



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: 6 April 2023 To: 5 April 2024

Charity name: Mbedza Projects Support

Charity registration number: 1162581

1. 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 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. Note that this reporting period saw the merger of the child sponsorship charity MOSES with Mbedza.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	In this reporting period the main activities of the charity were: • Further development of the Songani Centre and continuation of the HIV project and its associated youth and education activities. • Continued provision of fuel-efficient stoves. • Planting of new tree saplings and ongoing monitoring of trees planted in previous years. • Completion of the merger with child education sponsorship charity MOSES in September 2023.

		- Continued provision of nursery school provision at Chiyambi, Monkey Bay. - Continued support of the Heart of Mercy project working with families of children with special needs. - Ongoing financial monitoring of a maize mill for better understanding of its operation. - Continuation of a small-scale textiles/sewing project producing sanitary kits. - Media and communications support in the UK and Malawi. - Visit of 30 students from Manor Academy York in October 2023 - Visit of two UK gap students October – December 2023.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The activities outlined contribute to achieving the purposes of the charity as summarised above. 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.

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 Deputy Director received £250/month from August 2023 in recognition of the work involved in managing the finances of the charity.

		Volunteers often organise and oversee fundraising events such as concerts, meetings, coffee mornings and sales of textiles. 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

2. 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	- Continued development of the Songani Centre with the building of a wall/fence to improve security and enable better use of the outside space. Continued expansion of the activities at the Centre: - HIV testing at the centre: 749 tests (499 last year and 657 the year before). - HIV testing in the community: 2030 tests (1809 last year, 1154 the year before). - Numbers of HIV positives found: 26 (16 last year and 16 the year before). - Distribution of 666 sanitary kits with associated health and sex education (514 last year and 540 the year before). - Distribution of 36,608 condoms (34,339 last year and 29,609 the year before). Continued development of activities for the school-age population in the area: youth club and HIV outreach, health information programme, improved library provision and educational opportunities, recreational activities, games and TV.

		• Stove-building programme. - Completion of 262 Esperanza stoves (591 last year and 402 the year before). - Distribution of 140 Gamba Tinsmith stoves (300 last year). Each stove reduces the cost to a household of buying firewood or the time spent collecting it, as well as providing other economic, health, social and educational benefits. • Large upscale in trees planted: 35,544 (5,100 last year and 11,920 the year before). Trees are planted in village communities and schools. Tree-planting projects in village communities include 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 with reduced risk of soil erosion and flood damage. Tree-planting projects in schools provide learning and hands-on experience about raising saplings and caring for trees. Continued monitoring is an essential component of each project: - the fifth year of a community project in several local villages. - the fourth year of a school project based in Songani Primary School. - the third year of a community project (villages Malemusi I and II, Minyanga and Mikulumu). - the second year of a community project (Katete and Makanganya villages). The 35,544 trees this year were planted across 22 villages, Luwi Primary School and the Mbedza staff themselves. • This year saw the merger of sponsored education charity MOSES with Mbedza. Secondary education was provided for 100 students this year (80 last year and the year before). These students
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		have lost one or both parents and would be otherwise unable to afford to go to secondary school, forfeiting the benefits it brings. (Currently 15% of Malawian children complete Secondary Education overall, though 10% for rural communities and only 2% for the poorest communities. The latter figure is likely to apply for the students we support). • Completion of the second year of improved nursery provision at Chiyambi, Monkey Bay, including the building of a new kitchen on the premises and piloting a garden project to grow vegetables. Education is a key route out of poverty and intervening in early years education is known to have benefits in later years. • Consolidation of the relationship with UK charity Accomplish Children's Trust providing support for the Heart of Mercy project working with rural families of children with special needs. These families are particularly disadvantaged with the children being neglected in the community, and relatively small interventions can have large impacts. • Staff accommodation built at Jali maize mill to improve the working conditions of staff. Exploration of the reconceptualising of the purpose of the mill as a non-profit enterprise to reduce poverty in the local area. • The small-scale textiles/sewing project is now producing sanitary kits for schoolgirls who often lack suitable provision. (Previously the project produced textiles for sale in the UK, but markets based on supporters' networks have tended to become saturated.) • Boosted communications support in Malawi to provide stories and images. Information and updates are important to retain the engagement of existing
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		donors/supporters as well as raise awareness among others. • The successful visit of 30 students from Manor Academy York in October 2023 provided an unforgettable opportunity for these students to experience life and culture very different from their own. Fundraising for the stove project prior to the visit was an integral part, with ongoing opportunities for financial support to one or more projects after the visit. • The visit of two UK gap students October – December 2023 provided a longer-term opportunity to be immersed in Malawian life and culture. Fund-raising for the Chiyambi nursery prior to the visit was complemented by practical help with various activities during the visit.
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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 £137,000 was exceeded with total income £173,642.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	N/A
Other		

3. Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Brought forward 6/4/2023: £13,504 (£11,744 Mbedza and £1,730 MOSES) Income during the year: £173,642 (£169,172 Mbedza and £4,470 MOSES) Expenditure during the year: £168,656 (£162,586 Mbedza and £6,070 MOSES) Balance at 5/4/2024: £18,491 (£18,361 Mbedza and £130 MOSES)	
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: £1,272 (£600 in the UK and £672 in Malawi) plus staffing reserves to cover salaries for at least 6 months (over £7,000, mostly in Malawi). Risk reserves: £1,023 (£800 in the UK and £223 in Malawi)	
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 £150,141 (£145,671 Mbedza and £4,470 MOSES). Restricted income to Mbedza as follows: Monthly Donations £29,848 Other Donations £40,175 Fundraising Campaigns £32,588 Grants £24,722 Sales £2,381 Visit Income £15,959 Unrestricted income totalled £23,501 (£23,501 Mbedza, £0 MOSES). Unrestricted income to Mbedza as follows: Monthly Donations £1,453 Other Donations £3,312 Gift Aid/GASDS £13,736 Grants £5,000 (Farthing Trust)	
Investment policy and objectives including any		No policy on investment/ethical investment.	

social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The organisation's risk register was reviewed in April 2024 with appropriate mitigating actions and costs identified. The largest risks with estimated cost are: • Long term sustainability of Mbedza. The board of trustees need to create a succession plan for continuing the work of key UK staff when they retire. £1,440. • Safeguarding. This is a challenge in Malawi, compounded by cultural complexities. £700 • Economic turbulence. National UK economics (raised interest rates) and international events (war in Ukraine) potentially strain donors and donor sustainability. Large cost increases in Malawi (especially food and fertiliser) require continual staff pay increases to keep pace. £600 • Extreme weather events eg cyclones. Malawi appears to be increasingly prone to severe weather events which cause widespread flooding and disruption. £400. • Critical illness of key staff. Despite new appointments some of our Malawian staff remain stretched and their absence eg through illness creates great strain. £350
Other		N/A

4. 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:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	No policies or procedures at present specific to induction although ongoing 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 voluntary team comprised of a Director, Deputy Director and several Associate Directors (one of whom is based in Brussels). In Malawi, where overwhelming our funds are spent (82.6% this year), 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	Following a strong relationship to sister charity MOSES (Malawi Orphan Sponsored Education Scheme) via a memorandum of understanding, MOSES merged with Mbedza in September 2023. Mbedza also has a memorandum of understanding with Accomplish Children's Trust.
Other		N/A

5. 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	Denise Ellis	Previously MOSES trustee	From September 2023	Trustee board

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

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

6. 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
Senior Consultant June – Dec 2023	Geoffrey Dennis	

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 Jessica Watson, Associate Director Sponsored Education

7. Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A

8. Other optional information

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9. 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	22 June 2024	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Name
Projects Support

No (if any)
1162581

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 06-Apr-23	To	Period end date 05-Apr-24
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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					
Donations	4,765	70,022	-	74,787	58,129
Fundraising Campaigns		32,588	-	32,588	4,154
Gift Aid/GASDS	13,736	-	-	13,736	12,423
Grants	5,000	24,722	-	29,722	15,350
Sales		2,381	-	2,381	2,172
Income for Malawi Group Visit		15,959	-	15,959	12,176
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	23,501	145,671	-	169,172	104,404
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	23,501	145,671	-	169,172	104,404
A3 Payments					
Malawi Costs (Projects and Group Visit)	9,450	124,785	-	134,235	92,073
UK Core Costs	5,771	-	-	5,771	4,173
UK Consultancy	8,245	8,960	-	17,205	8,056
UK Costs for Group Visit		3,879	-	3,879	3,941
UK Costs for Director's Visit	1,495		-	1,495	
Sub total	24,961	137,624	-	162,586	108,243
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	24,961	137,624	-	162,586	108,243
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 1,460	8,047	-	6,587	- 3,839
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	3,632	8,142	-	11,774	-
Cash funds this year end	2,172	16,189	-	18,361	- 3,839

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				
		2,172	16,189	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,172	16,189	-
	(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			
	Ring making machine		6,000	-
	Songani Centre Building		103,000	-
	Songani Centre Equipment		30,000	-
	Chiyambi Building		24,000	-
	Chiyambi Equipment		7,000	-
		-	-	-

		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
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 liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Details			
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of
all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
M Cook	Michael Cook	22-Jun-24



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 2024

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 05/04/2024

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:

19/9/24

Name:

ELIASKHONEILER-ON BEHALF OF WYNNIATT-HUSEY 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