

MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

A Company Limited by Guarantee
and not having a Share Capital
Registration No 04076242

Charity Registration No 1083440

MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity number 1083440

Company number 04076242

Registered office 124 City Road
London
EC1V 2NX

ADVISORS

Bankers National Westminster Bank plc
89 Mount Pleasant Road
Tunbridge Wells
Kent TN1 1QJ

Solicitors Wellers
Tennison House
45 Tweedy Road
Bromley
Kent BR1 3NF

Accountants Alongside Accounting
124 City Road
London
EC1V 2NX

Independent Examiner Ashleigh Martin
Simple Support Solutions
4 Acomb Close
NE61 2YH

MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' report together with the financial statements of Middle East Development Services (MEDS) for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

PRINCIPAL OBJECT

The object of Middle East Development Services is the relief of poverty and the advancement of education in the areas of social and cultural awareness, healthcare and economic development in the Middle East and worldwide together with other such charitable purposes as the Trustees shall from time to time think fit.

SPECIFIC RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY THE GOVERNING DOCUMENT

The income of the Charity shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects and no part shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, to profit the members of the Charity. No Trustee received any such payments in the financial year.

POLICIES

The policies adopted to attain this object have been to foster an interest in the ministries of Middle East Development Services amongst Christian people, resulting in a commitment to service and support through prayer and finance. There have been no material changes in those policies during the financial year.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The total income for the year was £41,684 (2022: £23,402). Total charitable expenditure was £30,372 (2022: £25,894). At 31 March 2023 the unrestricted funds were £40,490 (2021: £26,891).

Income is derived from churches, individuals and other charities and is not guaranteed. The Charity has continued its work in Northern Iraq and has earned additional income by letting parts of the premises that are currently not being used directly.

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RESERVES POLICY

The Charity remits monies to the areas of operation as needed, normally on a three to four monthly cycle. It monitors income and expenditure very closely in order to maintain a fund for working capital, which is essential to ensure the continuity of the charity and to maintain the level of service it provides. As the costs of all expatriate workers are borne by their seconding agencies, the Trustees feel that a sum equal to three months project and running expenses is a prudent reserve. In the opinion of the Trustees £5,000 is sufficient for this. As at 31 March 2023 US\$ 5,809 was held in Iraq.

Due to the timing of two significant donations our year-end free reserves balance at 31 March 2023 was higher than usual, at £36,100 (2022: £22,501). We expect our continuing funding commitments and future charitable activities will mean this is used early in the coming year.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

In the Middle East, MEDS receives all its expatriate workers by secondment from other organisations. It solicits and passes on financial support to local agencies which employ local workers and pays small amounts on a contract basis to local workers who assist in administering MEDS locally.

The Charity is grateful to unpaid volunteers, who provide office support and encourage supporters. This year, we have appointed a Bookkeeper and Company Secretary for an annual fee. Other than him, no paid staff are employed in the United Kingdom and all facilities are given freely.

OBJECTIVES ACCOMPLISHED IN THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

MEDS has shared in the work of a Centre for Children with special needs in Erbil, through:

- Making payments to support the staff who work at the Centre, which is a major part of the well-being of the children and their families and carers
- Facilitating staff training and providing opportunities to explore appropriate frameworks to strengthen local safeguarding procedures

MEDS continued to develop reading resources for primary children and their teachers:

- Five Graded Reading booklets in Sorani Kurdish and English have been used by local primary schools as the combined languages make the books a versatile resource for teachers
- The books have been used in Child Friendly spaces for vulnerable, displaced and refugee children in both Erbil area and Halabja, and are also appreciated as a useful resource serving the Kurdish community in UK
- We have begun to write and publish these books in other local languages

Within the framework provided by our overall objectives and policies, our objectives for the year April 2023 to March 2024 are to:

- Continue supporting the developing work of our Arabic and Kurdish-speaking partners who run the Centre for Children with Special Needs

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- Bring suitably qualified trainers to the staff of this Centre and others like it, with skills and expertise that can serve in similar development projects, especially those addressing the needs of vulnerable and marginalised individuals and communities.
- Develop the use of Sorani Kurdish Graded Readers among the host community, offering supplementary learning resources to be used alongside currently available Readers.
- Produce these existing resources for children who have different mother tongues. The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' report together with the financial statements of Middle East Development Services (MEDS) for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.
- The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015).

DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purposes of charity law. The trustees and officers serving during the year were as follows:

Trustees	Rev M Parker
	Mr J Bradley
	Ms C Crawford

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

CONSTITUTION

MEDS was incorporated on 22 September 2000 under company registration number 04076242. It is a company limited by guarantee and not having a Share Capital. It was registered with the Charity Commission under number 1083440. The trustees are also the directors.

APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

The existing Trustees appoint new Trustees on the basis of the skills required. Prior to appointment, prospective Trustees are invited to talk with the chairman and a decision is made whether or not to invite them to become Trustees. If invited to join, they are put forward for election as Trustees at the next Annual General Meeting of the company.

The Trustees are kept well informed of the work of the charity through correspondence and personal visits.

Trustees retire by rotation in accordance with the provisions of the Articles of Association. One third of the Board retires each year.

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ORGANISATION

MEDS is directed by the Trustees, all of whom are volunteers. They meet at least twice a year to discuss the issues facing the Charity and to support and encourage the work. The board seeks to make decisions by consensus rather than majority vote, unless a vote is legally required.

TRANSACTIONS WITH TRUSTEES

No trustees received any fees or expenses during the year.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have given careful consideration to the major risks which the Charity faces and confirm that the Programme Manager and Chair of Trustees have been given the responsibility of reviewing this at least annually. The Charity operates in an area of political tension and all practical precautions are taken to safeguard those working with it, both expatriate and national.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The charity Trustees (who are also the directors of MEDS for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

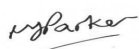
Company law requires the charity Trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the company for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of MEDS and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of MEDS and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 31st October 2023 and signed on its behalf by



Mike Parker (Nov 1, 2023, 7:10pm)

Michael Parker, Chair of Trustees

Company Number 04076242 England and Wales

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

As the charity's trustees of the Company (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

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

Ashleigh Martin

Ashleigh Martin (Nov 5, 2023, 8:02pm)
Ashleigh Martin

Simple Support Solutions

4 Acomb Close

NE61 2YH

31 October 2023

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
INCOME					
Donations and Gifts		24,253	13,000	37,253	19,126
Income Tax Recoverable		1,340	-	1,340	1,392
Rental Income		2,953	-	2,953	2,762
Other Income		138	-	138	122
TOTAL		28,684	13,000	41,684	23,402
EXPENDITURE					
Charitable Activities:					
Charitable Activities		-	19,782	19,782	15,203
Support Costs	2	10,590	-	10,590	10,691
TOTAL		10,590	19,782	30,372	25,894
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		18,094	(6,782)	11,312	(2,492)
Transfers between funds		(4,495)	4,495	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		13,599	(2,287)	11,312	(2,492)
FUNDS AT 1 APRIL 2022		26,891	2,287	29,178	31,670
FUNDS AT 31 MARCH 2023		40,490	-	40,490	29,178
Represented by:					
Fixed Assets		4,390	-	4,390	4,390
Current Assets		37,535	-	37,535	24,788
Current Liabilities		(1,435)	-	(1,435)	-
		40,490	-	40,490	29,178

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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS	3		4,390		4,390
CURRENT ASSETS					
Other Debtors	4	2,732		1,392	
Cash at Bank		34,803		23,396	
Total current assets		37,535		24,788	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due with one year					
Accruals	5	(1,435)		-	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			36,100	-	24,788
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			40,490		29,178
CAPITAL AND RESERVES					
Unrestricted Funds					
General Funds	5		40,490		26,891
Restricted Funds	6		-		2,287
			40,490		29,178

The company was entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

These accounts were approved by the trustees on 31st October 2023 and signed on their behalf by



Mike Parker (Nov 1, 2023, 7:10pm)

Michael Parker, Chair of Trustees
Company Number 04076242 England and Wales

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. Accounting Policy

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

(a) Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Middle East Development Services meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. At the time of approving the accounts, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate reserves to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

(b) Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 a restatement of comparative items was needed. At the date of transition, no restatements were required.

(c) Income Recognition

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, there is sufficient certainty of receipt and so it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised when they have been received. Tax recoverable on gift aid is accounted for on the date the associated gift was received.

Investment income is recognised when received.

(d) Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on Charitable Activities are costs incurred directly on the objects of the charity and the associated support and governance costs.

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (CONTINUED)

(e) Allocation of support and Governance Activities

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include head office costs, finance and governance costs which support the charitable activities. These costs have been allocated to the charitable activities concerned.

(f) Funds Accounting

Unrestricted Funds are expendable at the discretion of the Trustees in the furtherance of the Objects of the Charity.

Restricted Funds are monies raised for, and their use restricted to, a specific purpose or donation subject to conditions imposed by the donors.

(g) Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets comprise one building. A provision for depreciation was provided for the first four years of ownership but, the trustees consider that no further depreciation is necessary as the building is kept in good repair.

(h) Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any discounts due.

(i) Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured reliably. Creditors and provisions are measured at their settlement amount after allowing for any discounts.

(j) Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

(k) Foreign currency

Foreign currencies have been converted using the year end exchange rate of

£1 = 1.2002 USD

£1 = 1751.49 IQD

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (CONTINUED)

2. Expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023	2022
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities	-	19,782	19,782	15,203
Administrative expenses	3,986	-	3,986	8,818
Wages and salaries	1,476	-	1,476	1,083
Premises costs	2,625	-	2,625	-
Professional fees	2,027	-	2,027	790
Independent examination	475	-	475	-
	10,589	19,782	30,371	25,894

3. Tangible Fixed Assets

Freehold Property

	£
Cost	
At 1 April 2022 and at 31 March 2023	7,314
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2022 and at 31 March 2023	2,924
Net Book Value	
At 31 March 2023	4,390
At 31 March 2022	4,390

4. Other Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Income Tax Recoverable	2,732	1,392
	2,732	1,392

5. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals	1,435	-
	1,435	-

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (CONTINUED)

6. Unrestricted Funds – General Fund

	Income and Expenditure Account	Revaluation Reserve	Total
	£	£	£
At 1 April 2022	22,501	4,390	26,891
Income	28,684	-	28,684
Expenditure	(10,590)	-	(10,590)
Transfer to Ankawa Rejin Center Fund	(4,495)		(4,495)
At 31 March 2023	36,100	4,390	40,490

7. Restricted Funds

	Ankawa Rejin Center Fund	Total
	£	£
At 1 April 2022	2,287	2,287
Income	13,000	13,000
Expenditure	(19,782)	(19,782)
Transfer from General Fund	4,495	4,495
At 31 March 2023	-	-

The Ankawa Rejin centre fund consists of donations specifically given for the support of work at the Ankawa Rejin Centre.

8. Member's liability

- (a) The Company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital.
- (b) At 31 March 2023 there were 4 members on the register (2022: 4).
- (c) In accordance with the Memorandum of Association each member is liable for such sum, not exceeding £10, as may be required in the event of the company being wound up, for the period of membership or within one year after ceasing to be a member.

9. Staff Costs

1 member of staff was directly employed in Northern Iraq during the year (2022: 1) with a wage and salary cost of £1,476 (2022: £1,083)

10. Trustees and Related Parties

No trustee received any remuneration or payment for professional or other services provided to the charity in the year (2022: Nil). No Trustee expenses were claimed (2022: Nil).

MEDS is an independent charity. There are no related party transactions to disclose (2022: nil).