



Congo Children Trust Annual Report 2022-23

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

During the year 2022-23 the trustees continued to focus on supporting fundraising by groups and individuals as well as applying for grant funding. A large number of churches and individuals continued to give generously and talks and presence at a range of events continued to raise awareness in the UK.

Congo Children Trust made both monthly maintenance grants and occasional one-off grants to the Kimbilio Project for street children in Lubumbashi, Democratic Republic of Congo and to related projects in Lubumbashi.

Income

In 2022-23 income rose substantially in comparison with the previous year and expenditure was rose even further. Income grew in donations from individuals, gifts from churches and grants from a range of funders. Ongoing fundraising for buying the land for the new Day Centre for the Kimbilio Project formed a major part of this increase as did a significant donation from one church towards the cost of teachers' salaries in the Kimbilio Primary School, which are not covered by the state.

Trading income also grew in comparison to the previous year. The trustees owe particular thanks to Ruth Allen for operating the Etsy shop and co-ordinating the volunteer sewers in the UK, along with Gill Venton. As in previous years, a great deal of hard work by volunteers and Ian Harvey, the founding Director, went into maintaining personal contact with group and individual supporters as well as applying for grants from funders.

The trustees are deeply grateful to the following trusts, companies, and funds for their generous support:

- The Morel Trust, Flow Control Systems, The Ann and Christopher Fielden Trust, Souter Charitable Trust, First Steps Enterprise, The Link Foundation, Wolverhampton Rotary, Rotary Charity Auctions and the Rozelle Trust.
- Kumi Consulting provided a significant grant.
- Substantial grants from Saidiana funded the Sewing Project and the Young Mums' Hair Salon.

A substantial body of regular donors continue to support the charity via standing orders, ensuring that regular income is maintained and that funds are available when required for grants for costs of food and utilities and the trustees are deeply grateful to them for their generous commitment.

In addition, the trustees owe particular thanks to the following churches:

- The congregations and church councils of St Andrew, Hadfield; St Michael and All Angels, Cosby; Wesley Methodist Church, Chester; Central Exeter Parish; St Michael, Helston; St Helen, Wheathampstead; The Church of the Good Shepherd, Romford; St Margaret, Lowestoft; St Andrew, Lowestoft; St Francis, Heartsease, Norwich; St James, Woodley; St Margaret, Whalley Range; Christ Church, West Didsbury and St Christopher, Withington; St Helen, Etwall; All Hallows, Allerton; Holy Trinity, Warrington; St Mary, Long Stratton. The Scottish Episcopal Church also provided a substantial grant.

Other funding sources of note:

- Various volunteers took part in various fairs and fundraising events in Manchester and Greenbelt Festival, adding to trading income.
- Global Giving continued to be a particularly helpful online fundraising tool in the course of the year, particularly for the Kimbilio Day Centre project, with significant match funding provided.

Expenditure

A significant proportion of expenditure, facilitated by generous donations from some of the funders listed above, was once again dedicated to the purchase of the land for the new Kimbilio Day Centre which took place in the course of the year, along with the building of a perimeter wall. Some funding continued to be received for the final stages of equipping the School.

Operational expenditure increased once again but funds were again able to absorb both this and the capital expenditure on the school project. The bulk of Congo Children Trust's financial support continues to provide for the day to day running of the Centre Kimbilio and Maison Kimbilio; a day centre for street children as well as associated accommodation and support provision for former street children. The Kimbilio/Mapendo school also received funding for month-to-month expenses. Taking the final month of the financial year as an example, in March 2023, the Kimbilio Day Centre received 532 individual visits, many of them regular visits by the same children with an average of 48 children welcomed each day. 20 children made their first contact with the Centre, and it was possible to reunite 8 with their extended family. 29 children received medical attention. In the same month, the Kimbilio/Mapendo School recorded a total of 256 children on the roll: 15 in the infant section, 1 of whom is was living in the Kimbilio Project; 218 in the primary section 19 of whom were living in the Kimbilio Project and 36 secondary pupils of whom 8 were from the Project.

Through most of the year 2022-23 the Trust continued to have very low UK running costs at under 5% of our income and we are extremely grateful once again for the generosity of the St Margaret's Centre, Whalley Range, Manchester for giving use of office space free of charge. The Kimbilio Project UK director Ian Harvey worked two days a week on a voluntary basis, with some support donated funds specifically for his expenses. His activities involved communicating with supporters and volunteers in the UK, including emails, newsletters and online meetings and he also resumed a programme of visits to supporter churches. He also maintained regular contact with the volunteers and staff in DRC and led a visit to Lubumbashi by a group of trustees and UK based volunteers in July 2022.



Receipts and payments accounts


For the period from	Period start date 4/1/2022	To	Period end date 3/31/2023
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	132,490			132,490	119,721
Grants	53,999			53,999	11,598
Grants (school)		1,000		1,000	
Trading	4,303			4,303	2,689
Bank Account interest	27			27	6
Sewing Project				-	3,577
Gift Aid	3,075			3,075	6,651
Church Donations	20,708			20,708	19,387
Church Donation (teacher salaries)		17,000		17,000	
School Building				-	24,000
Girls House					300
Girls Work				-	5,000
Jean Bosco Funeral and Family				-	935
Day Centre		50		50	
Donations from schools					778
Church Donation (Young Mums)		100		100	
	214,602	18,150	-	232,752	194,642
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	214,602	18,150	-	232,752	194,642
A3 Payments					
Publicity	1,175			1,175	409
Subscriptions/memberships	536			536	1,927
Grants to DR Congo	210,631			210,631	137,771
Insurance	712			712	349
Staff and office expenses	2,251			2,251	4,097
Bank Fees	580			580	386
Strategic plan facilitation	365			365	
Visits to DRC	8,235			8,235	
Transfer to reserve account	5,000			5,000	
Young Mums		100		100	
Teacher salaries		17,000		17,000	
School Building and furnishing		1,000		1,000	24,000
Sewing Project				-	3,577
Girls House				-	300
Jean Bosco Funeral and Family				-	935
Trading expenses	436			436	407
Day Centre		50		50	-
Payment to Mary Ratter				-	250
Girls Work				-	5,000
Sub total	229,922	18,150	-	248,072	179,408
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	229,922	18,150	-	248,072	179,408
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 15,320	-	-	- 15,320	15,234

A5 Transfers between funds	-5,000	5,000	-		
A6 Cash funds last year end	57,873	2,578		60,451	45,218
Cash funds this year end	37,553	7,578	-	45,131	60,452

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Main Account	19,499		-
	Reserve account	18,055	7,578	-
				-
	Total cash funds	37,553	7,578	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		Mark Gant	1/24/2024	



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

CONGO CHILDREN TRUST

On accounts for the year
ended

31 March 2023

Charity
no (if
any)

1121048

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

**Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view, and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met ; or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

24 January 2024

Name:

Euan Menzies

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	ICAEW
Address:	24 Balcombe Road
	Haywards Heath
	West Sussex, RH16 1PF



Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

N/A
