



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 6 April 2022

To 5 April 2023

Charity name: Mbedza Projects Support

Charity registration number: 1162581

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The object of the charity was amended on 4th Feb 2023 in agreement with the trustees. Prior to 4th Feb 2023: The object of the charity is the prevention or relief of poverty in Malawi, in particular but not exclusively by: • providing assistance to groups and individuals suffering from hardship • providing resources to support HIV education, testing and counselling • providing individuals and groups with equipment, training and other resources in order to live more sustainably • provide resources such as stoves, mosquito nets and boreholes in order to improve the health and wellbeing of Malawians From 4th Feb 2023: The object of the charity is the prevention or relief of poverty in Malawi, in particular but not exclusively by: • providing assistance to groups and individuals suffering from hardship • providing resources to support HIV education, testing and counselling • Creating sustainable environments through tree planting and other projects. • Improving livelihoods through stove building. • Providing more equitable access to education.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the	Para 1.17 and 1.19	In this reporting period the main activities of the charity were:

activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.		• Continued provision of fuel-efficient stoves which reduce the cost of buying firewood or the time spent collecting it, as well as providing many other benefits. • Further development of the Songani HIV project and its associated youth and education activities (youth club, sanitary project, library, games and recreation). • Ongoing monitoring of tree-planting projects, the oldest in several community villages, a second in Songani Primary School and the newest in further community villages. • Continued provision of nursery school provision at Chiyambi, following the completion of the building of a new premises. • Support of two UK project workers until their return in July 2022. • Media and communications support in the UK and Malawi to provide information and updates for donors and supporters. • Small-scale help for repairs following damage from cyclone Freddie in February 2023. • Scrutiny of the operation of a maize mill with improvement to its profitability. • Re-direction of the efforts of a small-scale textiles/sewing project from producing hard-to-sell items to sanitary kits. • Continued close working with child education sponsorship charity MOSES (via a memorandum of understanding, prior to planned merger in 2023-24). • Continued support of the Heart of Mercy project working with families of children with special needs.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance	Para 1.18	The activities outlined contribute to achieving the purposes of the charity as summarised above.

issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit		In making decisions about the activities the trustees declare that that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit provided by the Charity Commission. It is understood that since the aims for the charity are to prevent or relieve poverty, the public benefit requirement is met by satisfying the 'benefit' aspect only without need to separately consider the 'public' aspect.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	MPS is not a grant making organisation.
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	No policy on social investment or programme related investment.
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	UK staff (Director, Deputy Director, Associate Directors) are volunteers. The charity also benefits from short in-country activity programmes undertaken by volunteers (students and others). Appropriate induction/training is given which includes safeguarding, orientation and first aid.
Other		N/A

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	- Completion of 591 Esperanza stoves and 300 Gamba Tinsmith stoves households in 17 villages with associated well-attested economic, health, social and educational benefits. - Continued development of the Songani Centre. HIV testing at the centre (499/657 tests this/last year) and in the community (1809/1154

		tests this/last year). Distribution of sanitary kits (514/540 this/last year) with associated health and sex education. Continued development of activities for the school-age population in the area: youth club, health information programme, improved library provision and educational opportunities, recreational activities, games and TV. • The fourth year of a community tree-planting project which included training, the establishing of tree nurseries and woodlots, and the distribution of trees to households. In time the project will provide the economic benefit of a sustainable supply of firewood and the environmental benefit of reversed deforestation locally. The third year of a school-based tree planting project based in Songani Primary School to provide learning and hands-on experience about raising saplings and caring for trees. The second year of a new tree planting project in Malemusi I and II, Minyanga and Mikulumu villages. The first year of tree planting in Katete and Makanganya villages. Trees planted 5100/11920 this/last year. • Completion of the first year of improved nursery provision at Chiyambi, Monkey Bay, following the completion of a new building. This builds on long-standing links with the area. Education is a key route out of poverty and intervening in early years education is known to have benefits in later years (currently less than 10% of children complete Secondary Education). • Continued support of two UK project workers until July 2022, who have enabled staff training and the development of the charity's activities and organisational processes. • Paid-for media and communications support in the UK and Malawi. This enables dissemination of information and updates for existing donors/supporters as well as
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		awareness-raising for others who might wish to donate/support. • Small-scale help for repairs following damage from Cyclone Freddie in February 2023. Extreme weather events are becoming more frequent and severe as changes to the climate become more apparent, with dire consequences for houses, crops and even human lives. • Scrutiny of the operation of a maize mill with improvement to its profitability. It is intended that income-generating activities play a part in enabling some aspects of the work of Mbedza to become self-sustaining. • Re-direction of the efforts of a small-scale textiles/sewing project. Up until now the focus has been on producing items for sale in the UK but there is an unsold surplus. The project is now producing sanitary kits for schoolgirls who often lack suitable provision. • Continued close working with sponsored education charity MOSES, providing secondary education for around 80 students. These students have lost one or both parents and would be otherwise unable to afford to go to secondary school. • Continued support of the Heart of Mercy project working with families of children with special needs. Such families tend to be particularly in need and the children neglected in the community.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	The notional income target of £85,000 was exceeded with total income £104,404.

Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	N/A
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Brought forward 6/4/2022: £15,612.96 Income during the year: £104,404.11 Expenditure during the year: £108,242.95 Balance at 5/4/2023: £11,774.12
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The purpose of the risk reserves and cash reserves policies is to ensure financial stability and to have reserves to cover both expected and unexpected eventualities.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Cash reserves: £1,192 (includes £600 Current Reserves) Risk reserves: £1,890
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Restricted income totalled £91,981. £72,478 of this was made up of donations from organisations and supporters. Grants were made as follows: Staff Salaries: Friends of Holy Trinity Brussels £1,523 Brussels Women's Club £6,827 Stove building: Big Give Christmas Challenge £4,153 Ashworth Trust £5,000 Songani Youth Club: Manor CE Academy £2,000 Unrestricted income including Gift Aid totalled £12,423.
Investment policy and objectives including any	Para 1.46	No policy on investment/ethical investment.

social investment policy adopted		
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The organisation's risk register was reviewed in March 2023 with appropriate mitigating actions and costs identified. The principal risks with estimated cost are: • Visits programme. Short visits for supporters have resumed and are now organised by Mbedza. They come with risks and the potential for mishap. £600 • Safeguarding. This is a challenge in Malawi, compounded by cultural complexities. £600 • Economic Turbulence. National economics (high inflation/interest rates) and international events (Ukraine, exchange rate falls, price increases) potentially strain donors and donor sustainability. Large cost increases in Malawi (especially food and fertiliser) require pay rises to keep pace. £500 • Extreme weather events eg cyclones. Malawi appears to be increasingly prone to severe weather events which cause widespread flooding and disruption. £500 • Long term sustainability of Mbedza. The board of trustees will need to work out a long-term plan for continuing the work of key UK staff when they retire. £400
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Trust Deed
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Trust
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Appointment. In accordance with the Charitable Trust Deed 19 May 2015 Par 9(1) "There must be at least 3 trustees. Apart from the first trustees, every trustee must be appointed by a resolution of the trustees passed at a special meeting called under clause 15 of this deed".

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

		No policies or procedures at present specific to induction although ongoing
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Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	training for all trustees is sometimes provided at meetings.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	Mbedza's structure in the UK is that of a team comprised of a volunteer Director, Deputy Director and several Associate Directors (one of whom is based in Brussels). In Malawi, where overwhelming the funds are spent, we have a salaried Director, Deputy Directors and team of staff. Contact is maintained informally with other charities in the sector, both in the UK and in Malawi.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	There is a strong relationship to sister charity MOSES (Malawi Orphan Sponsored Education Scheme) via a memorandum of understanding. (The trustees agreed in April 2023 that MOSES would merge with Mbedza in 2023-34.)
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Mbedza Projects Support
Other name the charity uses	Mbedza
Registered charity number	1162581
Charity's principal address	11 Bayswater Square Stafford ST18 0YH

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Paul Grinstead			First trustee
2	June Wilson			First trustee
3	Nicola Davies			Trustee board
4	Mike Cook	Chair		Trustee board
5	Anthony Wilson	Previously advisor		Trustee board
6	Catherine Greenaway			Trustee board
7	Simon Barber		From September 2022	Trustee Board
8				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

[illegible]

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

[illegible]

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Julian Watson, Director
Martin Paisley, Deputy Director Finance
Sue Bird, Associate Director Songani Centre
Amanda Flashman, Associate Director Tree-Planting
Dave & Diane Collett, Associate Directors Chiyambi Nursery

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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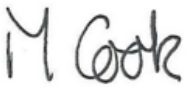
Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Michael Cook	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair of Trustees	
Date	15 July 2023	



Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	06-Apr-22		05-Apr-23

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					
Salaries - Donations	-	25,437.97	-	25,437.97	18,856
Salaries - Holy Trinity Brussels	-	1,523.10	-	1,523.10	1,336
Salaries - Brussels Womens Club	-	6,826.78	-	6,826.78	
Songani Activities (Sanitary, Library, Misc)	71.51	4,320.28		4,391.79	
Songani Youth Club - Manor CE Academy		2,000.00		2,000.00	
Stoves - Donations	-	11,161.90	-	11,161.90	7,384
Stoves - Big Give Christmas Challenge	-	4,153.76	-	4,153.76	8,481
Stoves - Ashworth Trust	-	5,000.00	-	5,000.00	-
Tree Planting		3,339.56		3,339.56	12,476
MOSES		1,204.82		1,204.82	
Chiyambi Nursery	600.00	4,346.18		4,946.18	17,035
Gap/Visits		12,175.76		12,175.76	1,364
Unrestricted (Reserves)	6,209.85			6,209.85	7,650
UK Admin	3,871.39	302.00		4,173.39	4,380
UK Consultancy	1,451.07	2,585.95		4,037.02	
Miscellaneous	219.46	5,430.54		5,650.00	7,176
Textile Sales		2,172.23		2,172.23	937
Songani Youth Club - York Corinthians					1,200
Songani - Brussels Rotary Grant					1,448
Songani - Femmes d'Europe Grant					2,439
Stoves - FCDO Grant 2					2,541
Stoves - Souter Trust					2,500
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	12,423.28	91,980.83	-	104,404.11	97,202
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	12,423.28	91,980.83	-	104,404.11	97,202
A3 Payments					
Salaries	-	29,790.00	-	29,790.00	16,843
Stoves	-	21,304.03	-	21,304.03	18,263
Songani Activities	221.51	6,184.49	-	6,406.00	4,998
Tree Planting	-	4,590.00	-	4,590.00	10,154
MOSES	-	1,290.00	-	1,290.00	1,507
Chiyambi Nursery	600.00	7,630.00	-	8,230.00	13,530
Gap/Visits	80.00	11,583.56	-	11,663.56	-
UK Admin	3,871.39	302.00		4,173.39	5,200
UK Consultancy	3,401.07	4,654.90		8,055.97	
Miscellaneous Malawi Costs	5,169.46	5,400.54		10,570.00	14,790
Textiles		2,170.00		2,170.00	1,210
Stoves FCDO Grant					2,930
Payment to NPG (Easy Ltd)	-	-	-	-	3,500
Sub total	13,343.43	94,899.52	-	108,242.95	92,925
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	13,343	94,900	-	108,243	92,925
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 920	- 2,919	-	- 3,839	4,276
A5 Transfers between funds	2,920	- 2,920	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	1,633	13,980	-	15,613	-
Cash funds this year end	3,632.36	8,141.76	-	11,774	4,276

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		3,632	8,142	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	3,632	8,142	-
	(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		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Ring making machine		5,000	-
	Songani Centre Building		86,000	-
	Songani Centre Equipment		25,000	-
	Chiyambi Building		20,000	-
	Chiyambi Equipment		6,000	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	M Cook	Michael Cook	15-Jul-23	



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Mbedza Projects Support

On accounts for the year
ended

5 April 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1162581

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 05/04/2023.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of 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 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:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn 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:

19/10/2023

Name:

ELIAS KHONEIZER - ON BEHALF OF WYNATT-HUSE LTD

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

MEMBER OF ASSOCIATION OF ACCOUNTING
TECHNICIANS (MAAT)

Address:

THE OLD COACH HOUSE
HORSE FAIR
RUGELEY, WS15 2EL