



TEARFUND IRELAND ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2014–15

Year ended 31 March 2015

tearfund



IRELAND



JORDAN



IRAQ



LEBANON



PHILIPPINES

HAITI

SOUTH SUDAN



UGANDA



Photo: Cally Spittle/Tearfund

ZIMBABWE



Photo: Photo: Cally Spittle/Tearfund.

MALAWI

SYRIA

ETHIOPIA

CAMBODIA



Photo: Mark Lang/Tearfund

Front cover photo: Tearfund's local partners distribute a monthly food package to a Syrian woman in an informal tent settlement in the Bekaa valley, Lebanon. Stella Chetham/Tearfund.

FOREWORD FROM THE BOARD CHAIRMAN



Tearfund Ireland responded to people and communities faced with much suffering across Africa, Asia and parts of the Middle East, bringing hope and transformation, thanks to our loyal and generous supporters and donors.

This year we continued to support ongoing development work in countries such as Malawi, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Haiti while also responding to humanitarian crises in South Sudan, the Central African Republic and Iraq, and the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, and continuing our work in Syria and the Philippines. It was a year when the world faced major turmoil with the highest numbers of refugees and displaced people experienced since World War II and the UN declaring four of the world's humanitarian crises as 'Level 3' – the highest designation.

Poverty and injustice are causing devastation to millions of people across the world. Churches and Christians in Ireland and in the countries we work in overseas once again united to do all we can to end injustice and poverty. Tearfund Ireland working through the local church and faith-based partners is a much needed Christian response to people in desperate situations. This year, as in previous years, we can report remarkable results and testimonies of lives and communities transformed.

This year our annual income rose by just under 11% which is something we are extremely blessed by and thankful for, given that we are only recently beginning to feel the impact of an economy recently moved into recovery. We take none of this for granted, and regularly thank God for the generosity and loyalty of all our supporters, donors and partners. While our annual income rose during the year, our commitment to projects working with the most vulnerable and poor was such that we prioritised funds from our reserves to reach those communities that needed them most. In the year ahead, we will continue to be prudent stewards of our resources and in meeting our commitments we will actively replenish our reserves.

We continue to maintain our track record of good governance and accountability. We have been able to keep our organisational costs low at 21% of income (cost of generating funds 19%, and governance costs 2%).

I extend our thanks to our dedicated and talented team of staff, volunteers, fellow Board Directors and advisers for their commitment, hard work and enthusiasm. I also thank and acknowledge all of our partners and particularly our local church partners both in the countries we work in and here in Ireland. Through this unique grassroots partnership, Tearfund Ireland is a part of the transformation of the lives of many poor and marginalised people and communities.

Dr. David Weakliam
Chairperson
18 June 2015

David has worked in international and global health since 1988, including 12 years working with Tearfund and other development agencies in Nepal, Liberia, Sudan and Democratic Republic of Congo. Following his return to Ireland he worked as health adviser with Irish Aid, the government overseas aid programme from 2003 to 2007. David is now a Consultant in Public Health Medicine in the Health Service Executive (HSE) and works as Programme Lead for the HSE Global Health Programme.

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FOREWORD FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Tearfund Ireland continued to have a positive impact in the lives of some of the most poor and marginalised people across Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

During the year we completed a three-year Irish Aid-funded project in Malawi with outstanding results, and commenced a further Irish Aid-funded project in Ethiopia. Projects were continued in the Middle East which continued to experience major unrest due to conflict, with many millions of people displaced and living as refugees. In particular we focused on responses to the crises and conflicts in Syria and Iraq. Development projects were continued in Cambodia, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Ethiopia and Haiti. We also responded to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa.

Our *No Child Taken* campaign, highlighting the devastating impact of poverty and injustice on children, shone a light on the darkness and horror of child- and human-trafficking. We launched our *No Child Taken* campaign across Irish churches in the South of Ireland, which garnered a collective response from many in terms of support and advocating for new legislation to address trafficking here in Ireland. Tearfund Ireland joined forces with the Turn Off The Red Light alliance as part of our advocacy strategy; its campaign, which we supported, seeking the introduction of new legislation to criminalise the buyers of sex. At the time of writing, this legislation has been brought before the Dáil and is waiting to be signed into law.

Another key feature of this year was that, while continuing to focus on our work overseas, our work included mobilising church and individual support here in Ireland and equipping our supporter base to engage more effectively in ending poverty and injustice. We increased our activities in development education as a means to grow greater awareness, understanding and engagement in poverty eradication and social justice.

Income growth during the year was very positive with an increase of close to 11%. In order to achieve greater impact, more resources will be required in the year ahead to meet the extensive and growing needs of some of the world's poorest people suffering extreme hardship. We are exceedingly thankful for the generosity and loyalty of all our supporters, donors and institutional funders.

Tearfund Ireland completed its strategic planning process during the year. The Strategic Plan for the next five years 2015–2020 provides a clear, focused and ambitious plan to have greater impact in the way we work. With a strong conviction that more must be done to see even greater transformation and to bring hope to more people in great need, this plan provides the way forward for Tearfund Ireland, which is motivating and exciting. Myself, the Board and staff team are committed to and energised to achieve more, not only in the year ahead but also in the next number of years. We firmly believe that with God's help and that of His church here in Ireland and our many partners, we can achieve more and have greater impact.

Once again, I thank our Board, staff and volunteers for all their efforts, talents and commitment in achieving our goals. I also acknowledge the fortitude and hard work of our church-based partners across the many countries we work in, for their tireless and high-quality work. I also thank our supporters, church partners, donors and the Irish government for all their support to us in reaching those in greatest need.

Thank you!

Sharan Kelly
Chief Executive Tearfund Ireland

Chair of Dóchas, the association of Irish Non-Governmental Development Organisations.
Vice Chair of EU-CORD Administrative Council, a network of European Christian Relief and Development NGOs.

OUR TRANSFORMATIONAL WORK IN 2014–15

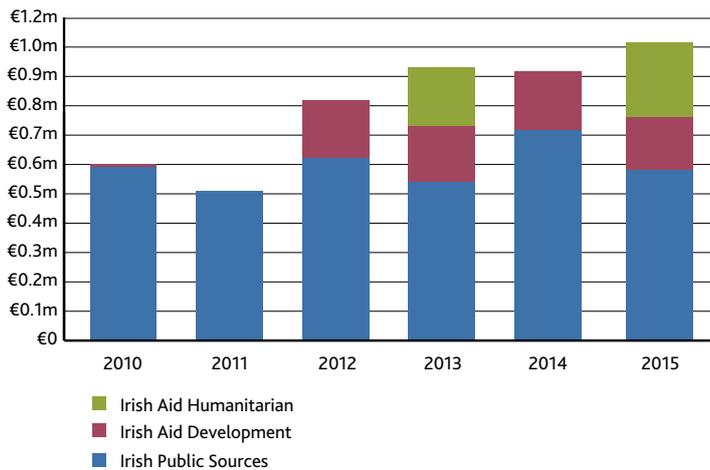
Thanks to the loyalty and generosity of our supporters and the support of our donors, income rose by approximately 11% this year. This support ensured that we continued to bring hope and transformation to some of the most vulnerable people and communities in the world. Ireland began to show signs of recovery during the year, which can account for a positive increase in resources also. It is with sincere thanks that we acknowledge the generosity, efforts and support of our supporters, church partners, volunteers, funders and collaborators. While there are exceptional needs across the world because of increasing conflict, disease such as Ebola, natural disasters and the devastating impact and scandal of poverty and injustice, we are once again encouraged by the extent of transformation experienced in the communities we work in.

We continued to achieve positive outcomes across all programmes and projects through our collaborations: with local partners in the countries we worked in; partnerships with Tearfund in the UK, Tear Netherlands, Tear New Zealand, Food for the Hungry, among others; and through programme funding from Irish Aid, the Church of Ireland’s Bishops’ Appeal and others. Resources continue to be used efficiently, administration costs managed effectively and accountability ensured.

Organisational costs were maintained at the same level as the previous year, at 21%. Tearfund Ireland continues to grow and in order to achieve more, resources need to be directed to key activities and to equip the organisation to achieve our goals and manage effectively and efficiently. Good governance, transparency and accountability continue to be given due attention. We continue to support our capacity to build our resources to reach more of the world’s most poor and vulnerable.

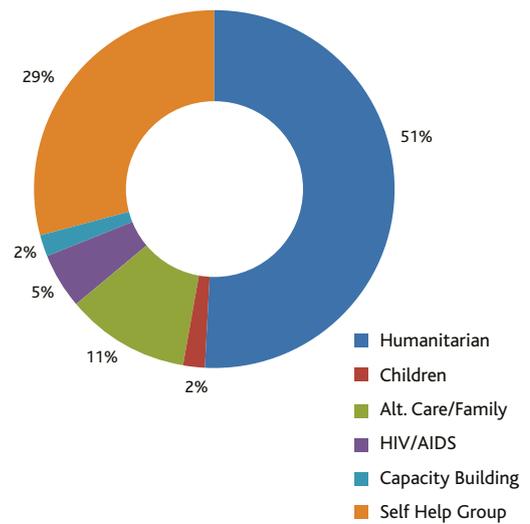
INCOME GROWTH

YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2015
COMPARED TO PREVIOUS YEARS



EXPENDITURE BY ISSUE

FOR YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2015



EXPENDITURE BY COUNTRY

FOR YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2015

Chart 1

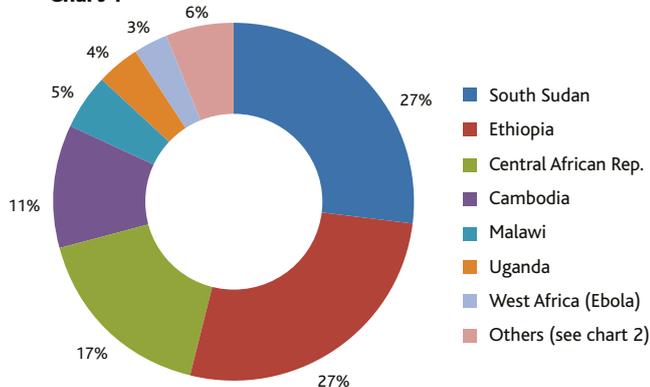
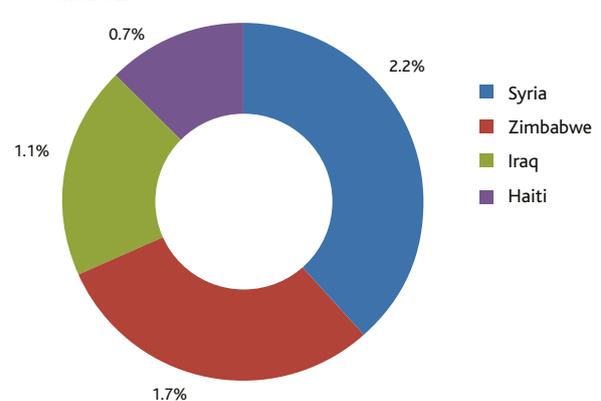


Chart 2



RESPONSES TO HUMANITARIAN DISASTERS

We continued to support our response to the conflict in Syria and the recovery in the Philippines after Typhoon Haiyan caused devastation there at the end of 2013. We responded to two additional humanitarian crises because of the effects of protracted conflict, in South Sudan and the Central African Republic. The response in Syria continued during the year with the primary focus on supporting the most vulnerable internally displaced people and refugees in the neighbouring countries of Lebanon and Jordan.

MIDDLE EAST: SYRIA, LEBANON, JORDAN

Partners	
Key donor	Irish Aid
Local partners	Various faith-based organisations (unnamed for security reasons) Awareness Foundation Medair Arab Centre for Consulting and Training Services Vision Hope International (VHI)

The conflict in Syria has been going on since the Arab Spring uprisings of 2011. The conflict is now in its fifth year, with no end in sight. The situation has deteriorated into a humanitarian crisis on a global scale, has spilled into neighbouring countries and even European ones, and has become a threat to international stability, due to its complex social, political, economic and religious dimensions.

Tearfund Ireland has been working through local partners with the aim of meeting the humanitarian needs of people affected by the conflict in Syria. Focus has been on: food assistance through cash, food parcels or vouchers; provision of essential non-food items (NFIs) such as cooking utensils, bedding, hygiene kits, blankets and heaters; formal and non-formal education as well as Child Friendly Spaces (CFSs); physical, mental, psychosocial and trauma care services; and support for housing as large numbers of refugees reside in urban areas, rather than camps.

KEY OUTCOMES – SYRIA

- 8,000 individuals have received emergency food supplies.
- 2,610 people have received winter survival kits – blankets, heating stoves, and cash for fuel.
- 146 young Syrian Christian leaders received training.

KEY OUTCOMES – LEBANON

- 490 Syrian refugee families (about eight people per family) received monthly food and hygiene supplies.
- 300 Syrian refugee children have received primary education.

KEY OUTCOMES – JORDAN

- 10,950 people have received winter supplies including blankets, stoves and food vouchers.

- 10,064 people benefited from legal awareness workshops, helping them learn about their rights, rental law and other issues.
- 3,300 beneficiaries received food aid and 2,680 received food aid and hygiene distributions.
- 757 individuals from 100 families received assistance with rental costs.
- Two kindergartens were set up, delivering pre-school education and trauma care for 300 Syrian refugees.
- 800 women have benefited from trauma care sessions to help them deal with their distressing experiences.



A mother holds her baby at a 3 day trauma workshop in a church in Jordan. Many Syrian women have become single parents due to the war and struggle to cope as refugees. Run by a Tearfund local partner, these sessions help women to recognise and manage trauma in themselves and their families, giving them space to talk about their experiences with each other. Stella Chetham/Tearfund.

IRAQ

Partners	
Local partners	CAPNI – Christian Aid Programme – Nohadra Iraq Chaldean Archdiocese Committee of Dohuk United Churches for Relief of Refugees Zalal Life

During 2014 Northern Iraq saw mass displacement and growing humanitarian needs following advances by so-called Islamic State militants. The United Nations designated the humanitarian crisis in Iraq a Level 3 – its highest-level emergency. According to the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), 1,814,862 people had been identified as internally displaced persons (IDPs) since January 2015. Meanwhile, 1,248,000 people arrived in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) in the last year, which was in addition to the 250,000 Syrian IDPs already in the region, putting significant pressure on resources and on the host population.

Tearfund Ireland launched an appeal in September 2014, in response to the escalating political and humanitarian crisis in Iraq and primarily supporting Tearfund UK’s operational response, as well as local partners. The response initially focused on supporting CAPNI with food and hygiene pack distributions, but also moved to unconditional cash assistance targeted at winterisation and WASH programming.

KEY OUTCOMES

- More than 1,200 families have received an emergency kitchen kit through CAPNI, who are also providing medical care through mobile health clinics.
- The Chaldean Archdiocese currently runs a local school from Year 1 to 9 and the beneficiaries are local children and IDP children. A Special Needs Programme is included.
- The Committee of Dohuk United Churches for Relief of Refugees requested that Tearfund provide an ultrasound machine for a medical clinic that has been set up on the church grounds for IDPs.

SOUTH SUDAN

Partners	
Key donor	Irish Aid
Local partners	Tearfund South Sudan and local churches

The outbreak of the conflict in South Sudan in December 2013 led to insecurity and a countrywide food crisis. Ongoing heavy rains caused logistical complications in the supply and delivery of food and other essential items.

Northern Bahr el Ghazal state was among the most food-insecure areas and ran out of food stocks earlier than normal. This situation was further aggravated by the poor harvests of 2014 and insecurity which resulted in border closures, restricted commodity flows and subsequent price inflation.

A Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System (FNMS) evaluation carried out in March 2015 found that in the total population of Northern Bahr el Ghazal:

- 34% had moderate food insecurity.
- 64% had a low Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS).
- 79% were depending on markets, with only 16% still consuming food from their own harvests.

The project provided supplementary feeding through the distribution of food vouchers to the most vulnerable households with malnourished children in a way that supported the local markets. At the same time a process was initiated that seeks to engage local churches and church volunteers in supporting their local communities.

KEY OUTCOMES

- 2,220 food vouchers were redeemed by the 370 households, in six distributions, representing 100% of the targeted distribution.
- Local churches were trained in church and community mobilisation.

BACK FROM THE BRINK IN SOUTH SUDAN

Agelika Agun is among the women whose families qualify for food vouchers. Her 18-month-old daughter Veronika showed signs of malnutrition after a bout of diarrhoea and received supplementary food from a feeding centre. Angelika heads up a household in which six other people depend on her. Her husband works away from home and Angelika lacks any other assets such as livestock.



Photo: Markus Köker/Tearfund Ireland

EBOLA

Partners	
Local partners	Evangelical Fellowship of Sierra Leone New Harvest Development Office – Sierra Leone EQUIP Liberia Association of Evangelicals of Liberia/AEL – Liberia

The Ebola epidemic during 2014 was the largest ever recorded. It spread primarily across three West African countries which struggled to control the epidemic in an environment marked by extreme poverty, already inadequate health systems and harmful cultural practices. Tearfund Ireland’s response focused on the hardest hit countries: Liberia and Sierra Leone.

KEY OUTCOMES – SIERRA LEONE

- 24,111 people received Ebola-related messages aired on several radio stations in various local languages.
- 100 counsellors were trained to provide psychosocial and counselling to Ebola-affected people.
- 250 orphans and 240 quarantined households were supported.
- A moratorium on the practice of female genital mutilation (FGM) was put in place after faith-based community leaders openly spoke out and successfully campaigned against harmful cultural practices which fuel the spread of the Ebola virus.

PHILIPPINES

Partners	
Key donor	Bishops’ Appeal
Local partners	Philippine Children’s Ministries Network (PCMN) Food for the Hungry (FH)

The emergency response to Typhoon Haiyan has been phased out and ongoing work now focuses on disaster risk reduction, restoring livelihoods, health and community capacity building. Local partners rely heavily on volunteers.

PCMN and its network have been instrumental in the passage of Children’s Codes in the cities of Davao and Quezon. PCMN has also established a network of local churches in Samar, of which 66 are active in child protection and disaster management.

KEY OUTCOMES

- Children’s vulnerability to abuse and trauma is reduced because of an established community of care, the presence of adequately trained care workers and educational training.
- 67 youth received Youth for Safety training and 2,892 children completed Operation SAFE.
- 141 families were recruited and trained to be foster families for children in need of special protection (CNSP).

KEY OUTCOMES – LIBERIA

- 75,000 were reached with Ebola prevention messages through radio broadcasts.
- 172 survivors and 240 affected households received food items. 415 survivors and dependents received clothing and 1,235 individuals from 254 hard-to-reach households received hygiene kits.
- 50 Ebola orphans received care and support in December 2014 and January 2015. Disinfectant materials, food items and regular medical check-ups were some of the essentials provided.
- 77 stigmatised Ebola survivors have benefited from resettlement packages.



Photo courtesy of EC/ECHO/Jean-Louis Mosser.



Photo: Children among the ruins of their town destroyed by Typhoon Haiyan. Photo: Marcus Perkins/Tearfund

YOLANDA’S STORY

Yolanda Tohero runs a sari-sari (convenience) store right by the coast in Mabuhay. During the typhoon, she fled to higher ground with her two children. She is now a Health Volunteer for Food for the Hungry, having received training on various topics such as handwashing and diarrhoea, water purification and human waste disposal. ‘Before, I didn’t know about cleanliness and the importance of handwashing, but now I can teach my children and neighbours good hygiene principles,’ she says.

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

Projects continued in Malawi, Cambodia, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Haiti, and the Self Help Group project commenced in Ethiopia mid-year. We also continued to focus on projects and programmes targeting forgotten children, vulnerable women, livelihoods and HIV. A key feature of our development and humanitarian programmes is our work at grassroots levels through local churches and faith-based organisations who are best placed to work with the most vulnerable and marginalised in their communities. They support a process of identifying the needs, solutions and resources they have within themselves and their communities. Ownership, empowerment and transformation are ensured through the approach taken. Here are some highlights of our work on the ground during the year.

UGANDA

Partners	
Key donors	Bishops' Appeal, Electric Aid
Connected Churches	Hope Community Church
Local partners	Pentecostal Assembly of God (PAG)

Poor communities in Uganda are being facilitated to mobilise their own skills and resources to tackle local problems, rather than depending on handouts from outside. The result is a growth in confidence as their initiatives improve living conditions and build relationships.

Two projects have been supported in Uganda: the Self Help Group programme which has been based on experience adapted from Ethiopia, and the church and community mobilisation process. The two approaches complement each other extremely well. The Self Help Group training leads to groups being established which enable members to save money to set up small businesses and the livelihoods training helps the Self Help Group members to choose businesses which are most likely to be profitable.

Two training workshops have taken place in Kampala to train partner staff. They now have skills to help community members identify their assets, understand the policies and practices which support or hinder them, and analyse the market dynamics for different products.

'I found the training to be enriching, practical, provocative and timely to communities. Surely those we work with will be able to be self-sustaining!' says Sam Emenyu, the coordinator of PAG, Tearfund Ireland's partner in Soroti, Uganda.

KEY OUTCOMES

- 180 key stakeholders received training in the Self Help Group approach.
- Six basic workshops for 30 people were each conducted in the first seven months of the project, followed by another six advanced workshops.
- Training was focused on setting up homogenous groups, savings, election and development of relevant by-laws. Establishing by-laws enables stakeholders to experience democratic processes within a legal framework.



A church and community mobilisation workshop (CCM) taking place in Organgora, Uganda. Photo: Layton Thompson/Tearfund.



Training under the mango tree in Organgora, Uganda. Photo: Layton Thompson/Tearfund.

CAMBODIA

Partners	
Key donor	Donor wishes to remain anonymous
Connected Churches	Carrigrohane Union of Parishes Killeshandra Presbyterian Church Kilkenny Presbyterian Church Midleton Evangelical Church
Local partners	International Cooperation Cambodia (ICC) Cambodia Hope Organisation (CHO)

While Cambodia’s overall poverty rate has fallen, progress still needs to be made to bridge the income gap between urban and rural populations.

Ninety per cent of Cambodia’s 2.8 million poor live in rural areas. Children are most vulnerable, facing daily threats to their health, education, safety and overall development. An estimated 955,250 children were engaged in economic activity in 2012, with 31.3% of them doing hazardous labour.

Poverty is still a key driver that forces many children and young people to live on the streets, puts them at risk of being trafficked or forces them to live in institutions away from their families. This results in increasing levels of adolescent risk behaviours, including drug abuse, gang violence and criminal activity.

MALAWI

Partners	
Key donors	Irish Aid, Dublin City Council
Connected Churches	Holy Trinity Rathmines
Local partners	Livingstonia Synod AIDS Project (LISAP) Evangelical Alliance Malawi (EAM) CCAP Synod of Livingstonia Youth Department

Malawi continues to face challenges both politically and economically. In this desperately poor country the primary causes of death for women of reproductive age are diseases related to AIDS and complications associated with pregnancy and childbearing.

Tearfund’s IMPACT projects with LISAP and EAM in Malawi have been a resounding success and on many occasions, are used as reference material by other NGOs working within the HIV sector.¹ This is particularly true for the innovative approach of the Mother Buddies who connect pregnant HIV-positive women to clinics and support them so that their babies are born HIV-free. At the same time the livelihoods of the most vulnerable families are improved through Self Help Groups and animal sharing schemes.

KEY OUTCOMES

- 472 girls, 453 boys and 58 adults attended anti-trafficking training sessions.
- 106 people, including 73 mothers, learnt the importance of children’s rights and preventing human trafficking, domestic violence and sexual abuse.



Photo: November 2014 Sharan Kelly, Tearfund CEO delivers over 700 campaign postcards from Tearfund Ireland supporters to Minister for Justice Frances Fitzgerald highlighting how human trafficking is the fastest growing crime in the world ravaging the lives of 1.2 million children every year.

It may not come as a surprise that the National Aids Commission of Malawi (NAC) has acknowledged IMPACT as one of the top ten projects focusing on HIV.

KEY OUTCOMES

- 87% of last-born children of HIV+ mothers were tested, 80% within the first six weeks after the birth. Of that total, only three babies tested HIV+.
- 2,641 male partners were tested for HIV as part of their partner’s ante-natal clinic visit.
- 96% of HIV+ women received counselling and anti-retroviral drugs and 98% received advice on preventing HIV transmission to their child.
- 82% of women supported by Mother Buddies were receiving counselling on how to avoid unintended pregnancies and 63% were taking measures to avoid getting pregnant.
- Mother Buddies supported vulnerable women through friendship and by providing emotional and social support. They also provided practical support during pregnancy and the first six months post partum.

LIFE AFTER HIV DIAGNOSIS IN MALAWI – HAWA’S STORY



Mother buddy church volunteer visiting Hawa and baby Ikira as part of the IMPACT project in Malawi

Hawa is a single mum living in Amini village and has three children. She is 29 and living with HIV. Her two older children, who are four and six, are also living with the virus. But her younger son, Ikira, tested negative and Hawa believes his status is entirely down to the IMPACT project.

When Hawa became pregnant early in 2013, Mother Buddies encouraged her to go for HIV testing and counselling. When she tested positive, she was immediately put on treatment as was Ikira for several months after his birth. He has since tested negative. Mother Buddies continued to visit Hawa throughout the pregnancy.

¹Mothers2Mothers, October 2014 publication, Current Practices to Improve Uptake, Retention and Adherence for Option B in Malawi. (n.d.). (n.d.).

ETHIOPIA

Partners	
Key donor	Irish Aid
Connected Churches	Maynooth Community Church
Local partners	Terepeza Development Association (TDA) Ethiopian Guenet Church Development and Welfare Organisation (EGC/DWO)

Tearfund Ireland's Self Help Development in Wolaita and Sidama project in Ethiopia commenced on 1 November 2014 after securing funding from Irish Aid. The objective of the project is to increase the resilience of chronically food-insecure households, empowering them to become self-reliant and able to meet the developmental needs of their families in an environmentally sustainable way. The aim is to increase their

resilience to shocks, so, for example, they are better able to cope with the effects of phenomena like El Niño that are likely to lead to drought in some areas of Ethiopia.

The project uses the highly cost-effective yet empowering Self Help Group approach, in both rural and urban settings, which enables the poorest of the poor to form groups to increase their social capital, and save small amounts of money to increase their financial capital, which they can invest in small businesses to improve their livelihoods. Ethiopia in general and Sidama in particular are considered prime coffee growing areas and stakeholders are also exploring ways of expanding coffee business approaches in an ecologically sustainable way.

BUZUNESH'S STORY



Buzunesh and members of the self-help group *Alama Yalew* (We have vision).

Not so very long ago, Buzunesh Gebru could not imagine her world would ever change.

Life revolved around raising her children and doing the household chores. Her husband's salary was not enough to sustain the family and Buzunesh felt trapped.

'We didn't save, we spent unwisely and were trapped in abject poverty,' she says. 'I never thought I could be capable of doing anything.'

But then Buzunesh, who lives in Hawassa in southern Ethiopia, was invited to join a local Self Help Group called *Alama Yalew* ('We have vision'). From that point on, her outlook changed dramatically.

After saving with the group for a while, she was able to take out a loan and buy cattle to breed, with support and advice from her fellow group members and the group's facilitator.

'I found people who respect my ideas and value my feelings,' says Buzunesh. 'I realised the hidden potential deep inside of me. I started to feel like someone important.'

'[Now] we are sending our children to school; we feed them three meals a day; we buy them clothes twice a year. This is all because I work and I know how to manage my own resources.'

Buzunesh's success story has been replicated thousands of times since the first Self Help Group supported by Tearfund



was set up in Nazareth, 55 miles east of Addis Ababa, in 2002. In

fact, there are thought now to be about 12,000 such groups, impacting the lives of more than 1 million people.

Buzunesh's own group, *Alama Yalew*, was set up in 2009. Though most of its 18 members are female, two members are men. Together, they represent 98 household members, including 62 children.

Group members started by saving 3p each a week but that amount has now risen to 10c a week. Gradually, they've been able to start making low-interest loans to group members, ranging from €4 to €32.

These loans have enabled members to start businesses, send their children to school, cover medical expenses, and buy livestock and fertiliser for farming. The facilitator helps build their capacity by providing training in savings and credit management. There's also advice available on issues such as family planning.

Alama Yalew group members say they now plan to buy a grinding mill, open a grain store, sell flour and spices, and open an adult education centre.



One of the cattle breeding members of the self-help group *Alama Yalew*.

ZIMBABWE

Partners	
Local partner	VIVA Network Zimbabwe

A large proportion of Zimbabwe’s 14.2 million people continue to experience extreme poverty due to the long-lasting effects of economic, political and social instability, exacerbated by a breakdown of the rule of law.

The plight of already vulnerable communities within society including the elderly, people with disabilities, women and children, is significantly worse. Zimbabwe has one of the largest HIV epidemics in the world, with an estimated adult HIV prevalence of 15% and 1.4 million people living with HIV. This pandemic has also contributed to Zimbabwe being among one of the countries with the highest numbers of orphans in the world.

Following an assessment supported by Tearfund Ireland, our local partner, the VIVA Network Zimbabwe, has mobilised more than 40 churches with a focus on improving the lives of vulnerable children in poor communities surrounding the capital Harare.

HAITI

Partners	
Connected Churches	Open Arms Community Church (Newbridge)
Local partners	Salem Baptist Church – Bellevue School

A history of slavery, exploitation and dictatorship paved the way for Haiti to become the poorest country in the western hemisphere. Before the devastating earthquake in 2010, 77% of Haiti’s ten million population were living in poverty.

The Earthquake of 2010 entrenched that as well as claiming over 250,000 lives and leaving over a million Haitians homeless.

The most vulnerable of Haiti’s children are the ‘restaveks’ – poor children given away into domestic service. The UN estimates that there are about 175,000 restaveks in Haiti: others believe there may be more than double that figure.

Bellevue Baptist Church opened a school for restavek children in Port-au-Prince in 2003.

This initiative taken by the leaders of the church means that nearly 200 children get to go to school and now have the opportunity to read and write. Several of the students participate in state exams and progress to University.

KEY OUTCOMES

- During the academic year of 2014-2015 189 students attended classes regularly at Bellevue School.
- Children received a hot meal before attending class and practical help with school materials and healthcare.

KEY OUTCOMES

- Eight Learning Support Centres (LSCs), two more than originally proposed, have been providing education support in three deprived communities of Harare: Mbare, Rugare and Hatfield. These centres are assisting 160 out-of-school children aged seven to ten years with literacy and numeracy.
- 26 volunteer teachers received five days’ training and 16 volunteer counsellors were trained for three days.
- An encouraging attendance rate of 88%, taking into account the numerous challenges caused by child poverty, including ill health.
- 72% of children had reached a level of basic literacy and numeracy at the end of the project, compared to less than 11% revealed in the baseline assessment at the start of the period.
- 32 of the 160 children were able to re-integrate into the formal education system after family members and other well-wishers took responsibility to pay their school fees.

- 35 children finished elementary school and moved onto secondary
- An outreach program to parents and guardians began. The aim of the program is to encourage children to continue to attend school.



Children at Ecole Evangelique Bellevue Salem, Haiti. Photo: Warren Allott/Tearfund.

EQUIPPING CHURCHES ACROSS IRELAND

Speaking at churches and youth groups

Tearfund Ireland speakers visited more than 50 churches and groups across Ireland to speak about our partners' work to transform the lives of the most vulnerable across the developing world.

Development education

New opportunities opened up for Tearfund Ireland to facilitate development education workshops at conferences, youth events and church leaders' seminars. Tearfund Ireland was also successful in accessing an Irish Aid grant for development education with youth leaders in 2015–2016.

Church conferences and events

Tearfund Ireland attended church conferences throughout the year, including the Inside Out Conferences – Barrow Valley Community Church, AGI Dream Conference – Enfield Co Meath, New Wine Conference – Sligo, Engage Conference – St Marks, Dublin, Alpha Conference – Maynooth, and Church of Ireland Synods – Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh, Cork Cloyne and Ross, Dublin and Glendalough, Meath and Kildare, Cashel, Ferns and Ossory and Tuam, Killala and Achonry, Limerick, Killaloe and Ardfert.

Tearfund Ireland had stands at the international events, World Africa Day and Nepal Day, both held at Farnleigh in Phoenix Park, Dublin.

Visitors from Malawi

A highlight of the year was a visit from Mphatso Nguluwe, Director of Tearfund partner LISAP in Malawi, and Aaron Lewani of Tearfund Malawi. Mphatso and Aaron spoke in a number of churches during their visit and cheered on energetic ladies taking part in the Flora Women's Mini Marathon to raise funds for LISAP's IMPACT project which aims to reduce the transmission of HIV from pregnant women to their unborn babies.

Mphatso and Aaron took part in a special event to launch a cost benefit analysis report of Self Help Group work in Ethiopia. The event held in the Irish Aid Volunteering Centre was attended by Minister Joe Costello, representatives of other INGOs, the general public and Tearfund Ireland supporters.

Dublin Orchestral Players concert

Dublin Orchestral Players organised a concert in the Law Society to raise funds for Tearfund Ireland's work. It was a wonderful evening of orchestral and solo performances.

Walks of Hope

Supporters from the Dublin and Wicklow area participated in the annual fundraising Walk of Hope in October. More than 70 people took part in the Bray Head walk which included child-friendly activities to explore what life is like for children in developing countries.

Tearfund Christmas craft fair

Churches and supporters in the Cork area worked all year, once again making beautiful crafts and homemade Christmas gifts for their annual Tearfund Craft Fair in Carrigrohane. This year the funds raised were for Tearfund Ireland's No Child Taken anti-trafficking work.

Gingerbread House party

Supporters in Cork held a Gingerbread House party to raise funds for Tearfund Ireland's No Child Taken campaign.

Tearfund lunches

Churches in Cork, Dublin, Drogheda, Limerick and other parts of the country held lunches to raise funds for Tearfund Ireland.

On the airwaves and in the media

Spirit Radio broadcast a fortnightly Tearfund Ireland interview reaching an estimated 165K listeners. Midlands 103.8 and Life FM also conducted interviews with the Tearfund Ireland team. Features about Tearfund Ireland's work appeared in Vox magazine and the Church of Ireland Review.

Connected Churches

Churches in Ireland continue to develop relationships with churches in Cambodia, Ethiopia, Haiti and Malawi through our Connected Church programme. Tearfund Haiti Country Director Jean Claude Cerin visited one Connected Church, Open Arms in Newbridge, during the year.

Travelling overseas with Tearfund

A group from the Church of Ireland Youth Department travelled to Zambia where they worked alongside youth leaders. Other volunteers went to Haiti, South Africa and Tanzania to work with partners providing family support and carrying out engineering projects.

EU Anti-Trafficking Day and World AIDS Day

Determined students from Mount Temple School (see below) battled wind and rain for bucket collections in Dublin and Swords to raise funds for Tearfund Ireland's anti-trafficking work and to mark EU Anti-Trafficking Day on 18 October and World AIDS Day on 1 December.



FINANCIAL REPORT

In the year ending 31 March 2015, Tearfund Ireland's income was €1,016,617.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

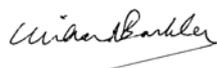
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

	Notes	Restricted funds €	Unrestricted funds €	2015 Total funds €	2014 Total funds €
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Grants and donations	2	573,731	356,369	930,100	808,853
Tax refunded		–	80,785	80,785	45,801
Gifts in kind		–	–	–	–
Other income		–	5,732	5,732	64,095
		573,731	442,886	1,016,617	918,749
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable activities	3&4	(553,926)	(272,866)	(826,792)	(784,578)
Cost of generating funds	4	(108,650)	(84,411)	(193,061)	(168,468)
Governance costs	4	(12,960)	(10,069)	(23,029)	(27,034)
Transfer to restricted from unrestricted funds		101,805	(101,805)	–	–
Total outgoing resources		(573,731)	(469,151)	(1,042,882)	(980,080)
Other interest receivable and similar income		–	1,477	1,477	1,973
Net (expenditure)/outgoing resources – Continuing operations		–	(24,788)	(24,788)	(59,358)
Net (expenditure) for the year		–	(24,788)	(24,788)	(59,358)

The statement of financial activities includes all gains or losses for the above two financial years.

It is the policy of Tearfund to distribute funds to specified projects as quickly as possible. Delays in aid projects occasionally arise which necessitate the holding back of remittances. At the year end all restricted reserves were committed in full to selected overseas projects.

The financial statements were approved by the board on 30 June 2015 and signed on its behalf by



Richard Barkley
Director



David Weakliam
Director

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2015

	Notes	€	2015 €	€	2014 €
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7		7,415		11,920
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	9,322		3,915	
Cash at bank		235,563		291,989	
		<u>244,885</u>		<u>295,904</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(217,160)</u>		<u>(247,896)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>27,724</u>		<u>48,008</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			35,139		59,928
Net assets			<u>35,139</u>		<u>59,928</u>
Reserves					
Unrestricted reserves			35,139		59,928
Net Funds	11		<u>35,139</u>		<u>59,928</u>

It is the policy of Tearfund to distribute funds to specified projects as quickly as possible. Delays in aid projects occasionally arise which necessitate the holding back of remittances. At the year end all restricted reserves were committed in full to selected overseas projects. Unrestricted reserves will be allocated to projects after careful review of proposals by the Development Committee.

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 30 June 2015 and signed on its behalf by



Richard Barkley
Director



David Weakliam
Director

WORKING TOGETHER TO TRANSFORM LIVES

Tearfund Ireland sincerely appreciates and thanks each and every one of our loyal supporters, churches, volunteers and donors for their continued generous support to us in our efforts to eradicate poverty, fight injustice and respond to devastating humanitarian crises. Despite the fact that many people are struggling financially due to the continued impact of the recession in Ireland, support not only remained unwavering, it increased during the year. We are truly humbled and blessed by people’s conviction and commitment to working together to bring about lasting transformation. Without your support, we would certainly not have achieved all that has been achieved in the past year. We extend a heartfelt thanks to you all!

We particularly thank our many volunteers – we are eternally grateful to you all and thank you for your support, commitment, skills, creativity, fundraising efforts and so much more. Thank you for continuing to inform your church community across the country of the work we are doing together and highlighting the issues facing the most vulnerable in some of the world’s poorest countries. Our many volunteers continued to support us in envisioning and equipping churches across the country to support the work of transforming lives and communities.

The results outlined in this report demonstrate the extent of transformation that has been achieved this year. Tearfund Ireland and our partners implement measures to provide both quantitative and qualitative information on the impact of our work. We have developed rigorous selection procedures and closely monitor the progress of projects with regular field visits conducted.

Criteria we use to evaluate our projects are:

Impact: What changes have occurred in people’s lives? Have the underlying causes of the problem been dealt with?

Effectiveness: Have the objectives of the project been achieved?

Efficiency: Were the resources used as wisely as possible?

Sustainability: Will the impact last beyond the span of this project?

Relevance: Did the project address the most critical needs of the people?

INVESTING IN TRANSFORMATION OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES

Alison Hall, who is pictured here celebrating her 100th birthday, died just 12 days after this photo was taken. Her life was marked by extraordinary generosity towards overseas missions. She became a Christian at a Greystones CSSM beach mission in 1928 and was dearly loved by her church family in Crinken, Shankill, Co. Dublin. Even when Alison was in her 90s, she cooked up weekly produce to sell at her local Kiltarnan market for charity. The cheque she received from the President for her 100th birthday was donated to a project in Uganda, East Africa. In her will, Alison left a legacy to Tearfund Ireland and these funds were used to prevent the spread of HIV to newborn babies. Babies born free of the HIV virus to mothers who are HIV positive. Thank you Ms. Alison Hall!



Baby Jesse born HIV free to HIV positive parents as part of the IMPACT programme in Malawi. Photo: Markus Köker/Tearfund Ireland.

You can make a significant investment in the transformation of lives and communities by becoming a major donor or by remembering Tearfund Ireland in your will.

We can help you identify a project that focuses on a particular issue or country that you feel passionate about. We can also provide the opportunity for you to take a trip to meet our

partners and see their work in action, provide regular reports showing how your money is being used and the impact of your investment.

Please contact our office on 01 878 3200 to discuss how you can invest in people and transform lives and communities.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE

Tearfund Ireland's income grew by 11% during the year with an annual income of €1,016,617. This is a landmark in the organisation's performance thus far and the first time income has exceeded one million Euro in a financial year. Our income came primarily from our supporters, churches in the Republic of Ireland and institutional funding. Positive relationships and partnerships exist with trusts and foundations in Ireland, and grant-making organisations including the Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal, Electric Aid, Dublin City Council and others. We were successful in receiving grant income for our work in Ethiopia from the Irish government through Irish Aid's Civil Society Fund. As a registered charity, we were able to reclaim €80,785 back in tax during the year, the highest level yet.

Tearfund Ireland uses its finances effectively and maintains low organisational costs to ensure help reaches those in greatest need. This is made possible through the support of enthusiastic volunteers who raise funds, pray, work in our office and share our vision with others. The Board of Directors is committed to ensuring organisational costs remain low while also investing in the continued development of the organisation.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

We believe in maintaining the highest standard of professionalism throughout our work. We've signed up to a range of internationally recognised standards – because they enshrine our principles and our respect for the people we support.

Tearfund Ireland is a signatory to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief. This means that our 'aid is given regardless of the race, creed or nationality of the recipients and without adverse distinction of any kind. Aid priorities are calculated on the basis of need alone.'

We are committed to the high technical quality of our projects, as laid out in the Sphere Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response and the Humanitarian Accountability Partnership.



We are members of Dóchas, an umbrella body of Irish development charities and signatories to the Code of Conduct on Images and Messages.

Tearfund is fully compliant with the Statement of Guiding Principles for Fundraising, which is monitored by the Irish Charities Tax Reform Group (ICTR) and set out best practice guidelines for Charities who fundraise in the public environment.

Red Cross Code of Conduct

HAP, Sphere

We give names for dignity, but based on recommendation from local partners, we use changed names for security.

PROFESSIONAL NETWORKS

Our Chief Executive, Sharan Kelly, continued to serve on the Board of Dóchas. In July 2014, following a nomination process, Sharan Kelly was elected as Chair of the Board of Dóchas for a term of three years. Tearfund Ireland's involvement both as a member and Board Director of Dóchas provides Tearfund Ireland with the opportunity to have a strategic impact on all relevant development and justice issues, both domestically and globally. As the Chair of Dóchas, Sharan chaired and supported the Dóchas Board and its Chief Executive in developing its new Strategic Plan. Through Board participation, working group involvement and membership of Dóchas, Tearfund Ireland contributed to Dóchas' work of influencing policy, political decision-making, best practice and developments within the development and humanitarian sectors.



Tearfund Ireland is an active member of EU-CORD, a non-governmental organisation (NGO) independent of any political, economic, social or religious authority. EU-CORD is an inter-denominational network of Christian relief and development

agencies, inspired by its Christian values to accomplish its work. This pan-European network has the intention of influencing a wide institutional arena and to increase each agency's programmatic effectiveness and funding opportunities through practical co-operation. All agencies retain full independence, working within their respective mandates. Tearfund Ireland's Chief Executive continued to act as Vice-Chair of EU-CORD's Administrative Council (which has a similar structure to a Board).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE ORGANISATION

The Board of Directors meets at least five times a year and is responsible for the strategic direction of Tearfund Ireland – setting targets, signing off annual plans and budgets, and reviewing the outcomes of the statutory audit. During the year, the Board and Chief Executive led a strategic planning process for the next five years. Directors are appointed by the members at the Annual General Meeting and are selected based on criteria established in the Board's Terms of Reference. The Board may also appoint a director to serve until the next Annual General Meeting, at which time he or she would cease to hold office but would be eligible for election. There are currently six serving directors. A Code of Corporate Governance (based on Dóchas code) guides the Board in its role, and the functioning of the Board is monitored against this. The Board delegates the operational management of the company to the Chief Executive.



The Development Advisory Committee (DC), a sub-committee of the Board, ensured that Tearfund Ireland utilised and allocated its financial resources effectively and is following internationally recognised best practice in relief and development. The DC must have at least two Directors in its membership. The Board approves funding made available for grants and delegates authority to the DC for its decision on which projects are supported. The DC reports its decisions and actions to the Board in writing.

The Audit and Risk Committee (ARC), a sub-committee of the Board, led by the Treasurer, ensured financial accountability and overseas effective management of funds. It continued to strengthen internal controls and procedures, by identifying risks and reporting to the Board.

The Board commenced a process of Board development during the period, identifying additional expertise required on the Board as well as reviewing representation more broadly. It is anticipated that in the year ahead the Board will add to its number by two to three Directors.

The team was supported and strengthened during the year to support the ongoing work and resource growth of the organisation.

FUTURE PLANS

The Board, with the support of its Chief Executive, will implement its new Strategic Plan 2015–2020. This plan provides the template for its international programmes, country portfolio, growth of a niche area of expertise in development and humanitarian work, sector focus, and strategy to increase church partnerships, grow income and strengthen the organisation.

It is our intention to recognise their contributions more and equip and grow our volunteer network.

We will seek to increase partnerships with churches, church networks, parachurch organisations and faith-based INGOs for greater impact and outcomes.

Development education activity will increase during the year in line with a new strategy and increased expertise within the organisation. The outcome sought will be to increase engagement in development and global justice issues across key stakeholder groups in Ireland.

Our intention is to secure continued and increased support to our work and impact through maintaining and increasing our Irish government-funded Civic Society Fund (CSF) project, development education and humanitarian/emergency responses.

DIRECTORS AND OTHER INFORMATION

Directors	Paraic O'Toole Susan Heaney Richard Phillips Dr David Weakliam (Chair of the Board) Richard Barkley (Treasurer and Secretary) Dr Oghenovo Osa Oghuvbu
Development Advisory Committee	Richard Phillips (Chair) Dr David Weakliam Helen Lane Dr Michael O'Toole
Audit and Risk Committee	Richard Barkley Paraic O'Toole Jody Johannie
Chief Executive	Sharan Kelly
Secretary	Richard Barkley
Company number	323619
Registered office	Tearfund Ireland 2nd Floor Ulysses House 22-24 Foley Street Dublin 1
Auditors	Lewis & Co Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors 8 Priory Hall Stillorgan Dublin
Bankers	Allied Irish Banks 37 Upper O'Connell Street Dublin 1

The Company is limited by Guarantee and does not have a share capital; the liability of each member in the event of the Company being wound up is €10. The Company is exempt from including the word "Limited" in its name by virtue of Section 971 of the Companies Act 2014.

The Company has been granted charitable status by the Revenue Commissioners under reference CHY 8600.



www.tearfund.ie

Tearfund Ireland, Ulysses House, 22-24 Foley Street, Dublin 1, D01 W2T2.

enquiries@tearfund.ie

www.tearfund.ie

01 878 3200

Registered Charity No. CHY 8600