up an informal indoor learning space in Karantina to answer the lack of educational facilities in the neighbourhood. The design was conducted in collaboration with the local community and key stakeholders through different co-design sessions. In particular the participatory design activities were structured to aim at restoring the participants' connection to physical learning and help them imagine their ideal, post-COVID19 learning space based on their individual and collective needs and aspirations.

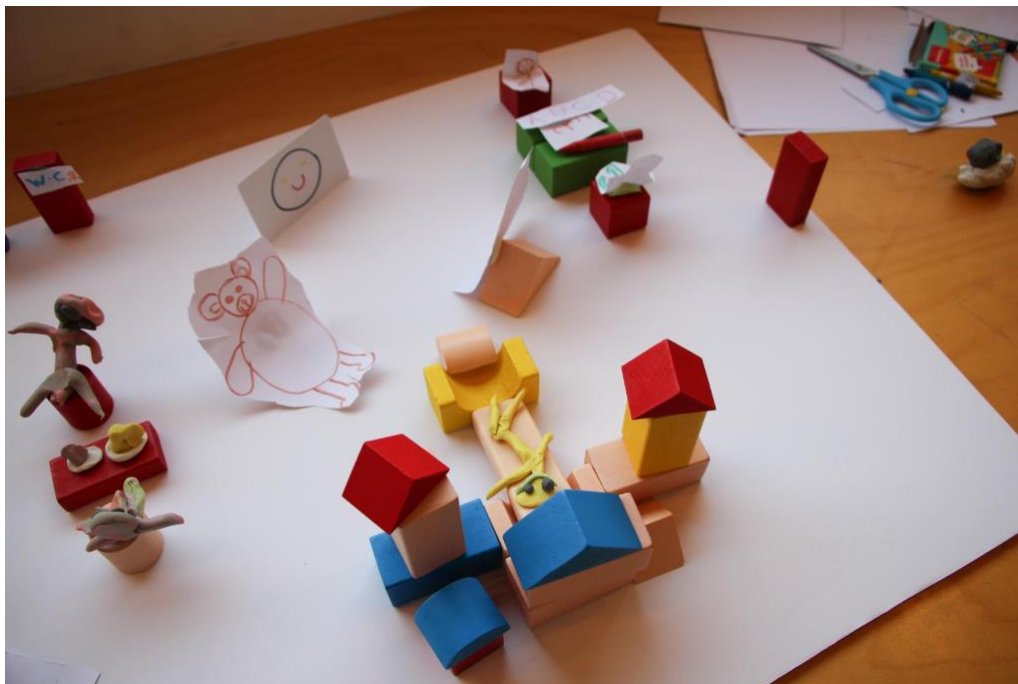


Figure 14 - Young children produced models of their ideal space

The project is scheduled to be completed in May 2022.

Size of the allocated area for the intervention (in square metres): 540 m2

Project partners:

- Terre des Hommes Italia
- Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo
- Municipality of Beirut

Mina Participatory Spatial Intervention

July 2021 – March 2022 (9 months)

This project in the city of El Mina in Lebanon, is a collaboration with the RELIEF centre and funded with the support of Otto per Mille of the Waldensian Church of Italy. Located by the coast in Northern Lebanon, El Mina has a lot of potential for enhancing public space. This project seeks to build on this by working with citizen scientists from the area to reflect on how residents' experience of public space in El Mina can be improved. Through a participatory spatial intervention, this project will focus on an area in the Corniche of El-Mina located by the sea. Stretching 7km along the coast, the Corniche is a place where families from different nationalities and social classes meet, coming together to use the public space. However, the Corniche lacks vital infrastructure for residents to get the most from the space. While part of the Corniche was refurbished in 2019, this section is at a considerable distance from the most vulnerable neighbourhoods of the city - the people who need it most. This project seeks to address this by focussing on the part of the Corniche in front of the social housing in Al Masaken, and the informal settlement of Hay Al Tanak.



Figure 15 - Public consultation with local residents

The project is schedule to be completed in March 2022.

Size of the allocated area for the intervention (in square metres): 1900 m2

Project partners:

- Waldensian Church of Italy
- Institute for Global Prosperity (University College London)

Public Space as a Means to Mitigate Conflict

Majdal Anjar

September 2021 – March 2022 (7 months)

This project is a collaboration with International Alert (IA) and based in the village of Majdal Anjar in the Bekaa Valley of Lebanon. It builds on IA's programme 'Creating Space for Peace: Supporting Local Peacebuilding and Local Citizen-State Relations' to work with young people in Majdal Anjar to create a public space that can be used for dialogue around conflict mitigation. IA has been working with young people in the village since April 2021 to establish opportunities for dialogue that can improve inter and intra-community, as well as citizen-state relations. This takes place in the form of a youth dialogue group (YDG) in which topics such as non-violent communications and dealing with differences are discussed. This project is embedded in this agenda and applies the method of placemaking to encourage young people in the area to consider how they can participate in reimagining and reinventing public space in Majdal Anjar. The culmination of this will be the creation of a public space which they have researched and designed.



Figure 16 - Youth Dialogue Group visiting a potential site for the project

The project is scheduled to be completed in March 2022.

Size of the allocated area for the intervention (in square metres): 4,000 m²

Project partners:

- International Alert

Beirut Public Stairs Rehabilitation

June 2021 – June 2022 (12 months)

In partnership with UN Habitat Lebanon, this project seeks to rehabilitate and revive the public stairs of St Nicolas, Vendome and Laziza in the neighbourhoods of Mar Mikhael and Gemmayzeh in Beirut. While staircases in Beirut are used for practical purposes, they are also used as lively spaces of social interaction. They are historical landmarks that have survived the city's vast changes, representing years of collective memory. This project aims to preserve this heritage and enhance the social activities on the stairs by fixing damages, adding furniture and improving accessibility. Through a series of participatory workshops with the stairs' multi-generational users, the design for this project has involved direct engagement with residents of these neighbourhoods. It platforms their ideas to ensure a participatory rehabilitation of their staircases.



Figure 17 - Participants visiting the stairs to come up with design ideas

The project is schedule to be completed in June 2022.

Size of the allocated area for the intervention (in square metres): 2,050 m²

Project partners:

- UN Habitat Lebanon
- Block by Block
- UNIDO
- Municipality of Beirut

Supporting Inclusive and Integrated Recovery in Karantina

Karantina, Beirut

November 2021 – February 2022 (4 months)

The project aims to analyse public spaces in the neighbourhood and develop ways in which residents can co-design their shared spaces. The project follows a citizen science methodology that we tailored to this specific context and project. We recruited and trained 10 citizen scientists; women and men representing the diverse community groups living in the neighbourhood. We adapted some of the Ghel Institute's public life tools to survey 15 public spaces in the Karantina neighbourhood and learn about their daily use. The research focuses on the urban built environment and its users' diverse experiences. These public spaces are analysed to address key issues through co-designed interventions.



Figure 18 - Citizen Scientist conducting an interview with a resident in Karantina, Beirut

The project is scheduled to be completed in February 2022.

Project partners:

- UNDP

RELIEF Centre research partnership in Lebanon

The [RELIEF Centre](#) is a transdisciplinary research collaboration that focuses on one of the world's pressing challenges of the moment: how to build a prosperous and inclusive future for communities affected by mass displacement.

This collaboration started in 2017-2018 and was renewed also in the current financial year.

Other initiatives

Lectures, workshops and public conferences

Throughout the year, CatalyticAction delivered several lectures, workshops and public conferences with the aim of raising awareness about the role of participatory practices and architecture in the field of sustainable construction and development:

- International Play Association (IPA), Action for Children's Environments (ACE) and UNICEF, *Making Cities Child friendly in the Post Pandemic World: Play and Public Place*, November 2020 (conducted online).
- Urban95 and Bernard Van Leer Foundation, *Urban95 Convening 2020*, December 2020 (conducted online).
- UCL Institute for Global Prosperity, Soundbites, *CatalyticAction's work + adapting to covid-19*, February 2021 (podcast).
- UCL, Development Planning Unit, MSc Building and Urban Design in Development, *Urban Design Conversations*, February 2021 (conducted online).

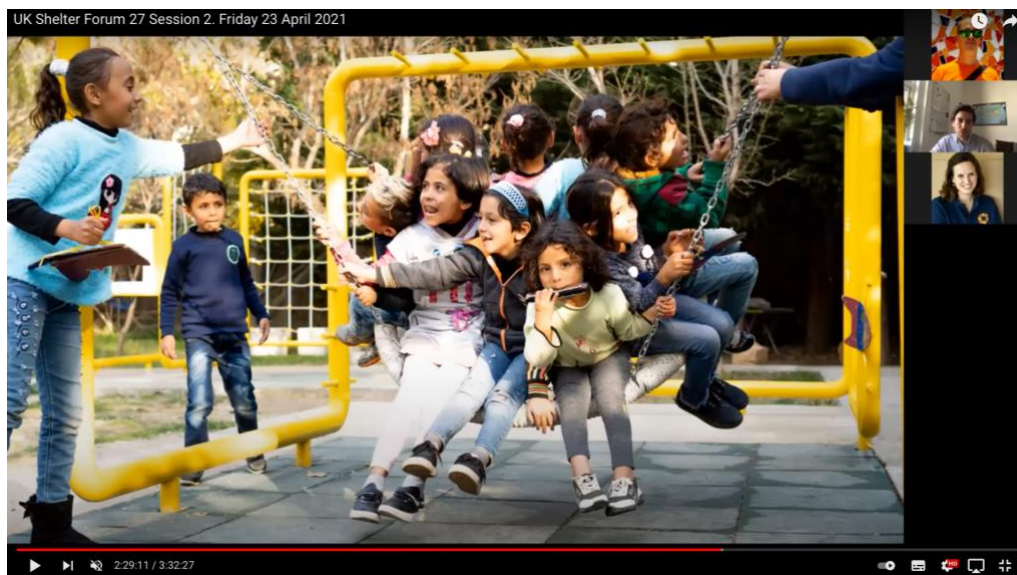


Figure 19 - UK Shelter Forum 27

- Arup, Urban95 and Bernard Van Leer Foundation, *Proximity of Care Design Guide Launch Event*, March 2021 (conducted online).
- UCL Institute for Global Prosperity - RELIEF Centre, *Working through Crisis: Innovations, possibilities and limitations of research in a volatile Lebanon*, March 2021 (conducted online).
- InterAction Shelter & Settlements Working Group Meeting, *Promoting children's participation in design*, March 2021 (conducted online).
- UK Shelter Forum 27 Session 2, *Co-designing built interventions with children affected by displacement (DeCID)*, April 2021 (conducted online).



- Biennale dello Spazio Pubblico, *Co-designing with children affected by displacement (DeCID)*, May 2021 (conducted online).
- Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale (ISPI) – Master in International Cooperation, *Co-designing Beirut's Recovery*, May 2021 (conducted online).
- American University of Beirut (AUB) and German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), *Co-designing with Beirut's children*, May 2021 (conducted online).
- UNICEF and WHO, *AT Advocates Webinar 3: Inclusive Play*, August 2021 (conducted online).

Statement of public benefit

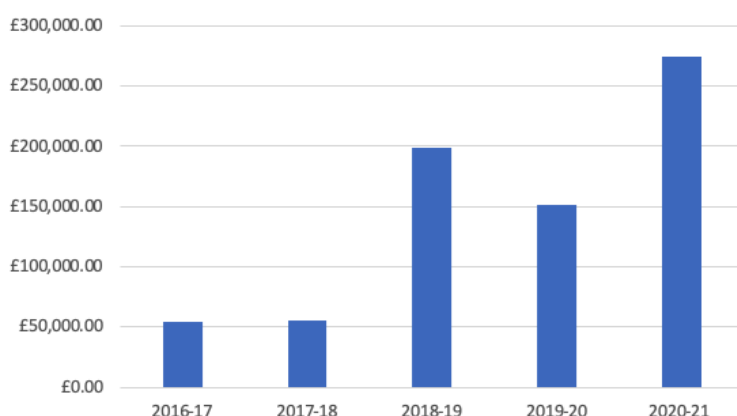
When reviewing the charity activities, the Trustees had to regard the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. The Trustees ensured that the activities undertaken are in line with the charitable objects of CatalyticAction, and in doing so are satisfied that CatalyticAction's activities meet the requirements on demonstrating public benefit.



Financial Review

During this financial year, the charity raised a total income of £272,751. The charity expenditures for the year were £243,643.

Table 1 - Charity income



Of the total income, 92% was raised for delivering specific projects (always governed by formal agreements). 8% was raised to support the overall activities of the charity and it was raised from donations from individuals and private organisations.

The charity has already secured a number of projects for 2021-2022. This would allow the charity to allocate more time for strategic planning and growth.

Over the past 6 years, the charity had an average income growth rate of 44%. The growth in 2020-2021 was 80% (higher than the 40% expected).

CatalyticAction benefits from the support of many volunteers in an operational capacity as well as many other vital roles. In accordance with the Charity Commission guidelines on financial reporting, the economic contribution of volunteers is not recognised in the financial statements.

CatalyticAction has carried out 11 projects during this financial year, of which 5 will be carried forward to 2021-2022. The overall cost of these projects is only partially reflected in the financial statements as part of the implementation costs were incurred by our partners.

Principal funding sources

The main source of funding for the charity during this financial year have been fees for charitable services from partner organisations.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Trustees aim to hold unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover 6 months of operating expenses to enable the smooth running of the charity in the event of unforeseen costs and / or downturn in expected income. The balance held as unrestricted reserves at the end of the financial year is £79,368 which represents approximately 6 months of operating costs, including staff salaries, based on the current operating budget. The reserves policy is reviewed every year by the Board of Trustees.

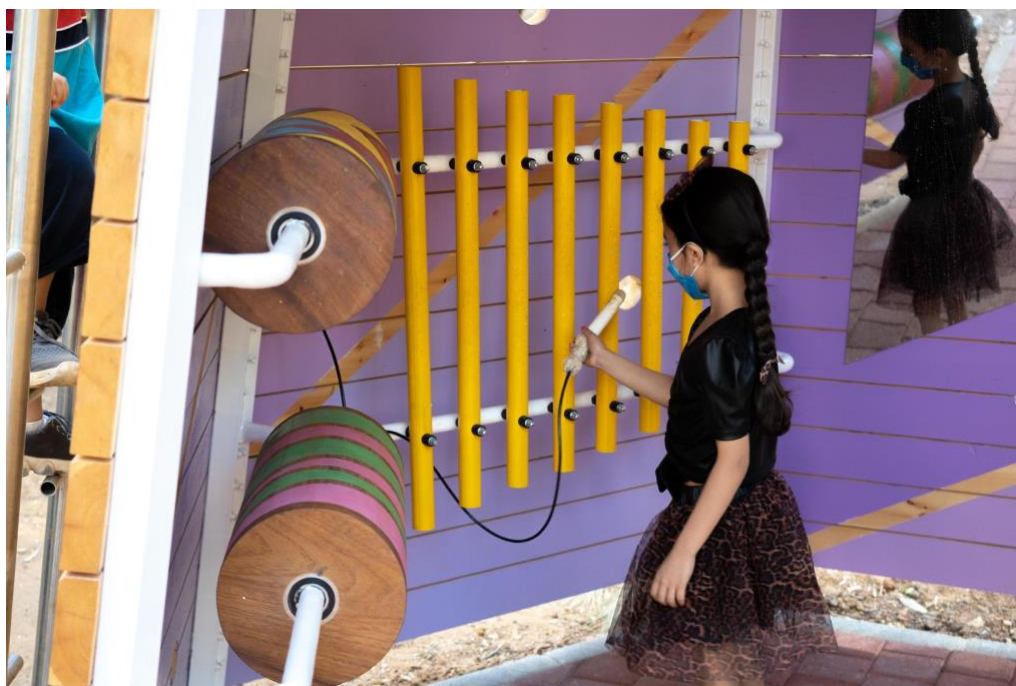


Figure 20 – Safe Park in Karm Al Arees, Beirut

Challenges and Future Plans

In the first few months of 2021-2022 the charity will be working on 5 projects secured towards the end of 2020-2021. A further 4 new collaborations are being explored and will most probably lead to projects.



Figure 21 – Giant slide in Karantina Public Park, Beirut

In 2020-2021 the charity has secured new partnerships with international organisations such as UNICEF and UN-Habitat. In 2021-2022 the charity plans to expand the activities with these partners as well as securing new strategic partnerships that can offer opportunities for long-term collaborations for the charity.

Alongside this effort, the charity aims at implementing additional educational spaces such as public parks, child friendly spaces, playgrounds, schools, and community centres to better the living conditions of disadvantaged communities. Due to the charity's experience in this context, CatalyticAction predicts that the majority of the projects will be implemented in Lebanon. Nevertheless, the charity staff and the Board of Trustees are working to expand CatalyticAction's activities to other countries in the Middle East.

The charity will continue to dedicate resources to increase the charity's impact by growing the number of partners and projects. The charity will also try to connect with a wider number of supporters through public events, social media and other networking opportunities. This process will hopefully allow the charity to reach a wider number of people and communities, empowering them through built interventions.

The charity is planning to expand its current Board of Trustees to at least a total of 5 members. The board is currently lacking strong financial planning skills, in particular regarding charity finance, which would be a requisite in the selection of future trustees. The charity is also looking for specific persons to join the charity as patrons; individuals who will be actively promoting the work of CatalyticAction without having to be involved in its operational management.

In 2021, the charity has extensively worked on improving its media outreach strategy increasing the awareness among the general public and like-minded organisations about the work of CatalyticAction and its impact. The charity will continue to work on this strategy in the next year.

Outreach to students and professionals will remain an important activity of the charity. Participating in conferences, lessons, etc. has the potential to inspire students and professionals about the social potential of participatory architecture. CatalyticAction has been involved in academic research that will inform the practice of the charity.

The charity aims at participating at least three conferences per year where we will have the opportunity to present the work of the charity to other charities, NGOs and academics. These events will be an opportunity to expand the charity's network and potentially create new partnerships.

In general, the charity aims to increase its capacity over the next years, so as to improve the living conditions of an even higher number of people.



Figure 22 – Children mapping public spaces in Karantina, Beirut



Declaration

Andrea Rigon
Trustee – Chair
26-04-2022

Andrea Rigon

Andy Hilton
Trustee – Treasurer
26-04-2022

Andy Hilton

Emanuela Rizzo
Trustee
26-04-2022

Emanuela Rizzo

Sandra D'Urzo
Trustee
26-04-2022

Sandra D'Urzo

**CHARITY COMMISSION**
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**Independent examiner's
report on the accounts****Section A Independent Examiner's Report****Report to the trustees/
members of**Charity Name
Catalytic Action**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 October 2021

**Charity no
(if any)**

1169604

Set out on pages

1 - 43

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31/10/2021.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees, 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:**Date:** 25/04/2022**Name:**

Olugbenga Coker

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

FCCA

Address:

1 Holmdale Road Kent BR7 6BY



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Catalytic Action	Charity No (if any)	1169604
Annual accounts for the period		
Period start date	01/11/2020	To 30/10/2021

Section A Statement of financial activities

Recommended categories by activity	Guidance Notes	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total funds £ F04	Prior year funds £ F05
Incoming resources (Note 3)						
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	S01	22,836	244,134	-	266,970	3,479
Charitable activities	S02	-	5,500	-	5,500	128,235
Other trading activities	S03	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	S04	95	-	-	95	113
Separate material item of income	S05	-	-	-	-	-
Other	S06	186	-	-	186	19,277
Total	S07	23,117	249,634	-	272,751	151,104
Resources expended (Note 6)						
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	S08	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	S09	2,086	241,557	-	243,643	148,892
Separate material item of expense	S10	-	-	-	-	-
Other	S11	-	-	-	-	-
Total	S12	2,086	241,557	-	243,643	148,892
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)						
Net gains/(losses) on investments	S13	21,031	8,077	-	29,108	2,212
Net income/(expenditure) Extraordinary items	S14	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	S15	21,031	8,077	-	29,108	2,212
Other recognised gains/(losses):	S16	-	-	-	-	-
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	S17	-	-	-	-	-
Other gains/(losses)	S18	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	S19	-	-	-	-	-
Reconciliation of funds:	S20	21,031	8,077	-	29,108	2,212
Total funds brought forward	S21	58,337	40,898	-	99,235	97,023
Total funds carried forward	S22	79,368	48,975	-	128,343	99,235



Section B Balance sheet

		Guidance Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total this year	Total last year
			£	£	£	£	£
			F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
Fixed assets							
Intangible assets	(Note 15)	B01	-	-	-	-	-
Tangible assets	(Note 14)	B02	-	-	-	-	-
Heritage assets	(Note 16)	B03	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	(Note 17)	B04	-	-	-	-	-
Total fixed assets		B05	-	-	-	-	-
Current assets							
Stocks	(Note 18)	B06	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors	(Note 19)	B07	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	(Note 17.4)	B08	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	(Note 24)	B09	76,550	52,793	-	129,343	99,235
Total current assets		B10	76,550	52,793	-	129,343	99,235
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(Note 20)	B11	1,000	-	-	1,000	-
Net current assets/(liabilities)		B12	75,550	52,793	-	128,343	99,235
Total assets less current liabilities		B13	75,550	52,793	-	128,343	99,235
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	(Note 20)	B14	-	-	-	-	-
Provisions for liabilities		B15	-	-	-	-	-
Total net assets or liabilities		B16	75,550	52,793	-	128,343	99,235
Funds of the Charity							
Endowment funds	(Note 27)	B17	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted income funds	(Note 27)	B18	-	48,975	-	48,975	40,898
Unrestricted funds		B19	79,368	-	-	79,368	58,337
Revaluation reserve		B20	-	-	-	-	-
Total funds		B21	79,368	48,975	-	128,343	99,235
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees			Signature		Print Name		Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy
			Andrea Rigan		Andrea Rigan		28/4/2022



Section C Notes to the accounts

Note 1 Basis of preparation

This section should be completed by all charities.

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with:

- and with* ☒ the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014
- and with* ☒ the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)
- and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.*

* -Tick as appropriate

1.2 Going concern

If there are material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, please provide the following details or state "Not applicable", if appropriate:

An explanation as to those factors that support the conclusion that the charity is a going concern;

Not applicable

Disclosure of any uncertainties that make the going concern assumption doubtful;

Not applicable

Where accounts are not prepared on a going concern basis, please disclose this fact together with the basis on which the trustees prepared the accounts and the reason why the charity is not regarded as a going concern.

Not applicable

1.3 Change of accounting policy

The accounts present a true and fair view and the accounting policies adopted are those outlined in note { }.

Yes* ☒ No* ☐ * -Tick as appropriate

Please disclose:

(i) the nature of the change in accounting policy;	Not applicable
(ii) the reasons why applying the new accounting policy provides more reliable and more relevant information; and	Not applicable
(iii) the amount of the adjustment for each line affected in the current period, each prior period presented and the aggregate amount of the adjustment relating to periods before those presented, 3.44 FRS 102 SORP.	Not applicable

1.4 Changes to accounting estimates

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period (3.46 FRS 102 SORP).

Yes* ☒ No* ☐ * -Tick as appropriate

Please disclose:

(i) the nature of any changes;	
(ii) the effect of the change on income and expense or assets and liabilities for the current period; and	
(iii) where practicable, the effect of the change in one or more future periods.	

1.5 Material prior year errors

No material prior year error have been identified in the reporting period (3.47 FRS 102 SORP).

Yes* ☒ No* ☐ * -Tick as appropriate

Please disclose:

(i) the nature of the prior period error;	
(ii) for each prior period presented in the accounts, the amount of the correction for each account line item affected; and	
(iii) the amount of the correction at the beginning of the earliest prior period presented in the accounts.	



Section C		Notes to the accounts	(cont)
Note 2		Accounting policies	
2.2 INCOME		<i>This standard list of accounting policies has been applied by the charity except for those ticked "No" or "N/a". Where a different or additional policy has been adopted then this is detailed in the box below.</i>	
Recognition of income	These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when: - the charity becomes entitled to the resources; - it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources; and - the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.	Yes No N/a ☒ ☐ ☐	
Offsetting	There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.	Yes No N/a ☒ ☐ ☐	
Grants and donations	Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS102 SORP). In the case of performance related grants, income must only be recognised to the extent that the charity has provided the specified goods or services as entitlement to the grant only occurs when the performance related conditions are met (5.16 FRS 102 SORP). Legacies are included in the SoFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.	Yes No N/a ☒ ☐ ☐ Yes No N/a ☐ ☐ ☒	
Legacies		Yes No N/a ☐ ☐ ☒	
Government grants	The charity has received government grants in the reporting period. Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.	Yes No N/a ☒ ☐ ☐	
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts		Yes No N/a ☒ ☐ ☐	
Contractual income and performance related grants	This is only included in the SoFA once the charity has provided the related goods or services or met the performance related conditions.	Yes No N/a ☒ ☐ ☐	
Donated goods	Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so. The cost of any stock of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those gifts at the time of their receipt and they are recognised on receipt. In the reporting period in which the stocks are distributed, they are recognised as an expense at the carrying amount of the stocks at distribution. Donated goods for resale are measured at fair value on initial recognition, which is the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale, and recognised in 'Income from other trading activities' with the corresponding stock recognised in the balance sheet. On its sale the value of stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds from sale are also recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'. Goods donated for on-going use by the charity are recognised as tangible fixed assets and included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as income from donations when receivable.	Yes No N/a ☒ ☐ ☐ Yes No N/a ☒ ☐ ☐ Yes No N/a ☒ ☐ ☐	
Donated services and facilities	Donated services and facilities are included in the SoFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably. Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with an equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SoFA.	Yes No N/a ☒ ☐ ☐ Yes No N/a ☒ ☐ ☐	
Support costs	The charity has incurred expenditure on support costs.	Yes No N/a ☒ ☐ ☐	
Volunteer help	The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.	Yes No N/a ☒ ☐ ☐	
Income from interest, royalties and dividends	This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.	Yes No N/a ☒ ☐ ☐	
Income from membership subscriptions	Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in Donations and Legacies. Membership subscriptions which gives a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.	Yes No N/a ☐ ☐ ☒ Yes No N/a ☒ ☐ ☐	
Settlement of insurance claims	Insurance claims are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS102 SORP) and are included as an item of other income in the SoFA.	Yes No N/a ☒ ☐ ☐	
Investment gains and losses	This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.	Yes No N/a ☒ ☐ ☐	



2.3 EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liability recognition	Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.	Yes ☒ No ☐ N/a ☐
Governance and support costs	Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, eg allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.	Yes ☒ No ☐ N/a ☐
Grants with performance conditions	Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.	Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a ☒
Grants payable without performance conditions	Where there are no conditions attaching to the grant that enables the donor charity to realistically avoid the commitment, a liability for the full funding obligation must be recognised.	Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a ☒
Redundancy cost	The charity made no redundancy payments during the reporting period.	Yes ☒ No ☐ N/a ☐
Deferred income	No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.	Yes ☒ No ☐ N/a ☐
Creditors	The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.	Yes ☒ No ☐ N/a ☐
Provisions for liabilities	A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.	Yes ☒ No ☐ N/a ☐
Basic financial instruments	The charity accounts for basic financial instruments on initial recognition as per paragraph 11.7 FRS102 SORP. Subsequent measurement is as per paragraphs 11.17 to 11.19, FRS102 SORP.	Yes ☒ No ☐ N/a ☐

2.4 ASSETS

	These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least	£ 100.00
Tangible fixed assets for use by charity	They are valued at cost. The depreciation rates and methods used are disclosed in note 9.2.	Yes ☒ No ☐ N/a ☐
Intangible fixed assets	The charity has intangible fixed assets, that is, non-monetary assets that do not have physical substance but are identifiable and are controlled by the charity through custody or legal rights. The amortisation rates and methods used are disclosed in note 9.5.	Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a ☒
Heritage assets	They are valued at cost. The charity has heritage assets, that is, non-monetary assets with historic, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical or environmental qualities that are held and maintained principally for their contribution to knowledge and culture. The depreciation rates and methods used as disclosed in note 9.6.1.4.	Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a ☒
Investments	They are valued at cost. Fixed asset investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued at initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year end. The same treatment is applied to unlisted investments unless fair value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment.	Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a ☒
Stocks and work in progress	Investments held for resale or pending their sale and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than 1 year are treated as current asset investments. Stocks held for sale as part of non-charitable trade are measured at the lower or cost or net realisable value. Goods or services provided as part of a charitable activity are measured at net realisable value based on the service potential provided by items of stock. Work in progress is valued at cost less any foreseeable loss that is likely to occur on the contract.	Yes ☒ No ☐ N/a ☐
Debtors	Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.	Yes ☒ No ☐ N/a ☐
Current asset investments	The charity has investments which it holds for resale or pending their sale and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date less than one year. These include cash on deposit and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than one year held for investment purposes rather than to meet short term cash commitments as they fall due.	Yes ☒ No ☐ N/a ☐
	They are valued at fair value except where they qualify as basic financial instruments.	Yes ☒ No ☐ N/a ☐



Section C Notes to the accounts (cont)

Note 3 Analysis of income

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year
	Analysis				£	£
Donations and legacies:	Donations and gifts	19,269	1,509	-	20,778	3,479
	Gift Aid	125	-	-	125	-
	Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
	General grants provided by government/other charities	3,442	242,625	-	246,067	128,235
	Membership subscriptions and sponsorships which are in substance donations	-	-	-	-	-
	Donated goods, facilities and services	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	22,836	244,134	-	266,970	131,714
Charitable activities:		-	-	-	-	-
	Fees for charitable services	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	5,500	-	5,500	19,277
	Total	-	5,500	-	5,500	19,277
Other trading activities:		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	Other	186	-	-	186	-
	Total	186	-	-	186	-
Income from investments:	Interest income	95	-	-	95	113
	Dividend income	-	-	-	-	-
	Rental and leasing income	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	95	-	-	95	113
Separate material item of income:		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	Total	-	-	-	-	-
Other:	Conversion of endowment funds into income	-	-	-	-	-
	Gain on disposal of a tangible fixed asset held for charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
	Gain on disposal of a programme related investment	-	-	-	-	-
	Royalties from the exploitation of intellectual property rights	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOME		23,117	249,634	-	272,751	151,104
Other information:						



Section C Notes to the accounts (cont)

Note 6 Analysis of expenditure

Analysis	This year				Last year			
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds
				£				£
Expenditure on raising funds:								
Incurred seeking donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Incurred seeking legacies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Incurred seeking grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating membership schemes and social lotteries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Staging fundraising events	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising agents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating charity shops	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating a trading company undertaking non-charitable trading activity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Advertising, marketing, direct mail and publicity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Start up costs incurred in generating new source of future income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Database development costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment management costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portfolio management costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of obtaining investment advice	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment administration costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intellectual property licencing costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rent collection, property repairs and maintenance charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure on raising funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities:								
Direct project cost	-	89,147	-	89,147	210	21,223	-	21,433
Salaries	-	132,957	-	132,957	89,634	-	-	89,634
Consultancies	-	18,234	-	18,234	19,222	12,019	-	31,241
IT Software and consumables	637	375	-	1,012	4,559	35	-	4,594
Bank fees	138	-	-	138	144	-	-	144
Travel, insurance & admin cost	311	844	-	1,155	183	1,063	-	1,246
Total expenditure on charitable activities	1,086	241,557	-	242,643	113,952	34,340	-	148,292
Separate material item of expense								
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other								
Independent examination	1,000	-	-	1,000	600	-	-	600
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total other expenditure	1,000	-	-	1,000	600	-	-	600
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	2,086	241,557	-	243,643	114,552	34,340	-	148,892



Section C Notes to the accounts

Note 10 Details of certain items of expenditure

10.1 Fees for examination of the accounts

Please provide details of the amount paid for any statutory external scrutiny of accounts and other services provided by your independent examiner. If nothing was paid please enter '0' in the appropriate box(es).

	This year £	Last year £
Independent examiner's fees	1,000	600
Assurance services other than audit or independent examination	-	-
Tax advisory fees	-	-
Other fees (for example: financial advice, consultancy, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner	-	-

Note 11 Paid employees

Please complete this note if the charity has any employees.

11.1 Staff Costs

	This year £	Last year £
Salaries and wages	113,029	89,325
Social security costs	13,989	11,055
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	5,939	4,693
Other employee benefits	-	-
Total staff costs	132,957	105,074

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000

--

Note 12 Defined contribution pension scheme or defined benefit scheme accounted for as a defined contribution scheme.

12.1 Please complete this note if a defined contribution pension scheme is operated.

	This year £	Last year £
Amount of contributions recognised in the SOFA as an expense	5,939	4,693

Please explain the basis for allocating the liability and expense of defined contribution pension scheme between activities and between restricted and unrestricted funds.

Pensions contribution are treated as employment cost and charged to the relevant projects on the basis of time spent by the staff members working on those projects	Pensions contribution are treated as employment cost and charged to the relevant projects on the basis of time spent by the staff members working on those projects
---	---



Section C Notes to the accounts (cont)

Note 14 Tangible fixed assets

Please complete this note if the charity has any tangible fixed assets

14.1 Cost or valuation

	Freehold land & buildings	Computer Equipment	Plant, machinery and motor vehicles	Equipment and tools	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
At the beginning of the year	-	3,453	-	-	3,453
Additions	-	100	-	-	100
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers *	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	-	3,553	-	-	3,553

14.2 Depreciation and impairments

	**Basis	SL or RB (Straight Line or Reducing Balance)	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB
	** Rate					
At beginning of the year		-	3,453	-	-	3,453
Disposals		-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation		-	100	-	-	100
Impairment		-	-	-	-	-
Transfers*		-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year		-	3,553	-	-	3,553

14.3 Net book value

Net book value at the beginning of the year	-	-	-	-	-
Net book value at the end of the year	-	-	-	-	-



Section C Notes to the accounts (cont)

Note 20 Creditors and accruals

Please complete this note if the charity has any creditors or accruals.

20.1 Analysis of creditors

	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	This year £	Last year £	This year £	Last year £
Accruals for grants payable	-	-	-	-
Bank loans and overdrafts	-	-	-	-
Trade creditors	-	-	-	-
Payments received on account for contracts or performance-related grants	-	-	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	-	-	-	-
Taxation and social security	-	-	-	-
Other creditors	1,000	600	-	-
Total	1,000	600	-	-

Note 24 Cash at bank and in hand

Short term cash investments (less than 3 months maturity date)

Short term deposits

Cash at bank and on hand:

	This year £	Last year £
Triodos	115,876	91,441
Co-operative bank	2,807	4,484
PayPal GBP	157	640
PayPal EUR	-	30
Cash USD	1,224	2,618
Cash EUR	22	22
USD Bank	9,116	-
Transferwise	127	-
USD -LBP cash	14	-
Total	129,343	99,235



Section C Notes to the accounts (cont)

Note 27 Charity funds

27.1 Details of material funds held and movements during the CURRENT reporting period

Please give details of the movements of material individual funds in the reporting period together with a balancing figure for 'Other funds'. The 'Total funds' figure below should reconcile to 'Total funds' in the balance sheet.

* Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendable endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or UR *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains and losses	Fund balances carried forward
			£	£	£	£	£	£
Arup (Proximity of Care Design Guide)	R				£ -	£ -	£ -	£0
Terre des Hommes Italia with UNICEF Lebanon	R	Rehabilitation of 3 public spaces in Beirut to promote safe spaces for children.		£63,586	-£63,586	£ -	£ -	£0
Karantina video	R	Producing a video illustrating the rehabilitation of the Karantina public park after the Beirut port blast.	£ -	£1,398	-£1,398	£ -	£ -	£0
Himaya with UNICEF Lebanon	R	Rehabilitation of 2 public parks in Beirut to promote safe spaces for children.	£ -	£15,896	-£15,896	£ -	£ -	£0
Urban forest	R	Facilitate an activity with children to plant a native forest in an urban park in Beirut.	£ -	£358	-£358	£ -	£ -	£0
Real Play City Challenge	R	Grant award to scale up the project implemented in 2017 in Bar Elias. The aim of the award is to support practitioners to promote play in cities.	£ -	£3,443	-£3,443	£ -	£ -	£0
UN-Habitat Karantina Streetscape	R	Rehabilitation of the area around the Karantina public hospital and park with the aim of making streets safer and more child friendly.	£ -	£15,591	-£13,227	£ -	£ -	£2,364
UN-Habitat Beirut Stairs	R	Rehabilitation of 3 public stairs in Beirut in response to the port blast. The rehabilitation will aim to make the stairs more inclusive for vulnerable users, such as children and elderly.	£ -	£9,665	-£3,443	£ -	£ -	£6,222
Otto per Mille of the Walskian Church of Italy	R	Grant for the implementation of 3 'play pockets' spaces in El Mina, to improve public spaces for vulnerable children living in the city.	£ -	£4,032	-£168	£ -	£ -	£3,864
Fondation de France	R	Grant for the rehabilitation of the area around the Karantina public hospital and park with the aim of making streets safer and more child friendly. This grant was combined with the fund UN-Habitat Karantina Streetscape.	£ -	£16,307	-£5,731	£ -	£ -	£10,576
Impact Lebanon	R	Implementation of a 6 months program with children for the co-design of a safe space in the Karantina public park.	£ -	£16,945	-£15,045	£ -	£ -	£1,900
DeCID	R	Developing a guide for the co-design of built interventions with children affected by displacement. Research project done in partnership with University College London.	£22,200	£ -	-£14,000	£ -	£ -	£8,200
RELIEF	R	Multiple research activities with the RELIEF Centre at the Institute for Global Prosperity (UCL). The RELIEF Centre aims to speed up transitions to sustainable, prosperous societies in the context of mass displacement, to improve the quality of people's lives.	£14,201	£102,223	-£105,262	£ -	£ -	£11,162
CSC education grant	R		£2,600	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£2,600
Others			£1,897	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£1,897
			£40,898	£249,444	-£241,557	£0	£0	£48,785

Accounts



CatalyticAction Trustees' Annual Report

Financial year: 2019-2020

Charity number: 1169604



Figure 1 - Participatory design workshop in Karantina



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Introduction

The team at CatalyticAction is proud to have successfully completed its fourth year of operations, and to continue to bring about positive change through participatory design by empowering communities to disrupt conditions of poverty and inequality.

The Board of Trustees is extremely grateful to every single person who contributed to bring the CatalyticAction's vision and ambitions to reality, such as volunteers who offered vital contributions to the charity's activities.

The Board of Trustees would also like to thank all of the donors who believed in the charity's vision and financially supported its activities.

Since 2015, CatalyticAction has been able to support disadvantaged and disenfranchised communities through 30 projects, bringing positive change to thousands of people. In particular, it has brought essential educational spaces to over 7,580 vulnerable children. In the year 2019-2020, the charity completed 4 projects started in 2018-2019, carried out 5 new projects and continued working on 1 ongoing research project. The number of new built projects was reduced compared to 2018-19 due to covid-19 restrictions, which prevented many activities to be conducted, including some community engagement workshops as well as construction.

The charity aims to significantly increase its capacity over the next years, so as to improve the living conditions of an even higher number of people.



Figure 2 - Inclusive public park in Barja



Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a Constitution.

Legal structure

The charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) whose only voting members are its charity Trustees.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

Trustees are appointed and recruited by the existing Trustees.

Organisational Structure

The organisational structure comprises a Board of Trustees (formed by 4 trustees), four core staff members, two consultants, interns and volunteers. Other staff are contracted according to the needs of each project.

Related parties

CatalyticAction works with partner NGOs, INGOs, charities, development agencies, and universities in the UK and overseas. CatalyticAction also partners with private companies, who provide professional pro-bono advice to assist the delivery of the charity projects.

Risk Management

Trustees perform periodic review of the risks facing the charity and put measures in place to mitigate the risks. The principal risks identified are programmatic risks and compliance risks.

The Board of Trustees together with the Senior Management Team assess the risks of any new project before allocating financial resources to it. Before entering a new partnership, the charity conducts a partner assessment. When working overseas, we seek advice from FCO as well as from local sources and work with our local partners to assess the risks of each new project. Context analysis and conflict sensitivity approaches are the foundation of the development of our interventions.

CatalyticAction carries out a health and safety risk assessment for each project. In response to the covid-19 pandemic, CA developed health and safety procedures to be able to continue to conduct participatory activities while respecting social distancing and other procedures aimed at limiting the spread of covid-19. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety standards for the charity staff and volunteers undertaking work on behalf of CatalyticAction. These procedures always comply with local laws and guidelines as well as best international practices.



CatalyticAction follows research ethics and data protection procedures which have been developed in line with UK and local regulations.

Policies and procedures are in place to ensure the safety of vulnerable children and adults who are engaged directly or indirectly in the work of the charity.

CA trains staff and any person doing work on behalf of the charity to comply with the charity's policies and procedures.

CatalyticAction is insured to cover staff travelling overseas. The insurance policy has been specifically tailored to the charity's activities to cover employer's liability insurance, public liability insurance and trustee liability insurance.

The charity follows a rigorous financial management system to ensure that funds are spent following the charity's objectives and the project-specific donor's requirements.

List of policies and procedures

- Anti-corruption and bribery policy
- Conflict of interest policy
- Complaint procedures
- HR policies and procedures
- Procurement policy and procedures
- Environmental policy
- H&S policy
- Safeguarding policy and procedures
- Partners assessment policy
- Covid-19 procedures
- Data protection procedures
- Insurance policy

These policies and procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the charity.



Objectives and Activities

Objectives and Aims

As per constitution, the objectives of CatalyticAction are to ensure the relief and assistance of people in any part of the world who are the victims of war or natural disaster, trouble, or catastrophe in particular but not exclusively by:

- a. providing design services;
- b. providing advice on building housing and accommodation and public and private open spaces;
- c. providing or assisting in the provision of education, training, advocacy and advice; and
- d. the provision of any other such charitable services as the Trustees consider fit in furtherance of the said object.

We do so by empowering vulnerable children and their communities through participatory built interventions.

We champion the co-production of dignified built environments where everyone can take part in the creation of equitable, inclusive and sustainable communities.

We achieve this through practical projects in:

- Humanitarian architecture
- Multidisciplinary research

Our work has a direct positive impact on:

- **Children's wellbeing:** We aim to improve children's wellbeing through the process of co-design, creating safe and nurturing places that address their needs, acknowledge their rights and materialise their desires.
- **Social Cohesion:** Our projects enhance a sense of belonging and inclusion between diverse groups of people as they come together throughout the project cycle.
- **Local economy:** We create job opportunities and boost the local economy by hiring local labourers, adopting context-appropriate technologies and purchasing local materials.
- **Built environment:** Our projects create and rehabilitate spaces, delivering good quality sustainable and cost-effective built interventions that are dignified and inclusive to all community members.

The following four **values** are embedded in our approach:

- Valuing local knowledge
- Capacity building
- Supporting local economy
- Enabling equal engagement

Significant activities

CatalyticAction's primary charitable contribution is to equip communities with skills in participatory design and construction to empower them to alleviate conditions of poverty and inequalities. During this financial year, CatalyticAction has been focusing its activities on providing educational facilities that can provide long-term impact for the communities involved. CatalyticAction has also worked on a number of research projects, for which the overall aim was to develop the charity's knowledge of topics that are strictly linked to the charity's practice. Engaging in research also aimed at influencing partners' research practices towards a more participatory engagement of communities that looks at how can empowerment be achieved through physical interventions.



Figure 3 - Inclusive public park in Qaraoun



Achievements and Performance

In the year 2019-2020 CatalyticAction worked on 5 distinct projects, including 2 research projects. All of the projects, including research, included extensive activities of community engagement. For built projects, community members and local partners were involved in the design process from inception to implementation. This approach ensured the long-term sustainability of the projects as both community members and local partners acquired knowledge and skills essential for their long-term operation.

CatalyticAction monitors implemented projects with the support of its local partners. Monitoring and evaluation is carried out mostly through qualitative interviews by our local partners. As they are the ones who will use the spaces built by CatalyticAction on a daily basis, they can provide valuable feedback on the operation of the projects implemented. The charity also follows up directly on projects by conducting regular site visits.

The projects

Inclusive Parks in Arsal, Hermel, Barja and Qaraoun

During the first two months of the financial year, CatalyticAction completed 4 inclusive parks projects, which began in 2018-2019. 3 parks were implemented in partnership with Terre des Hommes Italia and 1 with Amel Association International. All 4 projects were funded by UNICEF.

Arsal playground extension

March 2020 – June 2020 (4 months)

After completing the inclusive playground in Arsal, in partnership with Terre des Hommes Italia (TDH IT), Action Against Hunger contacted TDH IT with the opportunity to extend the playground through a fund from the European civil protection and humanitarian aid operations (ECHO). CatalyticAction was selected to carry out the design and implementation of this project.

It was collectively decided that the playground would benefit from specific play items targeting young children and toddlers in particular. Young children need specific stimuli and experiences to guide their cognitive development. Through play activities carefully designed for toddlers, they will be able to build the foundations of their scientific learning, develop their self-confidence and physical skills. Moreover, for babies and young children it's important that the play resources are highly tactile and varied so that they can investigate them using their primary way of interacting with the world; the senses. Through sensory play, children digest new knowledge and store it for later reference.

Size of the allocated area for the intervention (in square metres): 50 m2



Project partners:

Terre des Hommes Italia

Terre des Hommes works for the rights of children and to promote equitable development without racial, religious, political, cultural or gender-based discrimination: Terre des Hommes Italy is a non-governmental organisation based in Milan and member of the International Terre des Hommes Federation (<https://terredeshommes.it/>).

Action Against Hunger

Action Against Hunger is an international charity committed to saving the lives of malnourished children and supporting their families to beat hunger. They enable people to provide for themselves, see their children grow up strong, and for whole communities to prosper (<https://www.actionagainsthunger.org/>).

Proximity of care

<https://www.proximityofcare.com/>

November 2019 – October 2020 (11 months)

Arup and the Bernard van Leer Foundation (BvLF) signed an MoU in December 2018 to partner and combine Arup's design and planning expertise, with BvLF's knowledge on early childhood development, to help improve the lives of young children, caregivers, and pregnant women globally.

Under this MoU, a grant was given to Arup – International Development, to produce a Guide to assess, better design and implement child-friendly interventions in vulnerable urban environments, such as informal and refugee settlements, with anticipated wider benefits among urban communities. The Guide builds on BvLF's Urban95 initiative, which aims to improve, through urban planning, policy and design, the way babies, toddlers and the people who care for them live, play, interact and travel through cities.

A number of countries and local partners organisations were selected to support in the development of the Guide, and in particular to adapt it to the specificities of the identified vulnerable urban contexts. CatalyticAction's was designated to carry out this work in the city of El-Mina, Tripoli, Lebanon.

CatalyticAction conducted the following tasks:

- Research and fieldwork for carrying out site assessments in Lebanon
- Research and fieldwork in Lebanon towards development of the design Guide
- Validation and advocacy of interim outputs and the completed Guide

Some of the fieldwork activities and the overall community engagement had to be adapted following the multiple restrictions imposed by the Lebanese government in response to the covid-19 global pandemic.



Project partners:

Arup

Arup is an independent firm of designers, planners, engineers, architects, consultants and technical specialists, working across every aspect of today's built environment. Together we help our clients solve their most complex challenges – turning exciting ideas into tangible reality as we strive to find a better way and shape a better world (<https://www.arup.com/>).

Bernard van Leer Foundation

The Bernard van Leer Foundation believes that all babies and toddlers, especially the most disadvantaged, deserve a good start in life. A good start puts each individual child on the path to realizing their full potential and, collectively, sets the foundation for a healthy, creative and peaceful society (<https://bernardvanleer.org/>).

Co-designing built intervention with children affected by displacement (DeCID)

<https://decid.co.uk/>

January 2020 – August 2020 (8 months)

The DeCID project aims to develop a new approach for the participatory design of social infrastructure for children in urban areas affected by displacement. In partnership with humanitarian actors, local communities, municipalities and academics, DeCID will develop a practical toolkit to support those involved in the co-design of such infrastructures.

The DeCID project believes that the positive impact of this approach to participatory design of social infrastructure depends on bridging a number of professional and disciplinary gaps: between institutions and professionals who work with children and/or displaced people, and engineers and architects who work on urban infrastructure at municipal level on the other; between architecture, engineering, and urban planning on the one hand, and social work and sociology on the other; and between affected communities on the one hand, and practitioners on the other.

CatalyticAction was a leading partner in this project providing their knowledge and experience on this topic.

Project partners

Bartlett Development Planning Unit

The Bartlett Development Planning Unit (DPU), part of University College London, conducts world-leading research and postgraduate teaching that helps to build the capacity of national governments, local authorities, NGOs, aid agencies and businesses working towards socially just and sustainable development in the global south (<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/bartlett/development/>).



Rural heritage recovery and post-conflict development in Kurdistan Regional Government *February 2020 – June 2020 (5 months)*

The project targets the understudied rural periphery of Erbil, the capital of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) in north-east Iraq. Erbil is known as one of the oldest continuously inhabited landscapes in the world. Erbil's rural-urban heritage includes tangible, intangible, and natural heritage.

The project aims to put in place a framework for heritage recovery that is long-term, bottom-up, participatory, socially just and inclusive. The envisioned approach is people-centred, heritage-led and place-specific.

CatalyticAction was engaged to train the local researchers who would conduct the fieldwork. They were trained on research methods, feedback and discussion, data management and research ethics.

Project partners

American University of Beirut

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has around 800 instructional faculty and a student body of around 8,000 students. The University encourages freedom of thought and expression and seeks to graduate men and women committed to creative and critical thinking, life-long learning, personal integrity, civic responsibility, and leadership (<https://www.aub.edu.lb/>).

Karantina park rehabilitation - Kan Ya Makan *August 2020 – January 2021 (6 months)*

Kan Ya Makan, co-creating children's environments through narratives - is a project developed by CatalyticAction as a response to the 4th of August Beirut blast. CatalyticAction partnered with Terre des Hommes Italia Lebanon and UNICEF Lebanon to implement the project. CA also collaborated with the AUB Neighbourhood initiative and clinical psychologists at the AUB psychology department. Partnerships and collaborations are key to ensure the project is implemented in a holistic and sustainable approach.

CatalyticAction adopts a co-design approach that aims at empowering vulnerable communities in the process which is crucial in such context. CatalyticAction already knew the community of the Karantina neighbourhood since 2016 when CatalyticAction implemented the playground in the park, during which we worked with the children in the Karantina neighbourhood to engage them in the design and implementation of their



playground, as well as in a series of community activities in the park and the neighbourhood.

The key objectives of the project are to:

- Co-create a safe social place with and for children; a place for expression, belonging and healing. This includes working on: the rehabilitation of the park and the construction of new play items and outdoor furniture (based on the community's needs and input).
- Strengthen community self-help and social support through the reactivation of the Karantina public park and through the mechanism of referral of the families of children to support them in other sectors such as shelter and relief.
- Advocate on the importance of community-based approaches to address mental health, wellbeing and the reconstruction of Beirut, focusing on the importance of public space and of working with children.
- Learn from this intervention to develop strategies for Beirut recovery with the participation of children and their communities.

Size of the allocated area for the intervention (in square metres): 2200 m²

Project partners

Terre des Hommes Italia

Terre des Hommes works for the rights of children and to promote equitable development without racial, religious, political, cultural or gender-based discrimination: Terre des Hommes Italy is a non-governmental organisation based in Milan and member of the International Terre des Hommes Federation (<https://terredeshommes.it/>).

Unicef Lebanon

The United Nations Children's Fund is a United Nations agency responsible for providing humanitarian and developmental aid to children worldwide (<https://www.unicef.org/>).

RELIEF Centre research partnership in Lebanon

<https://www.relief-centre.org/>

The RELIEF Centre is a transdisciplinary research collaboration that focuses on one of the world's pressing challenges of the moment: how to build a prosperous and inclusive future for communities affected by mass displacement.

This collaboration started in 2017-2018 and was renewed also in the current financial year.



Other initiatives

Lectures, workshops and public conferences

During the year, CatalyticAction delivered several lectures, workshops and public conferences with the aim of raising awareness about the role of participatory practices and architecture in the field of sustainable construction and development:

- Cardiff University, Welsh School Architecture (WSA), *Participatory Architecture for Community Empowerment*, Cardiff, UK, December 2019.
- Women in Design 2020 +, *Participatory Architecture for Community Empowerment*, Mumbai, India, January 2020.



- Forum for Exchange and Excellence in Design, *Impact of Community-led Spatial Interventions*, Pune, India, January 2020.
- The University of Sheffield, School of Architecture, *Community-led Spatial Interventions*, Sheffield, UK, February 2020.
- UCL, Development Planning Unit, MSc Building and Urban Design in Development, *Participatory Design: Stories from the field*, London, UK, February 2020.
- University of Arkansas, Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design, *Activist Practices Class*, Zoom, September 2020.



Key events

LafargeHolcim Awards for Sustainable Construction Jury

CatalyticAction's co-founder Joana Dabaj was selected as jury member for the LafargeHolcim Awards for Sustainable Construction. The jury met online in June 2020.

Call for new trustees

Sandra D'Urzo joined the board of trustees towards the end of this financial year. Sandra is currently working with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) as Senior Officer with the Shelter and Settlements Unit. Sandra is an architect whose work aims to improve the living conditions of the most vulnerable.

CatalyticAction's strategic planning meeting

In April 2020, the charity held its first strategic planning meeting with the board of trustees, staff members and long-term volunteers and supporters of CatalyticAction. The meeting was held via Zoom as covid-19 travel restrictions did not allow to meet in person.

The purpose of the meeting was to reflect on the past activities of the charity since its foundation and discuss the strategy for the future.

The following are the key strategic actions for the charity's growth, which have been identified during the meeting:

- Develop long-term partnerships with key actors
- Expand donors landscaping
- Develop a Covid-19 response
- Expand the charity's work in the UK
- Strengthen the evaluation of past projects
- Improve aspects of the charity's communication on impact
- Improve aspects of the charity's methodology to implement projects
- Register as NGO in Lebanon

Statement of public benefit

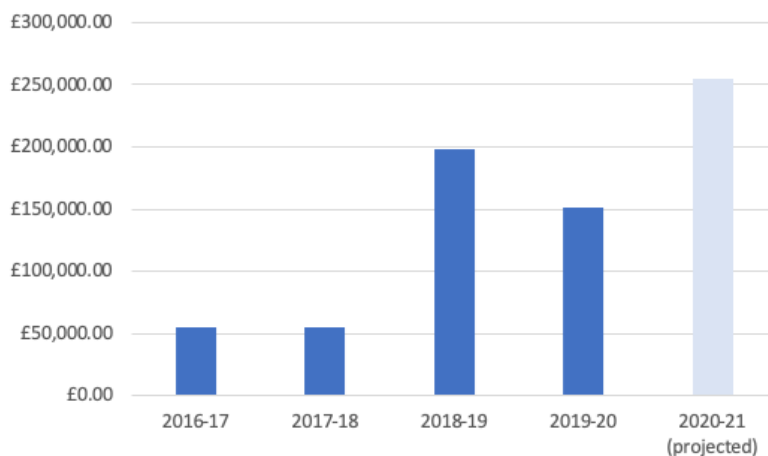
When reviewing the charity activities, the Trustees had to regard the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. The Trustees ensured that the activities undertaken are in line with the charitable objects of CatalyticAction, and in doing so are satisfied that CatalyticAction's activities meet the requirements on demonstrating public benefit.



Financial Review

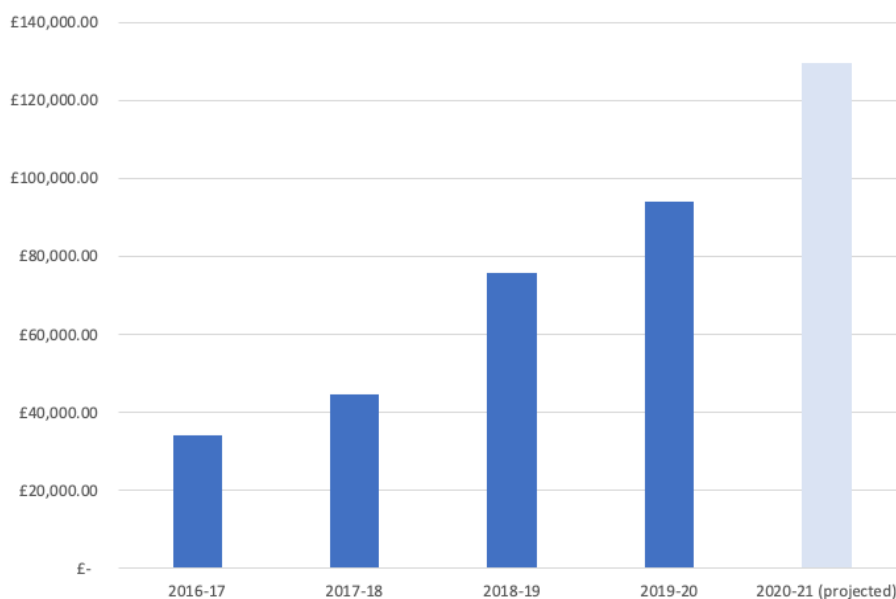
During this financial year, the charity raised a total income of £151,105. The charity expenditures for the year were £148,878.

Table 1 - Charity income



Of the total income, 57% was raised for 'fees for charitable services'. 2% was raised from other sources, including donations from individuals and private organisations. The below graph shows the income raised for 'fees for charitable services' throughout the years. This specific income is a good indicator of the charity growth as it is linked to the number and size of projects carried out.

Table 2 - 'Fees for charitable services' income





Following a growth of income since its foundation, the charity was expecting to increase its income and resulting operational budget also in 2019-20 following a similar growth rate (%) as achieved in the previous years (averaging at around 40% over 3 years). The charity budget was developed based on this projected growth. Nevertheless, this was only partially achieved as covid-19 had an impact on some of the charity's activities, and in particular limiting the number of built interventions that we were able to deliver. As a consequence, the charity was able to secure less income than planned (resulting in a growth rate of around 25%).

Despite the challenges, no major budget cuts have been made throughout the year. We have had no cause to furlough staff or make any redundancies during this period. A limited amount (around 10%) of unrestricted reserves had to be used to cover the budgeted expenses for this financial year.

Towards the end of the financial year (2019-20) field activities with project partners resumed (as covid-19 spread started to slow down), hence opening up opportunities for new projects. From a financial point of view, the explosion at the port of Beirut (on the 4th August 2020), brought significant international attention on the city and on the response to this disaster. This resulted in an increased effort from donor's organisations to fund reconstruction projects in Beirut.

As of the end of this financial year, the charity completed and secured the funds for 4 proposals linked to the reconstruction efforts in Beirut and began multiple conversations on further potential initiatives. For this reason, we anticipate a growth of the charity income in the upcoming year (2020-21) which is expected to be at around 40% compared to the income raised in the current financial year.

CatalyticAction benefits from the support of many volunteers in an operational capacity as well as many other vital roles. In accordance with the Charity Commission guidelines on financial reporting, the economic contribution of volunteers is not recognised in the financial statements.

CatalyticAction has carried out 5 projects during this financial year. The overall cost of these projects is only partially reflected in the financial statements as part of the implementation costs were incurred by our partners.

Principal funding sources

The main source of funding for the charity during this financial year have been fees for charitable services.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Trustees aim to hold unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover 6 months of operating expenses to enable the smooth running of the charity in the event of unforeseen costs and /

or downturn in expected income. The balance held as unrestricted reserves at the end of the financial year is £62,306 which represents approximately 5 months of operating costs, including staff salaries, based on the current operating budget. The reserves policy is reviewed every six months by the Board of Trustees.



Figure 4 - Inclusive public park in Hermel



Figure 5 - Participatory design workshop in Karantina



Challenges and Future Plans

The current year has seen a decrease of built projects due to the impact of covid-19. For roughly 6 months, the charity and its partners were not able to plan for new built projects as many restrictions were in place to limit the spread of covid-19. For example, construction sites were not allowed to operate in Lebanon, international travel was limited, and participatory activities with children and communities were not permitted.

Despite this challenge, the charity has seen an increase in research projects, through which new key partnerships were established. This has also been helpful to secure additional income for the charity to be able to operate at full capacity during the months where built projects were limited.

In the next financial year, the charity is planning to expand its work in Beirut, in particular in response to the 4th August port blast and the reconstruction process that started right after it. The charity has already started discussing with local partners for the rehabilitation of 5 public spaces in Beirut.

Alongside this effort, the charity aims at implementing additional educational spaces such as public parks, child friendly spaces, playgrounds, schools, and community centres to better the living conditions of disadvantaged communities. Due to the charity's experience in this context, CatalyticAction predicts that the majority of the projects will be implemented in Lebanon. Nevertheless, the charity staff and the Board of Trustees are working to expand CatalyticAction's activities to other countries in the Middle East.

The charity will continue to dedicate resources to increase the charity's impact by growing the number of partners and projects. The charity will also try to connect with a wider number of supporters through public events, social media and other networking opportunities. This process will hopefully allow the charity to reach a wider number of people and communities, empowering them through built interventions.

The charity is planning to expand its current Board of Trustees to at least a total of 5 members. The board is currently lacking strong financial planning skills, in particular regarding charity finance, which would be a requisite in the selection of future trustees. The charity is also looking for specific persons to join the charity as patrons; individuals who will be actively promoting the work of CatalyticAction without having to be involved in its operational management.

Outreach to students and professionals will remain an important activity of the charity. Participating in conferences, lessons, etc. has the potential to inspire students and professionals about the social potential of participatory architecture. CatalyticAction has been involved in academic research that will inform the practice of the charity.

The charity aims at participating at least one conference per year where we will have the opportunity to present the work of the charity to other charities, NGOs and academics. This event will be an opportunity to expand the charity's network and potentially create new partnerships.



Figure 6 - Inauguration day for inclusive park in Barja



Figure 7 - Painting activity with children for inclusive park in Arsal



Declaration

Andrea Rigon
Trustee – Chair
05-04-2021

Andrea Rigon

Andy Hilton
Trustee – Treasurer
05-04-2021

Andy Hilton

Emanuela Rizzo
Trustee
05-04-2021

Emanuela Rizzo

Sandra D'Urzo
Trustee
05-04-2021

Sandra D'Urzo



Charity Name CatalyticAction	No (if any) 1169604
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CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01/11/2019	To	Period end date 31/10/2020
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations from individuals	510	842	-	1,352	299
Donations from organisations	587	1,540	-	2,127	15,937
Fees for charitable services	123,916	4,319	-	128,235	181,706
Bank interest	113	-	-	113	413
Funds for expenses	-	19,277	-	19,277	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	125,126	25,978	-	151,104	198,355
Total receipts	125,126	25,978	-	151,104	198,355
A3 Payments					
Bank fees	144	-	-	144	310
Computer equipments	3,198	-	-	3,198	82
Consultancy costs	19,222	12,019	-	31,241	4,184
Cost of goods sold (direct project expenses)	210	21,223	-	21,433	81,706
Insurance	379	-	-	379	856
IT software and consumables	1,361	35	-	1,396	548
Postage	20	-	-	20	2
Staff salaries	89,325	-	-	89,325	65,917
Staff training	309	-	-	309	-
Telephone	35	-	-	35	22
Travel expenses	349	1,063	-	1,412	1,614
Sub total	114,552	34,340	-	148,892	155,241
Total payments	114,552	34,340	-	148,892	155,241
Net of receipts/(payments)	10,574	- 8,362	-	2,212	43,114
A5 Transfers between funds					
A6 Cash funds last year end	47,763	49,260	-	97,023	-
Cash funds this year end	58,337	40,898	-	99,235	43,114

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds				
	Triodos	50,543	40,898	-
	Co-operative bank	4,484		
	PayPal GBP	640		
	PayPal EUR	30		
	Cash USD	2,618	-	-
	Cash EUR	22	-	-
	Total cash funds	58,337	40,898	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets				
	Cash USD	2,618	-	-
	Cash EUR	22	-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use				
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Computer equipments	Unrestricted	-	1,660
	Construction tools	Unrestricted	-	1,720
			-	-

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Andrea Rigan	05/04/2021



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Catalytic Action

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 October 2020

**Charity no
(if any)**

1169604

Set out on pages

1

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31/10/2020.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees, 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:

Date:

27/02/2021

Name:

Olugbenga Coker

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

FCCA

Address:

1 Holmdale Road Kent BR7 6BY