

Registered in England  
Charity No 1116336

**AID AFRICA**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022**

## AID AFRICA TRUSTEES REPORT

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AID AFRICA  
TRUSTEES' REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER 2022

The Trustees present their report together with the financial statements for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies and comply with the Charities Trust Deed and the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2005 and applicable law.

**Trustees at the date of this report**

David Mills (Technical Director - Malawi) – Chairman

Lynda Mills (Project Director – Malawi)

Jenny Palmer (Deputy Chair) – Treasurer

Simone Hume

Hilda Stoker

**Address**

P O Box 103

Fakenham

Norfolk

NR21 1BF

**Other Advisors**

**Bankers**

HSBC, Cromer, Norfolk

**Accountant**

Keith Colman – Fakenham Norfolk

**Independent Examiner**

Dr D P Ainsworth PhD. – Fakenham, Norfolk

**AID AFRICA/OPEN HAND PROJECTS**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022**

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

Aid Africa is a registered charity constituted and governed by a Trust Deed dated 15th September 2006.

Trustees are elected by the governing body i.e. the current Trustees.

In the UK, meetings of the Trustees have been held throughout the year, at the AGM new Trustees were appointed, further discussions were held via email due to the Coronavirus restrictions.

They receive reports on the work of the charity and progress made. Decisions are made by the Trustees who also seek to ensure that the legal requirements of the Charity Commission and other regulatory bodies are carried out.

The charity's shop in Holt is managed and staffed by volunteers under the oversight of Mrs Jacqui Cross and Mrs Jenny Palmer.

In Malawi, the charity employs local Malawians who are involved in the day to day running of the base in Chiringa. Their work is overseen by David & Lynda Mills during their visits to Malawi, and by Les and Kathie Craske, who live in Malawi, and Trustees. Additionally, when they are back in the UK, David and Lynda Mills maintain regular contact with the Crasques and the local OHP workforce by telephone, text and e-mail.

## **Objectives and Activities**

The governing document describes the objectives of the charity as being "To relieve poverty and sickness, in particular but not exclusively in Malawi, by supplying resources and advice for agricultural projects"

The charity was established with a vision to help to alleviate some of the needs of the most vulnerable in the rural areas of Malawi, and seeks to encourage self-sufficiency within the local communities and discourage dependence, with a robust safeguarding policy in place.

Our aim is to encourage, empower, and benefit individuals, households and community groups, in food security, nutrition, education, training, re-forestation and water security.

We seek to encourage the spirit of giving and acceptance of all, especially those AIDS affected. In all this the Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on Public Benefit.

Volunteers play a very significant role in the life of the charity here in the UK, in the shop, with fund raising and with administration. A number have visited Malawi at their own expense. The charity is indebted to these hard working people.

## Aid Africa/Open Hand Projects

A double-headed snake under the table, scorpion in the shower, ants in the kettle, flies in the fridge.... Malawi has diverse wildlife, but perhaps not as exotic as the usual African lions and zebra! The world of nature blends seamlessly into the lives of all in the rural areas—the climate affects everything...

### Cyclone Chaos...

And the climate was a significant factor this year. In January, amid challenges of covid, Cyclone Ana roared through our area bringing high winds and heavy rains, many homes and outbuildings were destroyed, roofs ripped off and crops flattened in the fields.

Malawi declared a national disaster as more than 30 people died, 800,000 were affected, with infrastructure and power supplies significantly damaged.

We gave out emergency supplies, then began building reconstruction, but in mid-March another cyclone—Gombe—devastated the area again, flooding low areas and leaving many more homeless. So disaster mitigation shaped our plans.....

### Reconstruction in the Community

We repaired a Community Centre we'd built back in 2016, heavily damaged by the storms. As soon as the floods had gone, we raised the floor against future flood damage and replaced the roof, bringing it back to the highly popular, fully functioning heart of the village, continuing to host a variety of health, education and civic events locally and safely.

### Housing ....

Throughout the community there was devastation of many homes lost in the cyclones—we built 5 complete replacements for ultra-vulnerable families, several struggling with disabilities, others frail and AIDS-affected. We also renovated another for an elderly woman with 4 orphaned grandchildren, and provided labour to re-construct 2 more where the materials could be recycled.

### Roofing

We provided 85 rolls of plastic sheeting to help restore hundreds of roofs, and replaced 11 complete roofs in traditional thatch for vulnerable families whose roofing had collapsed

### Sanitation

Another local concern was the destruction of family toilets and the fear of disease as a result of poor sanitation. Many fragile units had collapsed in the lower lands prone to flooding, so we built a sturdy, public facility that would serve 40 local households—about 150 people, plus all the children in the nursery school—for many years to come.

But it didn't stop there— the storms also destroyed toilets on the higher ground, so we built 50 emergency family toilets, basic in design, but invaluable for those unable to rebuild their own.

**Michesi Primary** is a popular local rural school with 910 pupils aged between 6-17 years of age, 56% girls—and 28 staff, drawing children from 11 villages. It has many challenges, but the most pressing one was the lack of toilet facilities. There was just one small block functioning, with 2 pit-latrines, for all 938 learners and staff. This of course brought challenges to health, a polluted environment, and importantly, the loss of education for the 289 girls of menstruating age, absenting themselves from school several days each month because there were no washroom facilities for them to change in.



Parents and the local community had tried to help in the past, but the buildings collapsed so a sturdy new toilet block for girls was planned, with a washroom.....

A huge pit was hand-dug, 6m long and 4m deep, then lined with bricks and the floor slab concreted over the top. The building took shape—internal walls were put in place, door frames fitted, walls plastered and floors laid. Timbers were erected to support the roof and iron sheets added. The building was painted, doors hung, fitted with locks for privacy and the modesty wall built. Responsibility for the building was passed to the governing board



*Cathren, 42 years old, struggles with serious physical disability, while caring for her 4 children. Her house collapsed in the cyclones, and she had no income nor resources to replace it. We were able to help and within a few months, Cathren had the keys to her new home (below)*





## Hunger—Food Programme 2021/22

At the end of January and February, we gave away the rest of the 26,500 kgs of maize bought the previous year, to 260 vulnerable households in Chiringa, plus another 60 in Zomba, 50 miles away. Each family was given enough maize for 100 meals each month, plus dried soya & soap. This was the height of the hunger period, and the food would help get them through to the next maize harvest. In total, the Food Programme distributed the maize basis for over **100,000 meals** during the three-month period.



## Hunger continued ....

However, just months later, people were hungry again. Due to the cyclones, flooding, and heavy rains, the maize cobs weren't able to ripen and mature, so the annual maize harvest was poor and grain soon ran out. Then the currency was devalued by 25%, and the prices soared.

So we extended both our Food Token programme, and Cash-for-Work Scheme, still grew and gave away fresh vegetables, and re-introduced luncheons for the elderly after covid....

## Food Programme 2022/3

In June, in preparation for December 2022, we set out to buy in maize, but it was an urgent race to locate enough at a reasonable price. We didn't want to deplete the limited stocks in our immediate area so we had to transport from Mozambique.

We eventually managed to find 30 tonnes—which was processed, dried, weighed and packed in special grain bags to prevent weevil damage, then stored for distribution during the "hunger period" later in the year.

It was regularly monitored to check for any form of deterioration. By November, some damage was noted so it was all emptied out, sorted, re-dried and repacked to keep it in the best possible condition. In the meantime market prices rose higher than we'd ever known and beyond what most could afford, leaving many struggling to find food with all reserves gone.



So in December, in time for the Christmas season, over 450 families (about 2,000 people at risk), in 2 districts, received soap and maize for about 80 meals. This was followed by identical distributions at the end of January and February, leading into the next maize harvest. Overall, we provided the maize basis for about **120,000 meals** at the hungriest time—Christmas 2022 and beyond....

## Water—Borehole Pump repair

During January, we repaired **9 borehole pumps**, restoring safe water back to about **3,650 people**. Our new water strategy was well received. This scheme trains and empowers villagers to take responsibility for their own pump, by investing a small monthly tariff to pay for regular maintenance in the future. Once their commitment was confirmed, we repaired the pumps to enable each group to start with a clean slate, raised the cement aprons above flood level, and "locked" each into a multi-padlocked security cage to prevent parts' theft or damage.

*Pumps Repaired: Khurune (42 households), Ling'weng'we 1 & 2 (175), Lomoliwa (131), Mureka (130), Mwanankhu (159), Namazambala 1 & 2 (140), Opelewa (65).*

In September we repaired another 9 borehole pumps after the users' commitment to regular maintenance was confirmed, so another **1,652 households—over 7,500 people**—had new access to safe water.

*Pumps Repaired: Bilison Village (350 households), Makhonja (185), Mangulenje (149), Mwadzule (270), Nansanya (185), Michesi Primary School (99, plus 950 students & staff), Phodogoma 1 (110), Phodogoma 2 (139), Wera (165).*



(Left) Lomoliwa Village Pump  
Fresh water flowing, helping the health of approx. 575 people.

(Right) Mwanankhu Village Pump  
Safe water restored benefitting about 700 local people





## Nutrition—Moringa Groves

We continued to promote moringa—an amazing tree with leaves packed with high-grade nutrients, ideal food for this malnourished society. The successful initial trial of 3 moringa woodlots came to an end after 18 months, 2 voted to add veg space, so we supplied seeds, training and extra fence panels.

4 more areas requested groves, in 2 districts. Our team trained in prep, care and management of the groves, then helped each voluntary committee to measure, dig pits, add compost, plant the moringa seedlings, sow veg seeds and erect the modular fencing. Glycidia seedlings were planted around the boundaries, to form a living fence in the future. These groves provided invaluable nutrition to those at risk within months, and continued to provide free veg for the vulnerable, though irrigation became a huge challenge during the dry season. Cooking demonstrations were held at each of the 4 new groves in August to remind participants of the high nutritional value of the crop and how to retain its vitamin integrity for good health. Monitoring identified the need for regular spraying of the fencing panels to prevent destruction by pests and we provided replacements plants for any damaged by weather or livestock.

Hundreds of families have benefitted from the moringa leaves grown in these groves—delicious as a green vegetable—and now the trees are mature, they should keep producing free nutritious food for several decades to come.



*Moringa trees—leaves are a source of high-grade nutrients, served as a green vegetable*

## Reforestation

Thousands of plastic tubes were filled and tree seeds sown, with seedlings given out to individuals, schools, and community groups. Apart from moringa and glycidia used in the groves, we've provided hundreds of fruit trees, and other varieties for green manure, firewood and timber to take the pressure off the indigenous hardwoods being wrecked for charcoal.

## Education

The school academic year started in January 2022 due to covid, and so we sifted through applications for our Secondary School placements. We had to be sure that all on the programme were committed to learning and working hard. But there were so many needing financial help, or they missed the chance of education completely. We decided to focus on those whose families had already managed to put them through Secondary School for the first 2 years, but had now come to the place where they'd sold everything to fund their children..

We had 63 young people on our programme, over half were girls (36), to whom we gave sani-packs to help them stay in school during their monthly periods. We paid all school fees, plus boarding for some, uniforms, and exam fees, and then an extra term was introduced in an attempt to realign the academic year back to starting in September after the chaos of covid, so those fees were paid too. However, school policies continued to be vague—the new academic year eventually began in October 2022, but the exam results that qualify children to be offered places weren't available, so we selected 32 ultra-vulnerable new students, making 60 on our sponsorship list.



*Girls on our Education Programme delighted to receive sani-packs*

Congratulations to Frank, our Team Leader, who passed his level 5 diploma in Community Development, so is excited about beginning his next college course in January 2023.

## Mosquito nets

Internationally, Malawi is among the top 20 countries with the highest malaria prevalence and mortality rates, half of which are children under 5 years old. Through a special donation, we bought more nets so 145 vulnerable people, aged from just a few weeks to the elderly, were provided with nets for protection against the disease just before the rainy season when malaria became more common—and even more deadly!

## Agriculture—Irrigation Veg Project

The pilot project for 10 households begun in April was so successful that another 20 hard-working families were added to the programme in September, empowering them to produce veg all year round, outside the traditional planting season, for both food and profit. We provided basic farming implements and inputs and our staff monitored regularly to ensure compliance. Numbers were restricted according to our ability to monitor, so as families proved their commitment, more will be welcomed onto the project.

Participants shared that they'd been able to pay school fees, and buy uniforms as well as food and other household items for their families, as a direct result of this project.



## Open Hand Projects Centre in Chiringa, Malawi

### Pigs

Our pigs on site are doing well. In October we experienced the patter of tiny trotters as our first sow gave birth to 5 piglets, another small litter arrived in December and others have been mated. We're developing forage options to feed them well, growing a variety of crops and veg on site—sweet potato is a favourite—with the vines a valuable nutritional resource.

**Elderlies Luncheons** are thoroughly enjoyed by dozens of frail elderly folk each month, providing social interaction as well as a nutritious meal.

We increased our **Food Tokens** due to increased hunger, as most of our “**Cash-for-Work**” scheme was being used for basic food, indicating a wide-spread problem.

We're continuing to grow moringa on site, and are still giving processed **moringa powder & veg** to those at nutritional risk. We've doubled availability of **milk formula** as concerns grow for the increasing number of orphaned babies in the care of needy family members, or those unable to breastfeed.

Our **emergency fund** continues to assist in crises – hospital transport for the acutely ill or accident victims, or they risk dying at home without treatment or palliative care. We also try to help in personal tragedies—house fires, victims of crime, abuse or neglect, along with providing glasses, blankets, clothing and veg seeds from our reception area.

Our local Malawian **staff** are working hard, watching social trends and local situations, while implementing/monitoring projects with integrity. We are regularly invited to participate in various meetings at district level—education, water & sanitation, human trafficking—and we aim to work in collaboration with all civic and traditional government authorities where we can.

OHP (Aid Africa) continues to influence the area, often meeting with the Senior Chief discussing local needs, challenging mindsets, and smarter applications along with hard work. She's delighted with the work we're doing amongst the thousands she leads.

We're also partnering with a voluntary group in Zomba—50 miles from our Centre. Our team taught them to make compost and grow moringa, now they're enthusiastically sharing the knowledge with others.... We also provided them with bags of maize, soya meals and soap, for distribution to the most vulnerable households from December.

### 2022 Aid Africa Stats....

- Provided over 135,000 maize meals, and 7,680 dried soya meals
- Gave out over 2,000 bars of soap
- Renovated a Community Centre
- Built 7 houses for vulnerable families
- Provided 11 thatched roofs & 85 rolls of plastic sheeting
- Built 50 family toilets
- Constructed a public toilet serving 150 people
- Built a toilet block for a primary school
- Helped resolve 55 emergency situations
- Provided 75 mosquito nets
- Equipped 30 irrigation veg projects
- Provided baby formula to 58 ultra-vulnerable infants
- Grew & provided tree seedlings for fruit, timber, nutrition & green manure
- Repaired 18 borehole pumps, restoring safe water to over 11,000 people
- 63 students on our Education Programme, giving sani-packs to our 36 girls



### Charity Shop—UK

Our Charity Shop closed in August, after 15 years of trading in Holt, setting new financial challenges, but unexpected legacy benefits provided ongoing funding.



**AID AFRICA**  
**TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER 2022**  
**(CONTINUED)**

**Statement of trustees' responsibility**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. Law applicable to charitable companies requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charitable company's financial activities during the period and of its financial position at the end of the period. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Trust. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**Statement of disclosure to auditors**

- so far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the auditors are unaware; and they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the trust's auditors are aware of that information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (issued in March 2005).

This report was approved by the board and signed on its behalf.

**(signed by David Mills)**

David Mills Chairman

Date            31<sup>st</sup> July 2023

**AID AFRICA**  
**Charity No: 1116336**  
**Accounts for the year ended 31 OCTOBER 2022**

**Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner:**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of the procedures specified in the general directions given by the Charity Commissions under section 43(7)b of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of Independent Examiners Report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with my understanding of the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes the consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement:**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1) - gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
  - b) to prepare accounts which comply with the accounting records and accounting requirements of the Act, have not been met,
- 2) - or to which, in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**(signed by Dr D P Ainsworth)**

Dr D P Ainsworth  
Fakenham  
Norfolk

Signed      3<sup>rd</sup> August 2023



**Profit and Loss****Aid Africa****For the 12 months ended 31 October 2022**

<b>Income</b>	<b>Oct-22</b>	<b>Oct-21</b>
Gift Aid tax receivable	4,899.40	4,500.00
Gift-aided donations - education	2,360.00	2,185.00
Gift-aided donations - general	14,911.00	15,537.00
Legacies & bequests	70,000.00	0.00
Other donations - not g/a - general	16,751.01	10,915.05
Shop sales	16,301.31	16,224.10
Small Gifts claimable under Gift Aid Scheme	1,029.17	799.81
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>126,251.89</b>	<b>50,160.96</b>
<b>Less Cost of Sales</b>		
Direct Malawi Project costs	6,226.19	1,412.21
Direct Malawi running costs	58,500.00	33,450.00
<b>Total Cost of Sales</b>	<b>64,726.19</b>	<b>34,862.21</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>61,525.70</b>	<b>15,298.75</b>
<b>Plus Other Income</b>		
Furlough CJRS Grant	0.00	9,802.81
Government Covid-19 Grant	0.00	12,574.43
Interest received	38.88	2.38
NIC employer rebate	1,049.00	529.21
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>1,087.88</b>	<b>22,908.83</b>
<b>Less Operating Expenses</b>		
Charity - Bank Fees - international	340.00	276.00
Charity - Employers NI	1,049.00	529.21
Charity - Postage	594.00	0.00
Charity - Salaries	16,216.20	12,803.76
Charity - Telephone & Internet	49.50	66.00
Charity - Travel - International	50.00	0.00
Charity HSBC Bank charges	267.53	0.00
Governance - trustee training	0.00	10.00
Shop - Card charges	113.69	151.48
Shop - Insurance	347.83	869.90
Shop - Light, Heating & telephone	1,961.69	1,298.03
Shop - miscellaneous expenses	375.07	330.30
Shop - Rates and water rates	329.30	391.97
Shop - Rent	6,041.50	7,250.00
Shop - Repairs Expenses	1,785.82	26.40
Shop - staff welfare	26.40	34.00
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>29,547.53</b>	<b>24,037.05</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>33,066.05</b>	<b>14,170.53</b>

**Balance Sheet**  
Aid Africa  
As at 31 October 2022

Add Summary

	31 Oct 2022	31 Oct 2021
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Bank</b>		
BMM Deposit account	69,699.23	25,529.68
E Regular STO account	896.11	419.44
Main account	10,167.15	16,350.30
<b>Total Bank</b>	<b>80,762.49</b>	<b>42,299.42</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Accounts Receivable	0.00	506.18
Cash in Malawi	305.00	305.00
Prepayments	2,213.00	7,104.00
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>2,518.00</b>	<b>7,915.18</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Buildings	500.00	500.00
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>500.00</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>83,780.49</b>	<b>50,714.60</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Rounding	(0.14)	0.00
Wages control	280.17	280.19
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>280.03</b>	<b>280.19</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>280.03</b>	<b>280.19</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>83,500.46</b>	<b>50,434.41</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Current Year Earnings	33,066.05	14,170.53
General unrestricted fund	50,434.41	36,263.88
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>83,500.46</b>	<b>50,434.41</b>



AID AFRICA  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 OCTOBER 2022

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 ACCOUNTING CONVENTION

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain investments and include the results of the charity's operation which are described in the Trustees' Report and all of which are continuing. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice, ("SORP"), 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' published in March 2005 and applicable accounting standards. The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement.

1.2 INCOMING RESOURCES

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is recognised on receipt or accrued as income as soon as practical and prudent to do so. Income tax refunds due from income received under deduction of tax are credited in the same year as the relevant income.
- Income from charitable activities include fees receivable from donors and is credited in the same year as the relevant income.

1.3 RESOURCES EXPENDED

All expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis and includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income.

- Charitable activities include.
- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional Statutory requirements of the charity and include independent examiners fees.
- All costs are allocated between expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to particular activities are Allocated directly, others on an usage basis.