



Congo Children Trust Annual Report 2024-25

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

During the year 2024-25, 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 once again 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 DRC.



Income

In 2024-25 income grew by almost 25% in comparison with the previous year while expenditure also grew by almost 17%. Donations continued to be received towards the construction costs of the new Day Centre for the Kimbilio Project and this continues to be a key aim for fundraising from grants and donations.

The trustees continue to owe particular thanks to Ruth Allen for operating the Etsy shop and co-ordinating the volunteer sewers in the UK, along with Gill Venton. Jan McCarthy also crocheted 250 tiny turtles. 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 with the support of Joanne Peters. Jen Appleby is providing one day per week administrative support in the office.

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

- Carne Global Finance, IX Metals, IX Metals (South Africa), The C & R Pignatelli Foundation, University of Strathclyde University Muslim Student Association, Wolverhampton Rotary Club, Rotary Charity Auctions, Brian Mercer Trust, Sussex Mineral and Lapidary Society, Carpe Crystals Ltd, Souter Trust

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 Horwich Evangelical Church, St Andrew, Hadfield; St Michael and All Angels, Cosby; Wesley Methodist Centre, Chester; Central Exeter Parish; St Michael, Helston; St Helen, Wheathampstead; The Church of the

Good Shepherd, Romford; St Andrew, Lowestoft; St James, Woodley; St Margaret, Whalley Range; St Helen, Etwell; All Hallows, Allerton; Holy Trinity, Warrington; Christ Church, Harpurhey; Glenbrook Christian Fellowship; St Mary, Ellenbrook; St Michael, Mytholmroyd; Hillheads Christian Fellowship, Whitley Bay; St Mary, Long Stratton.

Other funding sources of note:

- Once again, various volunteers took part in various fairs and fundraising events in Manchester, Essex, London and Greenbelt Festival, adding to trading income.
- Global Giving continued to be a particularly helpful online fundraising tool in the course of the year, with significant match funding provided, including £28,000 in December 2024.
- Kumi Foundation has been instrumental in linking CCT with some key corporate donors and their support is very much appreciated by the trustees.



Expenditure

Operational expenditure increased once again with pressure from inflation, but funds were again able to cover this and donations continued to be received for the new Day Centre. 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.

In the course of the financial year, 6679 meals were provided at the Kimbilio Day Centre providing street children with the opportunity to receive medical care, food, entertainment, counselling, and many other activities. The girls undertake sewing training, and the boys play football once a month. 337 children, who would otherwise not be able to attend school, were registered across the Kimbilio/Mapendo primary and secondary school and the school also plays a role in helping to integrate the former street children into their local community. A perimeter wall was constructed around the school precinct in the course of the year. 72 children were provided with accommodation in one of the Maison Kimbilio homes, receiving basic education in literacy, mathematics, dance and art. 60 children were reunited with their families by the social work team; 11 of these reunited children were provided with bursaries to attend school in their home towns and villages; 44 mothers of reunited children have graduated from the sewing training project; 6 young mothers have graduated from the young mums hairdressing and beauty training and 6 young people were provided with University education



Through the year 2024-25 the Trust once again continued to have very low UK running costs at under 10% of our income and we continue to be extremely grateful 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 more than a day per 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 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 including representatives of donor partner Kumi Consulting in July 2024, which included an exploratory visit to meet with potential funders and partners in Kolwesi.





CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Congo Children Trust

No (if any)
1121048

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

4/1/2024

To

3/31/2025


Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	73,437			73,437	98,372
Unrestricted Grants	76,827			76,827	40,741
Sewing project		11,304		11,304	
Trading	1,033			1,033	1,683
Bank Account interest	653			653	289
Donation (food costs)				-	2,000
Rotary (English teacher and football)		1,600		1,600	
Church Donations	21,250.24			21,250	12,762
Church Donations (director salary)		1,022		1,022	321
Donations (day centre)				-	20,610
Visits to DRC				-	1,250
Mireille				-	140
Church Donation (young Mums)				-	750
Lily for the Congo				-	2,580
Church Donation Daniella university		1,485.35		1,485	1,195
Grants (sewing workshop and kitchen extension)				-	2,000
Emergency operation				-	210
Global Giving		59,117		59,117	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	173,200	74,528	-	247,728	184,903
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	173,200	74,528	-	247,728	184,903

A3 Payments					
Publicity and fundraising	4,653			4,653	4,077
Subscriptions/Memberships	448			448	399
Grants to DR Congo	118,162			118,162	141,729
Insurance	781			781	722
Staff and Office Expenses	4,980			4,980	10,069
Bank fees	435			435	435
Visits to DRC				-	2,435
Transfer to reserve account				-	
Young Mums				-	750
Teacher Salaries				-	
School Building and furnishing				-	
Sewing Project				-	1,000
Global Giving		59,117		59,117	-
Trading expenses	518			518	46
Rotary (English teacher and football)		1,600		1,600	
Girls House				-	1,000
Lilly for the Congo				-	2,580
Food Costs				-	2,000
Director salary		1,022		1,022	321
Mirellie				-	140
Emergency operation				-	210
Daniella University fees		1,485		1,485	1,195
CRM Cost	9,346			9,346	-
Sub total	139,324	63,224	-	202,548	169,107
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	

	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	139,324	63,224	-	202,548	169,107
Net of receipts/(payments)	33,876	11,304	-	45,180	15,796
A5 Transfers between funds			-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	32,739	28,188		60,927	45,131
Cash funds this year end	66,615	39,492		106,107	60,927

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	Current Account	66,615	39,492	-
	Reserve Account			-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	66,615	39,492	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
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	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Congo Children Trust

On accounts for the year
ended

31 March 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1121048

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 03 / 2024**.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

24 November 2025

Name:

Euan Menzies

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

ICAEW

Address:

24 Balcombe Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

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

N/A