



**Women's
Education
Partnership**

Annual Report & Accounts 2022

Registered Charity 1151145

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

Women's Education Partnership

Registered Charity No. 1151145

TRUSTEES 2022

Other Trustees

Islam Ali

Simon Boyd

Sue Claydon

Bryony Pike

Anna Snowdon

Abdul Suliman (*Chair*)



Country Coordinator, Sudan

Neimat Issha

South Sudan partners

Gale Emmanuel

Silas Jojo

Web & IT services

Kate Smith

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Treasurer &

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Norman Swanney

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Contents

Trustees, officers and contacts
– *this page.*

PAGE 3.
Trustees' Annual Report 2022

PAGE 5.
Annual Accounts 2022

Receipts & Payments Account

**Statement of Assets
& Liabilities**

PAGE 6.
Notes to the Accounts

Basis of preparation

Analysis of receipts

Analysis of payments

PAGE 7.
Notes to the Accounts, *continued*

Overheads

Pension provision

Transfers between funds

Trustees' remuneration & benefits

Charitable Incorporated Organisations

BACK PAGE
Accounting policy

Independent examiner's report

The Trustees of Women's Education Partnership have approved this report of the charity's activities in 2022. WEP provides education for girls and women in Sudan and South Sudan - from elementary schools and adult literacy to university scholarships. The Trustees have complied with the duty in the Charity Act to have proper regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

Resumé of year

My predecessor described 2021 as "a Year of Challenge". I can positively describe 2022 as the year of confidence. I took over the Chairmanship from Simon Boyd in early September. By then, thanks to Simon's leadership through our most challenging period ever, the groundwork of pulling WEP from the backdrop of Covid (with all its consequences of lockdown, reduced funds and online teaching) had been done. With the considerable hard work of our six trustees, we continued to provide the support needed to our grateful Sudanese women and girls. The scholarship programme restarted with 35 more university students being awarded valuable scholarships to pursue degree subjects such as Medicine, Management, Education and Engineering.

On my very recent visit to Sudan, I witnessed first-hand how poor some of the primary schools are. To continue with providing university education for deserving girls, we must develop the educational route some of these girls take on their way to the universities. Hence the need to provide effective support to the quality of school-teaching. This was done by the rebuilding of classrooms for the pupils and staff rooms for the teachers, to provide a base from which the school is managed.

The next step was to continue training the teachers and providing workshops to develop their pedagogical skills. The teacher training programme covers 100 teachers, receiving 10 days of intensive training in the most effective method of getting the best out of their pupils. Teacher training also includes training in management, specialised subjects, safeguarding, managing poverty and, soon to be introduced, climate change and carbon footprint. These are crucial aspects in providing modern and exciting education to deprived learners.

Our local team

For most of the year, the office was run by two full-time and three part-time staff, with the support of a cleaner and a driver. They all continued to work hard to steer our organisation through the complex web of

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2022

local rules and regulations. As the trustees of many organisations know, there are great difficulties implementing aid work overseas. This can only be achieved by experienced local staff. We are very fortunate that we have such staff. They make the mammoth task of delivering our programmes so rewarding and satisfying, and we all appreciate the sacrifices they give to this cause. They persistently work through difficulties such as continued Covid threats, post-Covid inflation and mind-boggling local rules and regulations. We appreciate the work done by each and every one of them.

By the end of 2022 and after collective hard work by all the trustees, our fund-raising campaign has paid off and WEP has finally emerged from the effect of the Covid-19 slump. However, considering the prevailing economic situation, we will remain cautious and prudent, and will always look for value for money in all our commitments. Since this economic hardship is global, Sudan and South Sudan are affected by it. Sudan remains in a state of political confusion with no stable government in Khartoum and there is the threat of tribal war resuming in South Sudan. This makes long-term strategic planning very difficult.

Our programme

Sudan

We continued to provide a variety of support to our scholars at different universities. This support included fee paying for all scholars and, for some, provision of transport, internet for online teaching, and graduation fees. Our students attend traditional institutions such as Ahfad University for Women and Khartoum University, others study subjects such as Nursing, Midwifery or Rural Development. On my latest visit to Khartoum, I was pleasantly surprised to find 22 scholars attending Kadaraw (old Juba) University. This particular university specialises in Earth Science and Climate Change, which includes water management, mining and soil management. These are very topical subjects with a particular insight into the danger of climate change, water shortages and soil erosion.

Primary schools in deprived localities and refugee centres continue to receive our support in improving the teaching environment. During the rebuilding of classrooms after devastating floods during July and August, more durable materials were used for the reconstruction. As a result of the rebuilding of larger and better classrooms, more girls now feel able to attend school regularly in these deprived areas.

With national inflation reaching 400% at one stage, the Teacher Training programme was more susceptible to post-Covid inflationary pressures, and has therefore gone considerably above budget. It was fortunate that we were able to persuade our local partner to lower its prices, enabling the project to continue successfully.

The Adult Literacy programme has resumed vigorously with 13 literacy circles. A total of 375 students completed their projects successfully and in time to celebrate International Literacy Day (8 September) with a huge gathering and funfair celebration. All the women who passed their literacy tests have moved on to receive adult education. This is indeed a proud moment for them as well as for all of us. During my recent visit I have agreed, after consulting several experts in the field of literacy, a two-year programme of improving and widening the literacy circle up to 2025. The literacy circles are strongly connected to our vulnerable adult safeguarding policy. In WEP we consider all illiterate students as vulnerable adults who should be treated as such by all our instructors.

Eye-care outreaches have resumed after a long period of inactivity during the Covid period. For eye clinics we work with volunteer doctors to support our literacy students who suffer from debilitating eye disease. This service has been much appreciated over the years and is always busy. Patients normally line up for a long time to access it. We are expanding this service in 2023 to different parts of Khartoum where refugees and deprived communities live.

South Sudan

In South Sudan we continued to provide support to KIMU Literacy School and to the programme of studies at the Institute of Health Science in Juba, where we now sponsor students taking Medical and Health Care subjects. We are actively expanding our sponsorship for students during 2023, and applications for universities are already being processed. Applications are vetted by our local partner who will award scholarships on our behalf as merited. Demand is high.

Supporters and volunteers

WEP is grateful to all our supporters and volunteers here in the UK, USA, Spain and other countries, also in Khartoum. Without their generosity and support, nothing could have been implemented. We are also immensely grateful to our regular sponsors who have supported us over the years. We are very fortunate to have Norman Swanney as our treasurer, with his expertise, dedication and calm guidance through what sometimes seem like insurmountable problems. We are also indebted to former trustees: Kate Smith who looks after our IT, and Imogen Thurbon for guiding and publicising our Adult Literacy programme.

Trustees

We have succeeded in what we do, only because of our stable and dedicated six trustees. Each continues to be in charge of an important section of our activities. Simon Boyd focuses on teacher training and fund-raising; Anna Snowden looks after scholarships and safeguarding; Sue Claydon oversees WEP activities in South Sudan; Islam Ali monitors our new staff, their recruitment and induction; Bryony Pike provides consultation on technical issues, edits our newsletter and her support with 'The Big Give' campaign was immeasurable.

Financial Information and Policy

The charity's main bankers are Barclays Bank in UK, and in Sudan the Bank of Khartoum and Africa Gulf Bank. No bank accounts are held in South Sudan.

In 2022 some 46% of income was generously donated by individuals, to whom the trustees express their warmest thanks. The trustees' policy is to maintain reserves of £60,000 to guarantee funding continuity for long-term scholarship programmes and to ensure duty of care for their Sudanese staff. This target was achieved in the year under review.

Rampant inflation continued to impact our operations, overtaking the effects of the currency devaluation in Sudan in 2021. In response to inflation, trustees awarded a substantial increase in pay and new benefits in kind to our hard-working staff.

Despite many challenges the amount of charitable aid provided by WEP in 2022 increased significantly.



Dr Abdul Suliman
Chair of Trustees,

18 January 2023

Women's Education Partnership

Registered charity 1151145

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2022

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

Note 1a

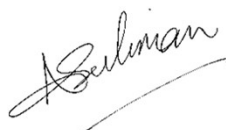
	Notes	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
		<u>General</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Voluntary receipts	2b	56,481	-	600	57,081	64,739
Grants	2a	-	-	86,330	86,330	40,724
Investment dividends/interest		380	-	-	380	3
Other income	2c	1,961	-	-	1,961	736
		58,822	0	86,930	145,753	106,202
Asset & investment sales		-	-	-	0	-
Total Receipts		58,822	0	86,930	145,753	106,202
Payments						
Charitable Activities	3,4	34,205	-	80,155	114,360	77,549
Fund raising & publicity		-	-	-	0	17
Governance, assurance, UK costs		2,795	-	-	2,795	1,827
Other costs	3d	3,640	-	-	3,640	6,395
		40,640	0	80,155	120,795	85,787
Asset & investment purchases		-	-	-	0	-
Total Payments		40,640	0	80,155	120,795	85,787
Excess (Deficit) of Receipts over Payments		18,182	0	6,775	24,958	20,414
Transfers between funds	6	(7,016)	1,274	5,742	0	-
		11,167	1,274	12,517	24,958	20,414
Bank accounts & cash at 1st January		145,543	1,726	103,604	250,873	230,459
Bank accounts at 31st December		156,710	3,000	116,121	275,831	250,873

STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES

		£	£	£	£	£
Cash Funds						
Bank accounts & cash		156,710	3,000	116,121	275,831	250,873
Funds on deposit		-	-	-	0	-
		156,710	3,000	116,121	275,831	250,873
Other Monetary Assets						
Grants agreed		-	-	-	0	-
Income tax recoverable	2c	7,994	-	150	8,144	12,165
		7,994	0	150	8,144	12,165
Investment Assets						
Funds/shares at market value		0	0	0	0	0
Assets retained for charity use						
Office equipment		600	0	0	600	690
Liabilities (severance pay)	5	(22,557)	0	0	(22,557)	(16,784)

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

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by



Abdul Suliman

Chair of Trustees

Date: 24th February 2023



Norman Swanney

Treasurer

Women's Education Partnership

Registered charity 1151145

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022

Note 1. Basis of preparation.

- a. **Basis of accounting.** The Accounts are prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 on a Receipts & Payments basis.
- b. **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.
- c. **Changes to previous year's accounts.** There has been no change to the previous year's accounts.

Note 2.	Receipts analysis	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2022	2021
		Fund	Fund	Fund		
		£	£	£	£	£
a.	Grants					
	Visual Education Ltd, Oxford					
	- South Sudan tertiary and literacy education	-	-	31,659	31,659	0
	British & Foreign Schools Society					
	- Teacher Training	-	-	23,384	23,384	6,338
	Gordon Memorial College Trust Fund					
	- University Scholarships	-	-	12,050	12,050	15,000
	Elementary schooling - private donor(s)	-	-	7,000	7,000	2,212
	All Saints Educational Trust UK					
	- University Scholarships	-	-	6,000	6,000	6,000
	Women's literacy - private donor(s)	-	-	3,237	3,237	8,175
	Eyecare, Khartoum - private donor(s)	-	-	3,000	3,000	0
	Women's literacy - Edith M Ellis Trust	-	-	-	0	3,000
	Total grant receipts	0	0	86,330	86,330	40,724
b.	Donations					
	Gift Aided donations	31,975	-	600	32,575	27,211
	Gift Aid rebate	9,496	-	-	9,496	12,949
	Other donations and fundraising	15,010	-	-	15,010	24,578
	Total donations	56,481	0	600	57,081	64,739
c.	Other income: interest & currency gains (fx)	2,341	-	-	2,341	739
	Total receipts	58,822	0	86,930	145,753	106,202
	Total donations from individuals as percentage of overall income				46.0%	70.7%

Note 3	Payments analysis	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2022	2021
		Fund	Fund	Fund		
		£	£	£	£	£
a.	Charitable Activities - Education Projects					
	University scholarships, Khartoum	-	-	26,516	26,516	25,740
	Teacher Training, Khartoum	-	-	28,824	28,824	2,881
	Elementary Education, Khartoum	-	-	5,321	5,321	1,549
	Women's Literacy, Khartoum	-	-	8,914	8,914	297
	Eye Care outreach, Khartoum	-	-	4,839	4,839	29
	Covid-19 awareness outreach	-	-	-	0	64
	Cost of delivering education support projects	34,205	-	-	34,205	25,380
	Total education projects - Sudan	34,205	0	74,414	108,618	55,940
b.	Charitable Activities - grantmaking					
	Kimu Literacy School: Wordwall grant	-	-	1,538	1,538	0
	Kimu Literacy School: Other grants	-	-	4,203	4,203	21,610
	Total grant payments - South Sudan	0	0	5,742	5,742	21,610
	Total payments for charitable activities	34,205	0	80,155	114,360	77,549
c.	Governance, assurance, UK costs	2,795	-	-	2,795	1,844
d.	Currency exchange losses (fx)	3,640	-	-	3,640	6,395
	Total payments	40,640	0	80,155	120,795	85,787

Women's Education Partnership

Registered charity 1151145

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022

					2022	2021
Note 4.	Aid work - monitoring and support overhead costs.					
	Charitable Activities	Staff	Office	IT & comms	Transport & other costs	
		£	£	£	£	£
	a. Wages, salaries and benefits					
	Locally-engaged staff, Khartoum	27,432	2,816	621	3,336	25,380
	Other locations	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	27,432	2,816	621	3,336	25,380

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

c. Excludes cost of registering WEP in Sudan (Governance)

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	16,784	-		16,784
	New commitments set aside in year	5,773	-		5,773
	Commitments paid or cancelled during the year	0	-		0
	Amount of commitments as at 31 st December	22,557	0		22,557
	Commitments are regularly revalued in line with currency movements				

Note 6.	Transfers between funds	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Total
		£	£	£	£
	Kimu, South Sudan	(5,742)	-	5,742	0
	Designated funds - top up	(1,274)	1,274		0
		(7,016)	1,274	5,742	0

Note 7.	Trustees' remuneration, benefits and loans	
	a. <u>Remuneration & benefits</u> : No remuneration or other benefits are paid to trustees.	(2021 - Nil).
	b. <u>Loans</u> : No amounts are owing to or from the charity's trustees at any time.	(2021 - 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 2022, 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: 24th February 2023