



**ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5th APRIL 2022**

Charity Registration Number 1152631

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Amplifying Voices (UK)

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Number	1152631
Start of Financial Year	6 th April 2021
End of Financial Year	5 th April 2022
Trustees	Mr Terry Edmondson (Chair) Mr Christopher Dunn-Coleman Dr William Ferguson Mrs Gail Lawther Mr Iain Taylor (resigned 6 th June 2021) Mrs Judith Thompson
Registered Office	Pilgrim House 51-63 St Dunstons Road Worthing West Sussex BN13 1AA
Primary Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
Independent Examiner	Mr P Coram 30 Welland Road Worthing West Sussex BN13 3NP

Amplifying Voices Trustees Report to financial year-end 5th April, 2022

As the global pandemic continued into its second year, alongside an ‘infodemic’ of rumours, fake news, and misinformation, this dual-faceted contagion has highlighted the importance of the work of Amplifying Voices – to help communities access trustworthy, reliable information to enable them to make informed choices, ensuring that the voices of the poor and marginalized are heard.

Against this backdrop, the charity’s trustees are pleased to present their annual report and independently examined accounts for the year ended 5th April, 2022 and confirm they comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the CIO’s constitution and the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

Amplifying Voices UK is the working name of Health Communication Resources which was established in 2013 as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and is governed by a Constitution.

Trustees and organisational structure

The trustees of Amplifying Voices are appointed in accordance with its Constitution and are responsible for the good governance of the charity and the maintenance of its charitable objects. They bring a wide range of experience from the business, education, health and charity sectors. During the year, five trustees were responsible for overseeing the work of the charity. All trustees gave their time freely and no one was paid for the time they contributed as a trustee during the year.

The day-to-day running of the charity is handled by four associates who manage the organisation’s projects around the world and who meet with the trustees four times a year.

Public benefit

The Trustees have considered the guidelines issued by the Charity Commission with regard to public benefit and how the charity complies with these requirements. They are confident that they have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 with regard to public benefit.

The trustees regularly review the organisation’s exposure to financial risks, governance and management risks, operational risks and safeguarding as appropriate to its activities.

Serious Incident Reporting

The Trustees, in accordance with Serious Incident Reporting requirements (that is resulting in a significant loss of funds, or of significant risk to our property, beneficiaries or reputation) are pleased to confirm that no incidents fall into this category for the year under review.

OPERATIONAL REVIEW

Towards the end of the financial year, the Amplifying Voices team was once more able to travel to provide in-person support for projects in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. Prior to the lifting of travel restrictions, they continued to mentor partners online and further developed video and

audio resources to meet partners' ongoing training needs, and to provide initial training to new partner organizations. The charity also provided Covid-relief support for partners serving poor and marginalized communities in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

Recognising that community-centred media can play a crucial role after a disaster as an information, feedback and dialogue platform, the team developed additional training tools for communities recovering from disaster. The charity also became a member of the CDAC Network (Communicating with Disaster Affected Communities), a network of humanitarian and media organizations seeking to shift power from global voices to local voices in humanitarian responses.

Community-centred media is Amplifying Voices' primary approach for equipping communities with media tools to get people talking, listening and taking action to improve health, well-being and resilience.

South Asia

In the Spring of 2021, as the Indian health system began to buckle under the strain of a Corona virus surge that eclipsed anywhere else in the world, Amplifying Voices partnered with Seva Social Welfare Foundation, supported by the Waterloo Foundation, to provide food, care-packs and critical information to the most vulnerable tribal communities in the worst COVID 19-affected areas in Maharashtra state.

Over 10,000 people received regular food, water, sanitation and healthcare packages. The physical outreach was accompanied by a media project, which provided audio content via 'speakerboxes' (audio players) in order to:

- Provide accurate, timely and trusted information about the spread of the virus and how it is contracted;
- Provide critical information to help vulnerable communities make appropriate health choices (especially around sanitation and hygiene);
- Provide psycho-social support due to trauma resulting from COVID19
- Help marginalized communities understand their rights, especially how to access services and where to find help;
- Dispel a plethora of misinformation that was circulating about how COVID19 spreads and encouraging uptake in the vaccination programme due to a high degree of vaccine hesitancy.



Speakerbox listener group, Maharashtra

As the health situation in India stabilized towards the end of 2021, Amplifying Voices continued supporting our partners in expanding the 'Adivasi Voices' project to reach more indigenous tribal villages with community-centred media to promote health, education and development. As part of this initiative a pilot project was launched to reach bonded labourers from Adivasi villages using a mobile phone app. Currently in its test phase, it is hoped the app will provide critical information to enable them to make their way out of this modern-day form of slavery.

In neighbouring Pakistan, Amplifying Voices UK continued to provide strong mentoring and financial support to its sister organisation, Amplifying Voices Pakistan, in its development of community-centred media partnerships in Punjab and KPK provinces.

One key partnership, the "Naway Saher" team near Charsadda:

- Started the year by organizing a community spraying to protect against Dengue fever

and Covid 19;

- Created weekly development programmes aired on Dilbar FM and distributed via WhatsApp;
- Hosted a community-centred media workshop, including 7 women and 6 men;

Amplifying Voices Pakistan also expanded its work to the town of Nowshera in KPK province, which led to the formation of a new partnership known as “Community Media Power” (CMP). After a series of workshops, Amplifying Voices Pakistan provided studio equipment to enable the local team to produce weekly programmes involving the community, which has resulted in significant social gains:

- Regular programmes created conversations about problems of access to water which inspired a radio listener to fund a new borehole and repair two others;
- CMP held a health camp for bonded-labourers in a brickmaking community as part of a wider programme of advocacy and empowerment, highlighting the plight of these communities;
- A Council of Reference (representing majority community) was established to create radio programmes supporting religious minorities.



Supporting brickmakers, Pakistan

Amplifying Voices also provided equipment and coaching to the “New Hope” partnership in the Punjabi town of Juharabad. After a strong start, with a Christian youth group taking bold initiatives to address social problems related to poverty, addiction and domestic violence, the project leader sadly chose to close it down following opposition from powerful stakeholders in their community. This issue highlights the challenging contexts where Amplifying Voices operates. However before closing, the group organized various activities including:

- Setting up an audio room for creating programmes.
- Producing and distributing weekly programmes addressing family issues using WhatsApp and providing speakerboxes to some families who could not access WhatsApp.
- Hosting a first aid training event in collaboration with the government’s 1122 Rescue service
- Setting a digital learning suite with computers and internet access for families with girls who could do online learning in their homes.

Sub-Saharan Africa

In eastern Kenya’s **Tana River County**, Amplifying Voices ramped up its support for the peacebuilding work of Amani FM as the country prepared for elections in August 2022, amidst concerns of a rise in ethnic tension and hate speech. The charity is supporting the ongoing training and capacity-building of the staff and Board at Amani FM as well as its plans to extend and relocate its reach to more communities in the county.

In the **Democratic Republic of Congo**, there was a dramatic increase in violence in Watalinga district in North Kivu, the location of Umoja FM, a community radio station that Amplifying Voices helped establish in 2016. Despite the violence, which resulted in thousands of refugees fleeing into Uganda, the station has managed relentlessly to keep broadcasting. Amplifying Voices is continuing to support Umoja FM through finance and online mentoring and developing a plan to extend the signal of the station to reach more remote communities once stability

returns. In December 2021, an evaluation showed how the station had earned the trust of the community and become a vital part of the security of the region, providing critical information on where and how to stay safe and promoting well-being.

In **Sierra Leone**, Amplifying Voices received funding to support its partner, Bible Believing Network (BBN) in restarting the 'SALT' community engagement project after the interruptions of lockdown with a view to promoting dialogue around local issues, particularly COVID19, life after COVID and the vaccine take up. The restart included a reorganisation of the community-based visiting teams, to be more sustainable with local funding in future, and an introduction to new project monitoring and review tools, so that local teams can engage more meaningfully with the stories gathered in community visits, and adapt project activities accordingly.

The radio team also began a new radio drama tackling social issues raised in the community conversations, promoting dialogue and encouraging local solutions. The community conversations have been further extended through new social media content.

In **Northern Uganda**, our South Sudanese partner, Community Development Centre (CDC), continued to produce and distribute 'Soot Semee' (or 'Voice of Compassion'), community-centred media podcasts bringing together content created by community members in Omugo zone of Rhino Camp. The project continues to expand organically and CDC trained their newly formed Council of Reference and a group of new volunteers, and listener group leaders. Most of the newly trained volunteers were women, improving the gender balance of the project. January 2022 marked the end of 2 years of production, and the 200th Soot Semee podcast. **An Amplifying Voices associate visited Omugo zone in Uganda** and attended a celebration event marking the 2yr anniversary.



Creating content in refugee settlement, Uganda

CDC Uganda aims to expand Soot Semee's impact, particularly on migration routes into and

from South Sudan through setting up two new centres of operation in Koboka and Yumbe. They will provide additional speakerboxes, solar charging stations and train new volunteers and listener group leaders. They will use the same Soot Semee content for each centre initially, but develop local variants of the podcasts as each local group grows in confidence.

Amplifying Voices also visited CDC's team in Yei, South Sudan to co-facilitate a community-centred media workshop alongside a trainer from CDC Uganda. CDC South Sudan are developing a peacebuilding media initiative in Yei River County and have identified that community-centred media should play an integral role. The workshop brought together around 20 participants including people from local NGOs and representatives from three radio stations in Yei.

Responding to a community invitation extended via a trusted partner working in Chitipa, northern **Malawi**, Amplifying Voices developed a new partnership with Hope for Relief Malawi. Introductions and due diligence all had to be done online as Malawi was on the UK's "red list", and people from the UK could not readily visit Malawi without quarantining. Starting in September, the team provided 5 remote community-centred media training sessions. Training was provided using bespoke video training resources and interactive exercises. A local trainer facilitated the sessions and translated material as required. Feedback and videos of the sessions

indicated she had done a very good job. However, following a review of the partnership with Hope for Relief, and concerns about local project management, Amplifying Voices decided it would not be prudent or viable to continue with the project at this time.

The Year Ahead

With the lifting of travel restrictions as the pandemic is brought under control, the Amplifying Voices team is actively exploring a number of new opportunities.

While our priority over the last 9 years has been poor and marginalised communities in Africa, Asia and the Middle East, during the last financial year we began supporting a local charity reach out to minority, immigrant and refugee communities through a series of community meetings. During the year ahead we anticipate further investigation to see if Amplifying Voices' community-centred media approach could be of value to immigrant and refugees communities in West Sussex and further afield.

From a governance perspective, the board of trustees are also looking forward to conducting a thorough review of the make-up of the board with a view to identifying gaps in the current skills-sets and experience in order to tackle the emerging challenges the charity will face going forward.



Terry Edmondson
Chair of Trustees

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

Report to the trustees and members of Amplifying Voices UK (Charity number 1152631) on the accounts for the year ended 5th April 2022.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Charities Act)
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
 - proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act); and
 - accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



P Coram

07/06/2022

Amplifying Voices (UK)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5th April 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total £
Income from:							
Donations and Legacies	2	83,075	66,955	150,030	105,388	32,864	138,252
Investments (Bank Interest)		14	-	14	20	0	20
Total		83,088	66,955	150,044	105,408	32,864	138,272
Expenditure on:							
Raising Funds		9,533	0	9,533	6,000	0	6,000
Charitable Activities	3	79,003	31,614	110,617	69,379	27,461	96,840
Other	4	488	0	488	488	0	488
Total		89,024	31,614	120,638	75,867	27,461	103,328
Net Income/(Expenditure)		-5,936	35,342	29,406	29,541	5,404	34,945
Transfers Between Funds		31,950	(31,950)	0	(5,878)	5,878	0
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total Funds Brought Forward		52,280	13,852	66,132	28,617	2,570	31,187
Total Funds Carried Forward		78,294	17,244	95,538	52,280	13,852	66,132

Movement on all free reserves and recognised gains/loses where appropriate are shown above

All of the operations are classed as on-going

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these accounts

Amplifying Voices (UK)

Charity Number 1152631

BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total £
Fixed Assets							
Tangible Assets (Net of Depreciation)	5	978	0	978	1,466	0	1,466
Current Assets							
Prepaid expenses	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash at Bank		77,316	17,244	94,555	50,617	13,852	64,469
Foreign Currency		0	0	0	197	0	197
Total Current Assets		<u>77,316</u>	<u>17,244</u>	<u>94,560</u>	<u>50,814</u>	<u>13,852</u>	<u>64,666</u>
Creditors: Falling due within one year	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net Current Assets		<u>78,294</u>	<u>17,244</u>	<u>95,538</u>	<u>52,280</u>	<u>13,852</u>	<u>66,132</u>
Funds of the Charity							
General Reserve		10,000		10,000	10,000	0	10,000
General Funds		68,294		68,294	42,280	0	42,280
Restricted Funds			17,244	17,244	0	13,852	13,852
Total Funds		<u>78,294</u>	<u>17,244</u>	<u>95,538</u>	<u>52,280</u>	<u>13,852</u>	<u>66,132</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 7th June 2022

Signed on their behalf

T. Edmondson, Chair of Trustees

Amplifying Voices (UK)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5th April 2018

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Income

> Income is recognised in the SORP

From donations and grants when:

- > there is evidence of entitlement to the gift
- > receipt is probable
- > and its amount can be measured reliably.

> Incoming Resources with related expenditure

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resource and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA

> Grants and Donations

Grants and Donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources

> Tax Reclaims on Donations and Gifts

Incoming resources from gift aid tax reclaims are included in the SOFA in the period in which they are received

> Donated Services and Facilities

These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received

> Investment Income

This is included in the accounts when received.

Basis Of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with applicable accounting standards. In preparing the financial statements the charity follows best practice as laid down in the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' FRS 102 SORP 2015.

Expenditure and Liabilities

> Liability Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources

> Governance Costs

Whilst no longer required to be shown separately they will (when charged) include costs of preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters

> Grants With Performance Conditions

Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SOFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output

> Grants Payable Without Performance Conditions

These are only recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to that grant

2. Assets

> Are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500.
They are valued at cost. If gifted, at the value to the charity upon receipt

> The Trustees have decided to depreciate all assets on a 4 year straight line method

Amplifying Voices (UK)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5th APRIL 2022

Income	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £
2a Donations, Grants and Legacies				
General		77,595	-	77,595
Support		-	6,611	6,611
Projects		5,480	60,344	65,824
Legacies		-	-	-
Gifts in kind		-	-	-
Other donations and gifts		-	-	-
Total		83,075	66,955	150,030

Summary of Donations, Grants and Legacies

General Fund	77,595	-	77,595
Restricted	-	6,611	6,611
Project - Adivasi, India	5,480	41,864	47,344
Project - Tana River, Kenya	-	5,480	5,480
Project - Sierra Leone	-	12,000	12,000
Project - First Response Radio	-	-	-
Project - Pakistan	-	-	-
Project - Malawi	-	1,000	1,000
Project - Kinshasa DRC	-	-	-
Project - Uganda	-	-	-
Project - Covid	-	-	-
	83,075	66,955	150,030

2b	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total £
Donations and Trusts				
General		80,908	-	80,908
Support		0	7,864	7,864
Projects		24,480	25,000	49,480
Legacies		-	-	-
Gifts in kind		-	-	-
Other donations and gifts		-	-	-
		105,388	32,864	138,252

Summary of Donations and Legacies

General Fund	80,908	-	80,908
Restricted	-	7,864	7,864
Project - Adivasi, India	13,208	20,000	33,208
Project - Tana River, Kenya	-	5,000	5,000
Project - Sierra Leone	-	-	-
Project - First Response Radio	6,078	-	6,078
Project - Pakistan	-	-	-
Project - Umoja, DRC	-	-	-
Project - Kinshasa DRC	-	-	-
Project - Uganda	-	-	-
Project - Covid	5,194	-	5,194
	105,388	32,864	138,252

Amplifying Voices (UK)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5th APRIL 2022

3a	Expenditure on Charitable Activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022
	Notes	Funds	Funds	Total
		£	£	£
	Operations	15,364	-	15,364
	Travel	148	-	148
	Gifts and Gift Aid passed On	-	7,441	7,441
	Hospitality	-	-	-
	Premises Costs	2,868	-	2,868
	Projects	60,624	24,173	84,797
		<u>79,003</u>	<u>31,614</u>	<u>110,617</u>

Summary of Expenditure on Charitable Activities

General Fund	18,379	-	18,379
Restricted	-	7,441	7,441
Project - Adivasi, India	18,256	12,064	30,320
Project - Tana River, Kenya	-	3,609	3,609
Project - YES, Kenya	-	-	-
Project - Sierra Leone	1,500	7,500	9,000
Project - Malawi	10,547	1,000	11,547
Project - Pakistan	13,643	-	13,643
Project - Umoja, DRC	885	-	885
Project - Kinshasa DRC	-	-	-
Project - Uganda	15,792	-	15,792
	<u>79,003</u>	<u>31,614</u>	<u>110,617</u>

3b	Expenditure on Charitable Activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021
	Notes	Funds	Funds	Total
		£	£	£
	Operations	39,194	-	39,194
	Travel	154	-	154
	Gifts and Gift Aid passed On	-	8,483	8,483
	Hospitality	111	-	111
	Premises Costs	3,392	-	3,392
	Equipment (not capitalised)	-	-	-
	Projects	26,528	18,978	45,506
		<u>69,379</u>	<u>27,461</u>	<u>96,840</u>

Amplifying Voices (UK)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5th APRIL 2022

	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Unrestricted Funds £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds £</i>	<i>2021 Total £</i>
3b ctd	Summary of Expenditure on Charitable Activities			
	<i>General Fund</i>	42,851	-	42,851
	<i>Restricted</i>	-	8,483	8,483
	<i>Project - Adivasi - India</i>	4,867	9,900	14,767
	<i>Project - Tana River, Kenya</i>	-	3,000	3,000
	<i>Project - Mtaani FM - Kenya</i>	434		434
	<i>Project - Sierra Leone</i>	3,544		3,544
	<i>Project - First Response Radio</i>	-	6,078	6,078
	<i>Project - Pakistan</i>	3,020		3,020
	<i>Project - Umoja, DRC</i>	2,828		2,828
	<i>Project - Kinshasa DRC</i>	-	-	-
	<i>Project - Uganda</i>	6,641	-	6,641
	<i>Project - Covid</i>	5,194		5,194
		<u>69,379</u>	<u>27,461</u>	<u>96,840</u>
4a	Other Expenditure			
	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Unrestricted Funds £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds £</i>	<i>2020 Total £</i>
	Depreciation	488	-	488
	Total	<u>488</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>488</u>
4b	Other Expenditure			
	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Unrestricted Funds £</i>	<i>Restricted Funds £</i>	<i>2019 Total £</i>
	Depreciation	488	-	488
	Total	<u>488</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>488</u>
5	Tangible fixed assets	<i>Unrestricted 2022</i>	<i>Unrestricted 2021</i>	
	Equipment			
	Cost			
	At 6th April 2021	5,175	3,221	
	Additions	-	1,954	
	At 5th April 2022	<u>5,175</u>	<u>5,175</u>	
	Depreciation			
	At 6th April 2021	3,709	3,221	
	Charge for year	488	488	
	At 5th April 2022	<u>4,197</u>	<u>3,709</u>	
	Net Book Value			
	At 5th April 2022	<u>978</u>	<u>1,466</u>	
	At 6th April 2021	<u>1,466</u>	<u>-</u>	

Amplifying Voices (UK)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5th APRIL 2022

6 Debtors, Prepayments and Creditors, Accruals and Deferred Income

There were no Debtors, Prepayments and Creditors, Accruals and Deferred Income at the end of this or the previous financial year.

7 Staff Costs, Numbers and Key Personnel Management

Total employment costs (including basic pay, NI and employer pension contributions) amounted to £35,139 (2021: £23,568).

Freelancers are paid via invoices submitted based on projects undertaken and hours worked.

Our Associates are responsible for raising their own support with Stewardship being their preferred channel. They are eligible to reclaim their expenses and related costs for the work they do on behalf of the charity.

Nothing has been paid by the General Fund to Key Personnel (which comprises Associates and Trustees) in the year. (2021: Nil)

The trustees consider it clearer to record the amount relating to donated services in this note. The estimated figure for the current year is £73,500 and for 2021 £75,000.

8 Trustees and Other Related Parties

No payments were made to trustees or any persons connected with them during this financial year. No material transaction took place between the charity and a trustee or any person connected to them. (2021: Nil)

The aggregate total of donations made by trustees in the year amounted to £4,550 (2021: £6,140)

9 Risk Assessment

The trustees actively review major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and particularly those of a Safeguarding nature. They seek to maintain adequate free reserves, and combine that review with an annual review of the controls of key financial systems. This provides a high degree of confidence in our resources and systems.

For the most part of the year under review overseas travel has not been possible. So project contact has been limited to internet links. Towards year end overseas travel has become possible. Trustees will resume their examination of our operational and business risks especially in countries which have to deal with internal wars and major health challenges, and mitigate significant risks wherever possible.

10 Reserves

The trustees have reviewed their reserves in the light of the Charity's size and financial commitments. They aim to ensure that the charity will be able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives whatever the level of income or in the face of unexpected expenditure. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the trustees have closely monitored the the situation. Nominally the trustees have decided to maintain a level of reserves unchanged from last year but at the same time are mindful of the extra responsibilities of employing staff.

11 Public Benefit

The charity acknowledges its requirement to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the public benefit. Details of how the charity has achieved this in some of the most volatile parts of the world are provided in the trustees report. The trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit before deciding upon which activities to undertake.