



**Women's
Education
Partnership**

Annual Report & Accounts 2020

Registered Charity 1151145

**Authorised and regulated by the
Charity Commission for England & Wales**

Women's Education Partnership

Registered Charity No. 1151145

TRUSTEES 2020

Director

Peter Hullah (*to 30th June*)

Other Trustees

Islam Ali

Herman Bell (*to 7th November*)

Simon Boyd (*Chair*)

Sue Claydon (*from 26th July*)

Bryony Pike

Kate Smith (*to 31st August*)

Anna Snowdon

Abdul Suliman (*from 26th July*)

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Country Coordinator, Sudan

Neimat Hussain Issha

South Sudan partner

Silas Jojo

Web & IT services

Kate Smith

www.womenseducationpartnership.org

Treasurer

Norman Swanney

33 Balmoral Road

Trowbridge BA14 0JS

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womenseducationpartnership.org

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The Trustees of Women's Education Partnership have approved this report of the charity's work and activities in 2020.

WEP provides education for girls and women in Sudan and South Sudan - from elementary school and adult literacy through to university scholarships. In the face of the pandemic, we have conserved our resources, increased our income and protected the safety of our local team in Sudan.

The Trustees have complied with the duty in the Charities Act to have proper regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

A year of challenges

The most important challenge in 2020 has been the Covid-19 pandemic. The Sudan and South Sudan went into lockdown in mid-March, and all our education and support activities had to be put on hold. In Sudan this meant the loss of a year's study for university scholars (lacking facilities for distance learning); our support for elementary schools for orphan children, for adult literacy and eyecare outreach activities were also closed down for the duration.

The postponement of the new academic year essentially until January 2021 has meant our programmes have not yet really restarted.

In South Sudan, the problem of Covid is compounded destruction of much of the infrastructure supporting education due to war and civil strife. So, our remaining university scholars in Juba and our adult literacy activities were put on hold.

The safety of our staff in Sudan has been our major priority (we have no employees in South Sudan). In March we agreed that the staff should work from home on full pay. We agreed also to the staff taking part in a national Covid awareness campaign, organised by the Sudanese government's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC), distributing Covid health awareness materials in the displaced settlements from which many of our learners come - often these people had no prior warning of Covid.

In Sudan inflation has been very high (170% in June). Unprecedented floods have damaged some of the basic elementary schools which we support, leading us to offer funds for flood relief mainly from our Festive Season Appeal.

Raising funds for development has been much more difficult this year due to Covid.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Our programmes

Despite the civil unrest and political upheavals of 2019, we began the year with our programmes at the highest level for many years. They include:

a) Providing support to 300 orphan children annually, from displaced communities, at 10 selected community elementary schools on the outskirts of Khartoum. These schools are dependent on organisations like WEP for support.

b) Delivering adult literacy classes to nearly 400 women in 15 literacy circles at 5 localities on the outskirts of Khartoum, mainly for women displaced by war or famine. Literacy teaching emphasises human rights, achieving their personal aims, and community involvement.

c) Sponsoring university scholarships to study at five Sudanese universities, for girls who do not have the means to pay. Over 370 have graduated over the years and 131 are currently studying at five universities in Khartoum. These include: Ahfad University for Women, Khartoum, Bahri, Nileen and Sudan Universities.

d) Supporting 60 eyecare outreach clinics among displaced people around Khartoum, providing eye examinations, corrective lenses, medication, basic surgical interventions through the services of a Sudanese ophthalmologist and health education to over 6,000 patients annually.

In South Sudan, WEP has continued to work with Silas Jojo and the Kimu Integrated Development Organisation to support the building of a new literacy centre in Juba.

Staff, supporters and volunteers

WEP is immensely grateful to its dedicated staff of four in Sudan, who plan and manage the projects. Led by Country Coordinator, Neimat Hussain Issha, the team includes two project administrators, Adila Osman and Amal Almahdi and office manager and accountant, Saudi Musaad. Amal has just left WEP and a replacement is being sought.

WEP is grateful also to its supporters in the Sudan, particularly to Professor Gasim, President of Ahfad University for Women in Omdurman for facilitating the scholarships programme, and to its patrons and donors in the Sudan and further afield. We thank Khartoum International Community School for supporting English language learning by our scholarship girls; and Hassabo and Co for auditing our accounts in Sudan.

We are reliant on the expertise and advice of our volunteers, particularly our treasurer Norman Swanney, and other committed volunteers such as Imogen Thurbon and Kate Smith.

In 2020 we were honoured that Leila Aboulela, a renowned Sudanese author living in Scotland, joined us as our new patron. Leila has been hugely helpful in fronting our Festive Appeal at Christmas.

Trustee Changes

In 2020 two long-serving trustees stood down. Kate Smith retired in November but agreed to continue as webmaster and social media volunteer for WEP and has completely updated our website (formerly managed by LemonAid League). In November, Prof Herman Bell also stood down after many years as a trustee. Prof Bell is expert in the cultures, history and languages of the Sudan and South Sudan, and has special interest in the South Sudan.

Joining WEP as new trustees were Sue Claydon and Dr Abdul Aziz Suliman. Sue Claydon has specialised in adult education and served for two years working on peace education in South Sudan; Abdul Suliman is a distinguished teacher and educationist and is currently head of Science at Southbank International School.

At the start of 2020, Peter Hullah, chair of trustees and voluntary director of WEP announced his retirement with effect from June. Peter served with distinction as WEP's director for seven crucial years and much of WEP's success during that period is due to him.

The trustees decided not to appoint a new director and instead to act as a team under a new chair, Simon Boyd. This arrangement has worked well to date.

The trustees now meet approximately monthly by Zoom to receive reports on developments and to take decisions. Trustees now receive a monthly analysis of the financial situation from the treasurer.

We have also met with Neimat Hussain Issah by Skype and by Zoom to discuss important issues, particularly staff remuneration. A team from WEP has met online with representatives from Sight Savers in Kenya and Sudan to discuss possible cooperation on eyecare in the Sudan.

It has not generally been possible for Trustees to visit Sudan, other than brief personal visits.

Financial Information and Policy

The charity's main bankers are Barclays Bank, Leicester, LE87 2BB in UK and First Abu Dhabi Bank, Khartoum, in Sudan.

In 2020 some 84% of income was generously donated by individuals to whom the trustees wish to express their warmest thanks. They are also most grateful to sponsors who have given generous support for specific projects.

The trustees' policy is to maintain reserves of £60,000 to guarantee funding continuity for long term scholarship programmes and to ensure their duty of care for their Sudanese staff. This target was achieved in the year under review.

Trustees' efforts have started to reverse a decline in income from personal donations which have been dependent on the continuing generosity of our crucial long-standing donor base. New online sources are now helping with this endeavour.

Similarly, renewed momentum has been put into exploring grant funding from new sponsors to add to the superb support we have received over many years from committed grant funding organisations. Many funding bodies are being cautious due to Covid but trustees are extremely pleased to welcome the support of the British & Foreign Schools Society to fund a new teacher training project for 2021 in Sudan.

Rampant inflation affected all aspects of our operations in Sudan and South Sudan and trustees were pleased to award our hard-working staff an allowance to combat the increase in living costs. Despite Covid restrictions the amount of charitable aid provided this year was greater than in 2019 without a significant increase in the cost of delivery.



Simon Boyd
Chair of Trustees
11 January 2021

Women's Education Partnership

Registered charity 1151145

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

Note 1a


	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
		General	Designated			
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Voluntary receipts	2b	60,722	-	4,200	64,922	37,786
Grants	2a	-	-	22,355	22,355	17,555
Investment dividends/interest		270	-	-	270	606
Other income	2c	5,804	-	-	5,804	4,076
		66,796	0	26,555	93,351	60,021
Asset & investment sales		-	-	-	0	-
Total Receipts		66,796	0	26,555	93,351	60,021
Payments						
Charitable Activities	3,4	25,640	11,998	42,877	80,515	70,446
Fund raising & publicity		-	-	-	0	-
Governance, UK management		808	-	-	808	1,657
Other costs	3d	5,798	-	-	5,798	5,622
		32,246	11,998	42,877	87,121	77,725
Asset & investment purchases		-	-	-	0	-
Total Payments		32,246	11,998	42,877	87,121	77,725
Excess (Deficit) of Receipts over Payments		34,550	(11,998)	(16,322)	6,230	(17,704)
Transfers between funds	6	(23,391)	2,998	20,393	0	-
		11,159	(9,000)	4,070	6,230	(17,704)
Bank accounts & cash at 1st January		128,678	14,000	81,551	224,229	241,933
Bank accounts at 31st December		139,837	5,000	85,622	230,459	224,229

STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES

		£	£	£	£	£
Cash Funds						
Bank accounts & cash		122,612	5,000	-	127,612	121,652
Funds on deposit		17,225	0	85,622	102,847	102,577
		139,837	5,000	85,622	230,459	224,229
Other Monetary Assets						
Grants agreed		-	-	-	0	-
Income tax recoverable	2c	11,149	-	950	12,099	6,231
		11,149	0	950	12,099	6,231
Investment Assets						
Funds/shares at market value		0	0	0	0	0
Assets retained for charity use						
Office equipment		690	0	0	690	690
Liabilities (severance pay)	5	(18,381)	0	0	(18,381)	20,051

The attached **Notes** and **Independent Examiner's certificate** form part of these financial statements

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by



Simon Boyd
 Chair of Trustees
 Date: 19th February 2021



Norman Swanney
 Treasurer

Women's Education Partnership

Registered charity 1151145

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020

Note 1. Basis of preparation.

- Basis of accounting.** The Accounts are prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 on a Receipts & Payments basis.
- Funds.** Trustees are free to use unrestricted funds to further the charity's objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds, where the trustees may create a fund for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are spent as directed by the donor.
- Changes to previous year's accounts.** There has been no change to the previous year's accounts.

Note 2.	Receipts analysis	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2020	2019
		Fund	Fund	Fund		
		£	£	£	£	£
a.	Grants					
	Women's literacy - private donors (2)	-	-	7,822	7,822	1,201
	Gordon Memorial College Trust Fund - UK	-	-	6,291	6,291	14,175
	Eyecare project Khartoum - private donor	-	-	5,000	5,000	-
	Orphans' Elementary Education project	-	-	1,142	1,142	579
	University scholarships - private donors (2)	-	-	1,100	1,100	-
	Potter Foundation	-	-	1,000	1,000	-
	Total grants	0	0	22,355	22,355	15,955
b.	Donations					
	Gift Aided donations	44,597	-	3,800	48,397	26,525
	Gift Aid rebate	6,484	-	400	6,884	7,632
	Other donations	9,641	-	-	9,641	5,228
	Total donations	60,722	0	4,200	64,922	39,386
c.	Other income: interest & currency gains (fx)	6,074	-	-	6,074	4,681
	Total receipts	66,796	0	26,555	93,351	60,021
	Total donations from individuals as percentage of overall income				84.5%	61.4%

Note 3	Payments analysis	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2020	2019
		Fund	Fund	Fund		
		£	£	£	£	£
a.	Charitable Activities - Education Projects					
	University scholarships	-	-	25,673	25,673	20,751
	Women's Literacy, Khartoum	-	-	565	565	2,765
	Orphans' Elementary Education project	-	-	498	498	48
	Cost of delivering education projects	21,510	-	-	21,510	18,542
	Total Education projects	21,510	0	26,736	48,246	42,106
b.	Charitable Activities - Educational Support Projects					
	Eye Care outreach, Khartoum	-	8,232	-	8,232	6,480
	Covid-19 awareness outreach	-	3,766	-	3,766	-
	Cost of delivering education support projects	4,130	-	-	4,130	3,355
	Total Education Support projects	4,130	11,998	0	16,128	9,835
c.	Charitable Activities - grantmaking					
	Kimu Integ. Development Orgn. Juba	-	-	16,141	16,141	18,505
	Total grant payments	0	0	16,141	16,141	18,505
	Total payments for charitable activities	25,640	11,998	42,877	80,515	70,446
d.	Fund-raising, admin, publicity	808	-	-	808	1,657
e.	Currency exchange losses (fx)	5,798	-	-	5,798	5,622
	Total payments	32,246	11,998	42,877	87,121	77,725

Women's Education Partnership

Registered charity 1151145

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020

					2020	2019
Note 4.	Aid work - monitoring and support overhead costs.					
	Charitable Activities	Staff	Office	IT & comms	Transport & other costs	
		£	£	£	£	£
	a. Wages, salaries and operational costs					
	Locally-engaged staff, Khartoum	21,439	3,648	(355)	907	21,897
	Other locations	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	21,439	3,648	(355)	907	21,897

b. Average number of full time equivalent permanent staff in the year, excluding casual labour, is 4

Note 5.	Severance pay provision				Charitable commitments
	There is no staff pension scheme but funds are set aside for severance pay awards under Chapter IX of the Sudan Labour Code 1997	Unrestricted	Restricted		Total
		£	£		£
	Commitments outstanding at 1 st January	16,709	-		16,709
	New commitments set aside in year	1,672	-		1,672
	Commitments paid or cancelled during the year	-	-		0
	Amount of commitments as at 31 st December	18,381	0		18,381
	Commitments are regularly revalued in line with currency movements				

Note 6.	Transfers between funds	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Total
		£	£	£	£
	Eyecare Khartoum, WEP-funded	(3,232)	3,232	-	0
	University scholarship sponsors - Gift Aid	(400)	-	400	0
	University scholarship continuity fund	(6,500)	-	6,500	0
	Covid-19 awareness outreach	(3,766)	3,766	-	0
	Kimu: literacy project grant 2019/20	(5,141)	(9,000)	14,141	0
	Kimu: literacy teachers' salaries 2020/21	(5,000)	5,000	-	0
	Other (e.g. currency fluctuations)	648	-	(648)	0
		(23,391)	2,998	20,393	0

Note 7.	Transactions with related parties, loans, trustees' remuneration & benefits	
	a. <u>Remuneration & benefits</u> : No remuneration or other benefits are paid to trustees.	(2019 - Nil).
	b. <u>Loans</u> : No amounts are owing to or from the charity's trustees at any time.	(2019 - Nil).
	c. <u>Other transaction/s with trustees or related parties</u> : No transactions have been undertaken by (or on behalf of) the charity in which a trustee or other related party has a material interest.	(2019 - Nil).

Note 8.	The Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012
	The trustees confirm, in accordance with these regulations that, at year end, the charity did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on its assets..

Women's Education Partnership ACCOUNTING POLICY

Receipts and Payments Accounting

General funds represent the funds of the charity that are not subject to any restrictions and available for the general purposes of the charity. These include funds designated for a particular purpose by the charity.

The purpose of any restricted funds is noted in the accounts.

The accounts include monetary transactions, assets and liabilities for which the charity can be held responsible.

Receipts and payments include income as received and expenditure when irrevocably paid.

Foreign currency transactions are recognised at the average monthly rate of exchange received or using the best available published data.

All exchange differences are recognised in the receipts and payments account.

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

Governance costs include the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

The following assets are recognised:

- Any tangible fixed assets held by the charity.
- Fixtures, fittings and office equipment where the charity is free to dispose of such assets and where the original cost exceeded £500.
- Any amounts owing to the charity including tax rebates or insurance claims.
- Legacies where formal notification and amount has been received at 31 December.
- Any investments held beneficially by the charity.
- Closing bank balances as shown in the receipts and payment account.

The following liabilities are recognised:

- Any loans or overdrafts advanced to the charity.
- Funds set aside for severance pay liabilities.
- Creditors for goods or services where the supply has been received and invoiced by 31 December.

Monetary assets and liabilities are translated into sterling at the exchange rate at the end of the financial year, 31 December.

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Women's Education Partnership

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st December 2020, which are set out on the previous pages of this report.

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 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 those records. It also includes 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 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:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Name: J A Fryer, CGMA

Address: 20 Halfway Close
Trowbridge BA14 7HQ

Date: 19th February 2021