



Planet Aid®

For People and the Planet



2023
ANNUAL REPORT



Table of Contents

Message From Our President.....	4
Who We Are.....	6
Clothing Collection and Habitat Protection.....	8
U.S. Textile Facts.....	9
What Happens to Donated Clothes & Shoes?.....	10
Global Community Development.....	12
Planet Aid Contribution to Local Partners in 2023.....	14
Global Partnerships.....	16
Strengthening U.S. Communities.....	18
Planet Aid Thrift Store.....	21
Donation Innovation.....	22
Board of Directors.....	23
Financial Statements.....	24
Statement of Financial Position.....	24

Message From Our President

Dear Friends,

As Planet Aid approaches three decades specializing in textile reuse to fund raise and empower local organizations to strengthen their communities, one lesson has become overwhelmingly clear. By organizing communities and individuals to take small steps together, we can make a big, positive impact locally and globally.

It may not seem like much when you donate clothes in our signature yellow bins or our new, state of the art donation centers, but it adds up quickly. In 2023, U.S. communities donated roughly 65 million pounds of used clothes and shoes to Planet Aid. These textiles were kept out of the waste stream and U.S. landfills and given a second life.

Similarly, it doesn't take much to partner with Planet Aid to host a donation bin,



but the combined impact is big. Planet Aid partners with thousands of schools, small businesses, places of worship, municipalities and shopping centers to make textile reuse convenient for millions of Americans. Together our bin host partners helped Planet Aid raise nearly \$3.6 million in 2023 to fund community development programs in the U.S., Latin America, Africa and Asia.

Planet Aid empowers individuals and communities to take small steps toward sustainability and equity. Taken together, these small steps have a significant impact in improving the lives of millions around the globe.

As a member of the Federation Humana People to People, Planet Aid recaptures

the value of used textiles to support a global network of local organizations striving toward a better future.

Planet Aid is able to have a significant global impact thanks to a multitude of donors, bin hosts, schools, governments, and local and global organizations taking collective action to improve the conditions for people and the planet.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Fred Olsson'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Fred Olsson
President and CEO



By organizing communities and individuals to take small steps together, we can make a big, positive impact locally and globally.



Who We Are

Planet Aid is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that collects, reuses and recycles textiles and shoes to fund sustainable change across the globe.

Planet Aid was founded in Massachusetts in 1997 and has helped divert more than two billion pounds of textiles from U.S. landfills and raise more than \$100 million for community development programs.

In 2023, Planet Aid's nearly 250 employees collected roughly 65 million pounds of clothes and shoes from nearly 10,000 donation bins and donation centers in 17 states and the District of Columbia.

Net proceeds from the resale of donated textiles are used to fund locally led projects in the U.S., Latin America, Asia and Africa. Donations to Planet Aid support programs

that promote education, health and wellness, environmental and agricultural sustainability and other community development programs.

Reusing textiles provides three wins for people and the planet.

- Win 1:** Less textile waste in U.S. landfills, which reduces methane, a potent greenhouse gas.
- Win 2:** Reusing textiles fuels a second-hand circular economy that provides livelihoods and affordable clothes to millions and reduces demand for new textiles.
- Win 3:** Funds are raised to support locally-led development programs across the



globe.

Planet Aid continues to innovate in order to make textile collection more efficient so more funds can be directed to individuals and communities in need.

Our latest innovation is the solar-powered, 24-hour monitored donation center. These refurbished, steel shipping containers make donating safe, convenient and more efficient.

Innovations like the donation center empowers individuals, organizations and communities to take small steps toward social equity and environmental sustainability. Taken together, these small actions have a big, positive impact.



65 million pounds of textiles collected in 2023



\$3.6 million raised in 2023



25+ years working for People and the Planet



Clothing Collection and Habitat Protection

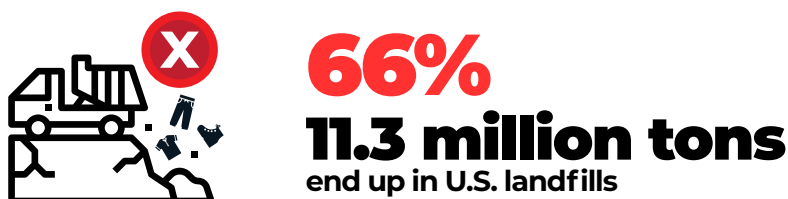
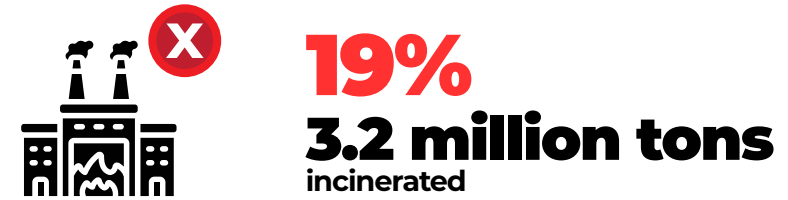
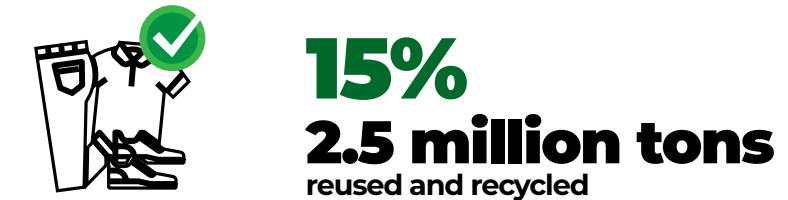
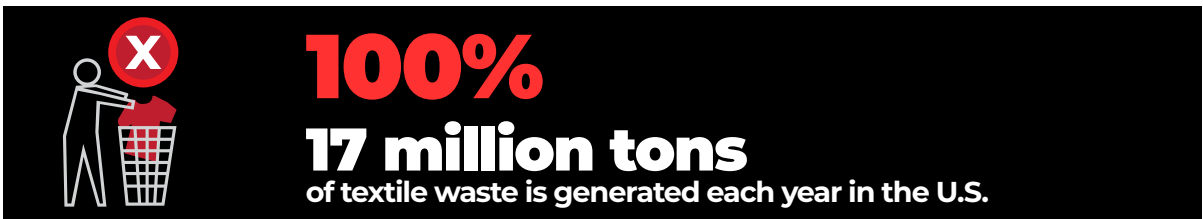
Over 25 years, Planet Aid has prevented more than 2 billion pounds of used clothing, shoes, and other usable textiles from entering the waste stream.

Planet Aid is a U.S. pioneer in textile reuse with nearly 10,000 donation bins in 17 states and Washington, D.C. Our 250 employees collect 60-80 million pounds of used clothes and shoes every year.

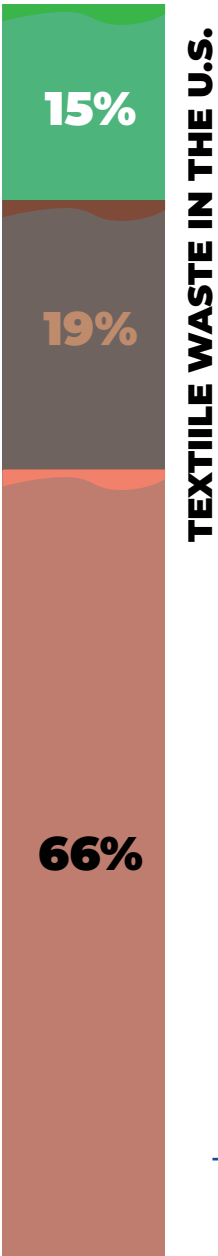
The need to reuse textiles in the U.S. is significant. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that less than 15% of all discarded clothing in the U.S. is reclaimed.

The average American throws out roughly 70 pounds of textiles per year, according to Council for Textile Recycling. This adds 11.3 million tons to U.S. landfills annually.

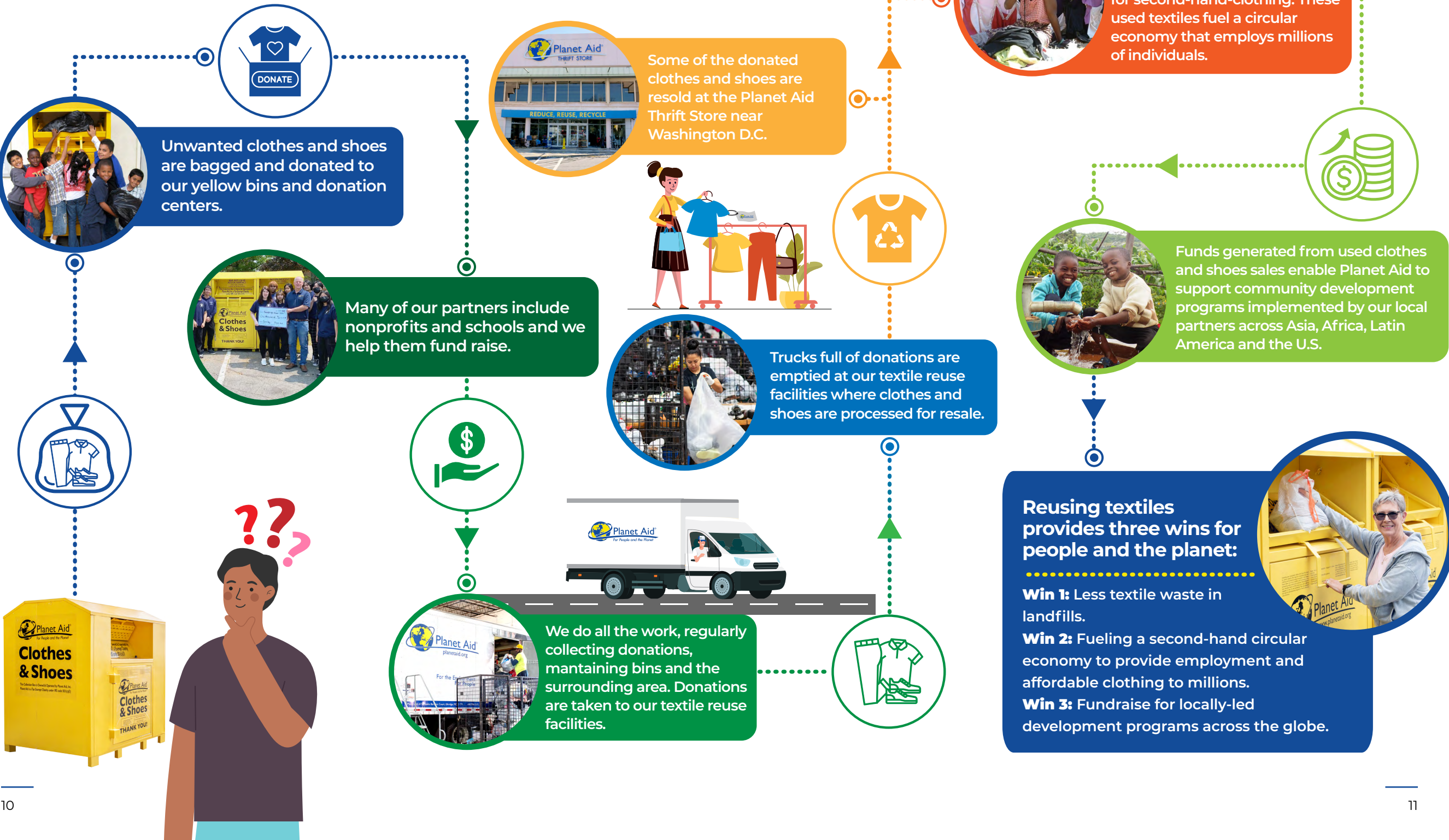
U.S. Textile Facts



Environmental Protection Agency (2021) National Overview: Facts and Figures on Materials, Wastes and Recycling. Available at: <https://www.epa.gov/facts-and-figures-about-materials-waste-and-recycling/national-overview-facts-and-figures-materials>



What Happens to Donated Clothes & Shoes?



Global Community Development

Planet Aid is a founding member of the Federation Humana People to People (HPP), an association of 29 locally-led organizations working to strengthen communities in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas. The resale of donated clothes and shoes raises funds for our HPP partners and their programs that empower their communities to tackle their most pressing issues and enact sustainable, positive change.

In 2023, Planet Aid raised close to \$3.6 million through the resale of used clothes to fund programs in 12 countries that promote education, health and wellness, environmental and agricultural sustainability and community development.

12
countries

- Belize
- Ecuador
- Brazil
- Mozambique
- Zimbabwe
- DRC Congo
- Angola
- Botswana
- South Africa
- India
- Laos
- United States

Education

Planet Aid provided funds for six education programs in Africa and India in 2023. Through our partnership with HPP co-member ADPP Angola, Planet Aid supported a teacher training program in Cabinda and a polytechnic school in Ramiro.

Health

Planet Aid continually supports health initiatives in Africa and Asia. In 2023, eight health programs received funds to prevent infection and counteract the

adverse impacts of HIV, Tuberculosis (TB), and COVID-19. Projects like HPP Laos’ TC/ TB save lives and raise awareness about TB by identifying infected people through active case findings.

Sustainable Agriculture


Planet Aid continues to advocate for smallholder farmers by funding Farmers’ Clubs. Sustainable agriculture programs like those in Brazil, Ecuador, and Laos mobilize farmers by building capacity and a shared knowledge base to solve challenging issues and implement

locally-led food security and climate resilience solutions. At the heart of the mission of Farmers’ Clubs is diversifying production, increasing crop outcomes, and empowering subsistence farmers.

Community Development

Last year, Planet Aid funded seven community development programs in Central and South America, India, and Africa. The donated funds supported projects ranging from education and teacher training, health facilities, farmers

clubs, and community development. Community development projects help reshape the path for countless families. Their socioeconomic welfare is transformed by reinforcing educational goals, aiding helath and nutrition programs, implementing environmental protection, and supporting women’s empowerment.





33%
EDUCATION



25%
HEALTH

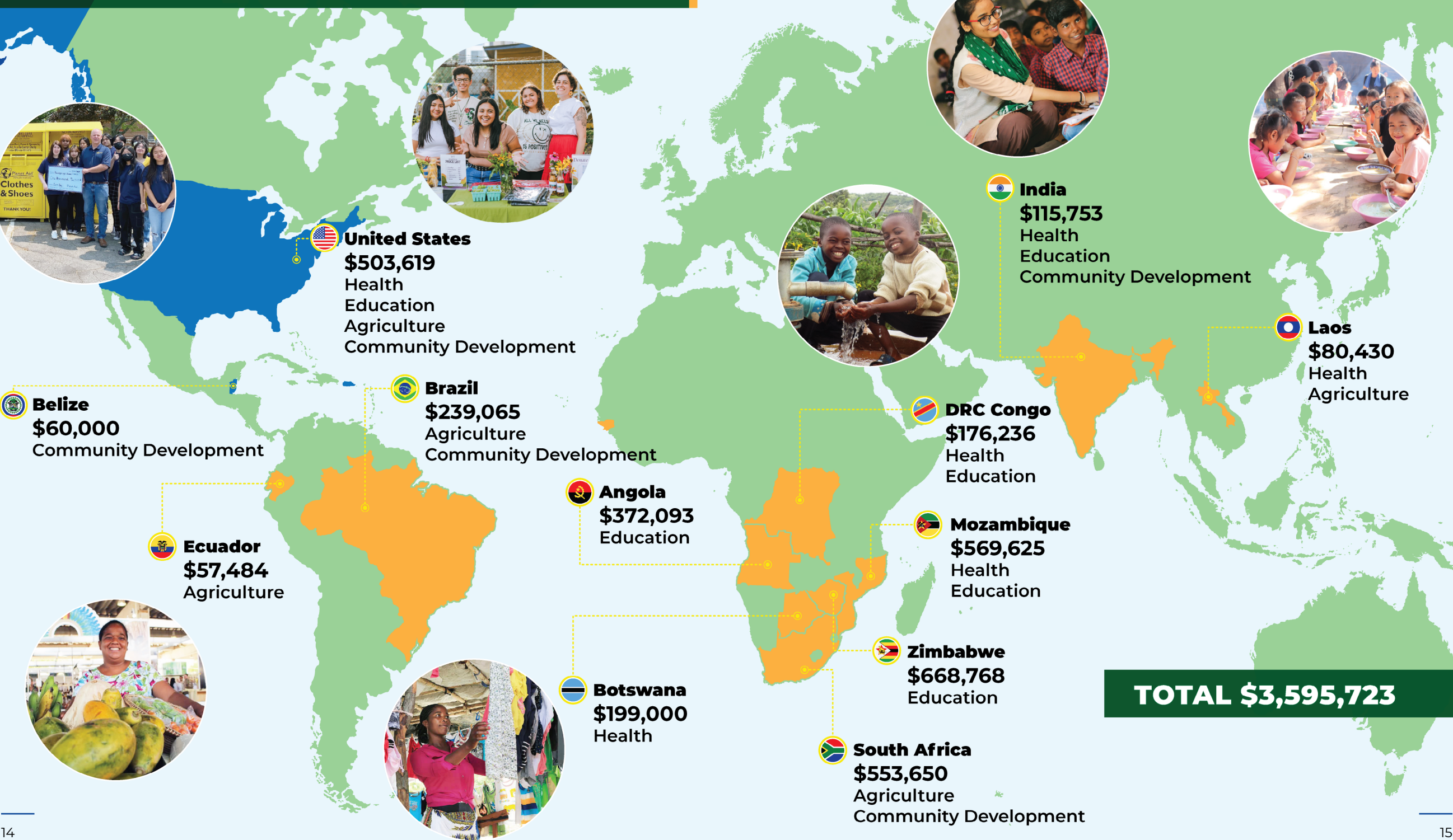


15%
SUSTAINABLE
AGRICULTURE



27%
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT

Planet Aid Contribution to Local Partners in 2023





Global Partnerships

For 26 years, Planet Aid has helped secure U.S. grant funding by working with the Humana People to People (HPP) network of local organizations.

Planet Aid is a founding member of the (HPP) Federation, an association of 29 organizations working in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas.

In addition to funds raised by used clothing resales, Planet Aid supports this network of local organizations through its Office of Global Partnerships.

This office works with members of HPP to secure grants from agencies such as the

United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). These grants fund programs that promote education, health and wellness, agricultural and environmental sustainability, and community development.

In 2023, Planet Aid’s Office of Global Partnership helped secure several



grants from federal U.S. agencies. Since operational expenses are covered by proceeds from the sale of used clothes, more grant funding can be dedicated to our international partners.

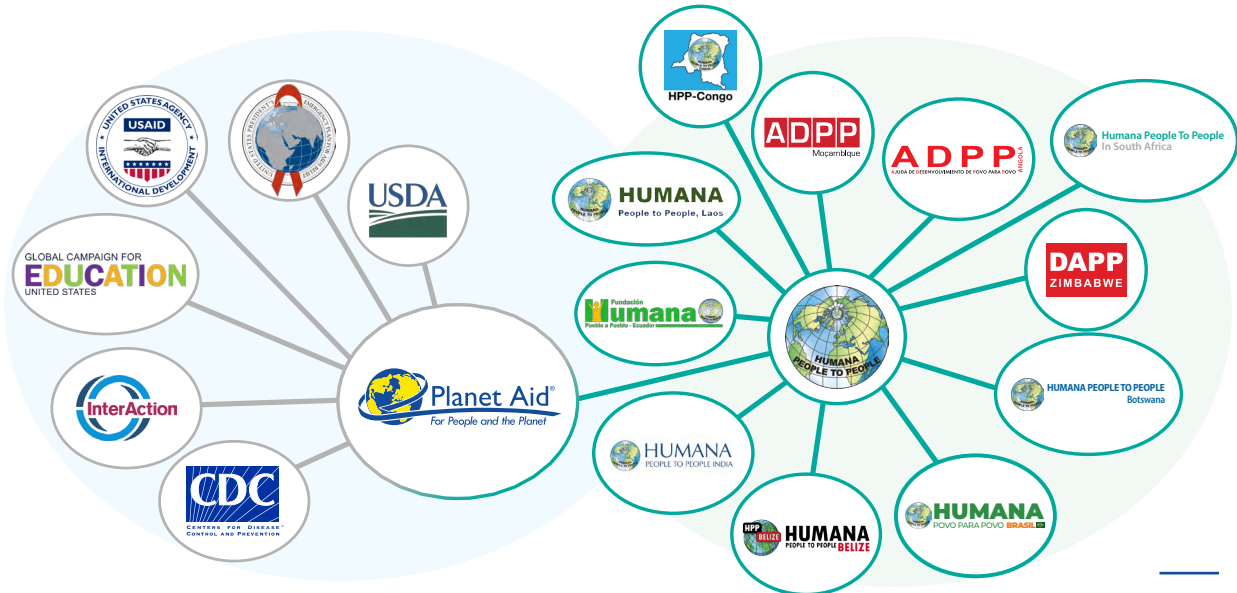
Another invaluable aspect of the work is communicating HPP members’ unique

local perspectives to the development community.

Here in the U.S. Planet Aid regularly attends conferences to promote industry-leading, local-led capacity-building approaches that are people centered and locally-led.

Local government and federal institutions

HUMANA People to People Federation





Strengthening U.S. Communities

In addition to helping U.S. communities reduce textile waste, Planet Aid provides significant financial contributions to U.S. organizations and communities in three ways:

- 1

Helping nonprofit partners fund raise through clothing donations.
- 2

Helping business partners fund raise for the charity of their choice.
- 3

Providing PACE grants to U.S. nonprofits.

In 2023, Planet Aid supported U.S. nonprofit organizations, charities and 350 schools with more than \$500,000. Our fundraising benefited organizations like Fetch Thrift Shop in Frederick, MD, which helps facilitate pet adoptions, shelter, and medical expenses.

The Greater Boston Food Bank and Eastern Food Bank are just two more examples of partnering organizations that help turn used textiles into funding to address critical issues like food insecurity, cancer research, and homelessness.

For the second year, Planet Aid expanded support for U.S. community-strengthening programs by awarding local nonprofits with \$25,000 grants. These Planet Aid Capacity and Environmental (PACE) grants promote sustainable development in U.S. communities and are awarded to increase the impact of U.S. nonprofits.

In addition, Planet Aid donated \$10,000 on behalf of staff to the World Central Kitchen, a U.S. based front-line organization that provides meals in war zones and areas of extreme climate crises.

Planet Aid Capacity and Environmental (PACE) Grants

Norris Square Neighborhood Project (NSNP)

For over 45 years, NSNP, a Philadelphia based community nonprofit organization has given youth and community residents a safe space to explore culture, and social justice issues, create art, and develop sustainable agriculture skills.



Vehicles For Change (VFC)

For 20 years, VFC has trained citizens returning from incarceration to become ASE certified mechanics and help them build careers. Nearly all (99%) of trainees are placed in jobs and 97% are still employed after 3 years.

Community Ecology Institute (CEI)

CEI cultivates communities where people and nature thrive together, focusing on tangible, community-level change at the intersection of environment, education, equity, and health.



Laurel Advocacy and Referral Services (LARS)

LARS enables homeless and low-income people in and near Laurel, MD who are in crisis to achieve stability and long-term selfsufficiency. Planet Aid grants helped launch a sustainable food program that sources and distributes locally grown produce.

Planet Aid's Scholar's Club

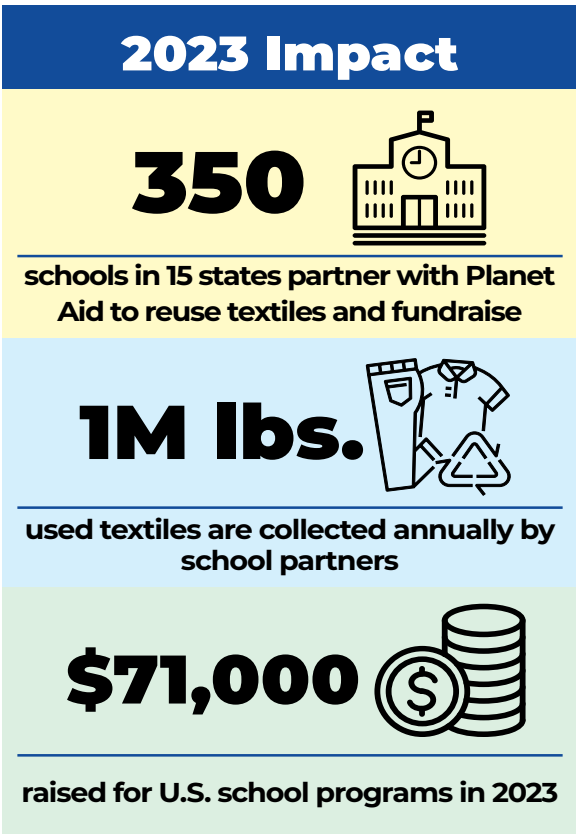
Planet Aid helps nearly 350 U.S. schools that host clothing donation bins be more environmentally and socially responsible.

Our Scholar's Club teaches students about the importance of reuse for environmental sustainability, help schools fundraise, and establish the school as a leader for a cleaner and greener community.

Our school partners receive many benefits, including:

- Eco education for students with free lessons plans and activities.
- Raise funds based on pounds collected.
- Unparallel support. We do all the work, so there are no costs, obligations or risks.
- Become a sustainability leader.

Textile reuse is a critical component of many community's zero waste goals, making our partner schools sustainability leaders.



Planet Aid Thrift Store

Our clean, organized store near Washington D.C. features thousands of gently used items ready for a second life.

Planet Aid launched the Thrift Store in 2015 to promote reuse and fund raise for community development.

Unlike Planet Aid donation bins, the Thrift Store accepts all types of donations, from accessories and housewares to electronics and toys. The store received more than 400,000 pounds of donations in 2023, selling nearly 300,000 items to more than 64,000 customers.

In addition, the Thrift Store was a proud sponsor of a sustainable fashion show honoring and fundraising for French and American veterans with disabilities at the Embassy of France in Washington D.C.



Planet Aid Thrift Store, Rockville MD



Sustainable Fashion Show, Embassy of France



Donation Innovation

Planet Aid continues to innovate to expand textile reuse and make donating more convenient, safe and efficient.

In 2023 we continued to roll out more of our state of the art dontion centers. Featuring solar powered lighting and 24-hour monitoring, these refurbished, steel shipping containers and are designed to be weather and tamper resistant.

The new centers help Planet Aid keep clothing collection costs down so more so more money can be directed to programs that strengthen communities.

Keep a look for a new donation center coming to your community soon.



Solar Powered
system & lighting



Monitored 24/7
maintenance & safety



Holds up to 6000 lbs
textiles & shoes

LEADERSHIP

Board of Directors



Fred Olsson
President and CEO



Mikael Norling
Chairman



Eva Nielsen
Treasurer



Jytte Martinussen
Director



Brian Moran
Director



Fernando Binhafta
Director





Samuel Rosenthal
Director



Dinorah Vences
Secretary

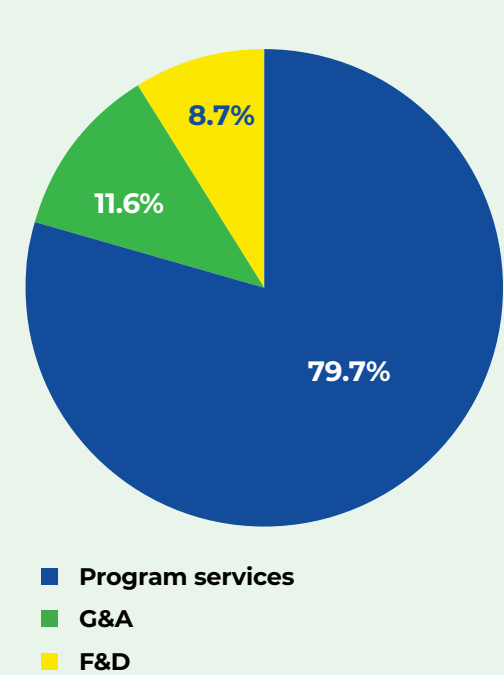
Financial Statements

Operating Revenue 	
Clothing & goods sales	\$36.9 million
Contracts & grants	\$5.4 million
Interest & other revenue	\$597,640
Total revenue	\$42,900,000

Operating Expenses 	
Program services	\$30.2 million
General & administrative	\$4.4 million
Fundraising & development	\$3.3 million
Total expenses	\$37.9 million
Net income	\$5 million

Statement of Financial Position

Current liabilities:	\$4.5 Million
Long-term liabilities:	\$ 11.85 Million
Net assets:	\$15.1 Million
Total assets:	\$26.96 Million



Education program by our local partners in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).





Administrative Offices

📍 47 Sumner St, Milford, MA 01757

☎ (508) 893-0644

Headquarters

📍 6730 Santa Barbara Court, Elkridge, MD 21075

☎ (888) 224-0925

☎ (888) 224-0925

✉ info@planetaid.org

🌐 planetaid.org

Follow us @planetaid

f @ x v d

Planet Aid is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization © 2023

