



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: 6 April 2024 To: 5 April 2025

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.
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: • Ongoing 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. • Continuation of the sponsored orphans' secondary education program following the merger with sister charity MOSES in the last reporting period. • 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. - Continued support and monitoring of a maize mill. - Continuation of a small-scale textiles/sewing project producing sanitary kits and items for sale in the UK and Belgium. - Improved financial monitoring in Malawi with the employment of a finance manager. - Media and communications support in the UK and Malawi. - Preparation for visit of 12 adults in April 2025. - Preparation for visit of two UK gap students in June 2025. - Preparation for visit of 30 students from Manor Academy York in October 2025.
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 mainly volunteers.

		The Deputy Director received £300/month in recognition of the work involved in managing the finances of the charity. The Associate Director for Orphan Education and Visits received £180/mnth (April 2024 to Aug 2024) and £400/mnth (Sept 2024 to March 2025). Volunteers often organise and oversee fundraising events such as sponsored events, 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 expansion of the HIV outreach activities at the Songani Centre: - HIV testing at the centre: 1008 tests (749 last year, 499 the year before). - HIV testing in the community: 2318 tests (2030 last year, 1809 the year before). - Numbers of HIV positives found: 15 (26 last year and 16 the year before). - Distribution of 54,310 condoms to sex workers (36,608 last year and 34,339 the year before). - Use of theatre and drama as a vehicle for conveying sex and relationship education. - Continued expansion of the sanitary kit programme at the Songani Centre with the distribution of 961 kits with associated health and sex education (666 last year and 514 the year before).

		• Completion of the first Hope Ambassador Mbedza Award Youth Leadership Scheme offering a development programme in sports, learning, sex and relationship education and community service. • Improved library provision at the Songani Centre with more resources and the building of a reading hut for early readers. • Continued provision at the Songani Centre of recreational activities, games and TV for the school-age population in the area. • Stove-building programme. - Completion of 671 Esperanza stoves (262 last year and 591 the year before). - Distribution of 100 Gamba Tinsmith stoves (140 last year, 300 the year before). 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. • Trees planted: 35,000 (35,377 last year and 5,100 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 sixth year of a community project in several local villages (these villages have received
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		training in sustainable cropping). - the fifth year of a school project based in Songani Primary School. - the fourth year of a community project (villages Malemusi I and II, Minyanga and Mikulumu). - the third year of a community project (Katete and Makanganya villages). - The second year of the 35,544 trees planted across 22 villages, Luwi Primary School and the Mbedza staff themselves. The 35,000 trees this year were planted across a number of villages. • 20 farmers were trained in the Tiyei method of sustainable agriculture which enables maize crops to be grown without expensive fertiliser. • This year was the first after the merger of sponsored education charity MOSES with Mbedza. Secondary education was provided for 100 students this year (100 last year and 80 the year before). These students 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 for 70 under-fives at Chiyambi, Monkey Bay. Education is a key route out of poverty and intervening in early years education is known to have benefits in later years. • Further development of the relationship with UK charity Accomplish Children's Trust providing support for the Heart of Mercy project working with around 70 rural families of children with
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		special needs. The foundations of a new centre near Zomba have been completed with school groups expected in summer 2025 to help progress the build. These families are particularly disadvantaged with the children being neglected in the community, and relatively small interventions can have large impacts. • The purpose of the maize mill has been recast as a non-profit enterprise to reduce poverty in the local area. However poor harvests have meant that income this year has been lower than last and the mill has had to be subsidised. • The small-scale textiles/sewing project is now producing sanitary kits for schoolgirls who often lack suitable provision as well as textiles for sale in the UK and Belgium. • Continued communications support in Malawi to provide stories and images. Information and updates are important to retain the engagement of existing donors/supporters as well as raise awareness among others. • Development of contacts with other organisations in Malawi such as Medicins Sans Frontieres, Care International and Mary's Meals.
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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 £152,000 was exceeded with total income £162,966.
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 6/4/2024: £18,361 Income during the year: £162,966 Expenditure during the year: £169,986 Balance at 5/4/2025: £11,341 Expenditure in the UK: UK Core Costs £15,684 (9.2%) Easter Visit flights etc £10,968 (6.5%) Global Gardens £500 (0.3%) Cash Reserves £61 (0.04%) Total £27,214 (16.0%) Expenditure in Malawi: Malawi Costs £129,522 (76.2%) Cash Reserves £13,250 (7.8%) Total £142,772 (84.0%)	
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: £3,936 (£300 in the UK and £3,636 in Malawi) plus staffing reserves to cover salaries for at least 10 months (over £7,000). Risk reserves: £3,073 (£3,000 in the UK and £73 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 £132,350 as follows: Monthly Donations £34,501 Other Donations £25,263 Fundraising Campaigns £37,532 Grants £5,017 Sales £3,308 Visits £26,730 Unrestricted income totalled £30,616 as follows: Monthly Donations £1,802
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		Other Donations £4,667 Fundraising Campaigns contribution to core costs: £2,843 Gift Aid/GASDS £16,183 Grants £5,120 (£5,000 Farthing Trust)
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	No policy on investment/ethical investment.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The organisation's risk register was reviewed in May 2025 with appropriate mitigating actions and costs identified. The largest risks with estimated cost are: • Hunger, poor harvests, price of maize. Poor harvests and consequent hunger cause an increase in safeguarding incidents in the Orphan Education Programme, anxiety/stress among staff and even theft of project materials. £1,200. • Economic turbulence. National UK economics and international events potentially strain donors and donor sustainability. High inflation in Malawi (food inflation at 30+%) require continual staff pay increases to keep pace. £1,200 • Visits Programme. All visits come with risks and the potential for things to go wrong. £1,050. • Extreme weather events eg cyclones. Malawi appears to be increasingly prone to severe weather events which cause widespread flooding and disruption. £1,000. • Long term sustainability of Mbedza. The board of trustees need to work out a plan for continuing the work of key UK staff when they retire. £1,000. • Safeguarding. This is a challenge in Malawi, compounded by cultural complexities. £625. • Critical illness of key staff. Absence of key staff would impact project delivery. £500.
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) amended 27 March 2025 "There must be at least 5 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 mostly voluntary team comprised of a Director, Deputy Director and several Associate Directors (one of whom is based in Brussels). In Malawi, where overwhelmingly our funds are spent (84.0% 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	Mbedza has a memorandum of understanding with Accomplish Children's Trust (a UK charity) and a developing one with Mbedza Belgium (a Belgian ASBL, Association Sans But Lucratif).
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		Until 27 March 2024	First trustee
3	Nicola Davies			Trustee board
4	Mike Cook	Chair		Trustee board
5	Anthony Wilson	Previously advisor	Until 27 March 2024	Trustee board
6	Catherine Greenaway			Trustee board
7	Simon Barber			Trustee board
8	Denise Ellis	Previously MOSES trustee		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

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 and Visits Programme
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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	14 June 2025	



Charity Name	No (if any)
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Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	Period start date 06-Apr-24	To	Period end date 05-Apr-25
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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	6,470	59,764	-	66,234	74,787
Fundraising Campaigns	2,843	37,532	-	40,375	32,588
Gift Aid/GASDS	16,183	-	-	16,183	13,736
Grants	5,120	5,017	-	10,137	29,722
Sales	-	3,308	-	3,308	2,381
Income for Malawi Group Visit	-	26,730	-	26,730	15,959
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	30,616	132,350	-	162,966	169,172
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	30,615.99	132,350	-	162,966	169,172
A3 Payments					
Malawi Costs (Projects and Group Visit)	13,250.00	129,522	-	142,772	134,235
UK Core Costs	4,300	-	-	4,300	5,771
UK Consultancy	7,595	500	-	8,095	17,205
UK Costs for Group Visit	-	10,968	-	10,968	3,879
UK Costs for Malawi Visit to UK	3,850	-	-	3,850	-
UK Costs for Director's Visit to Malawi	-	-	-	-	1,495
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	28,995	140,991	-	169,986	162,586
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	28,995	140,991	-	169,986	162,586
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,621	- 8,641	-	- 7,020	6,587
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	2,172	16,189	-	18,361	11,774
Cash funds this year end	3,793	7,548	-	11,341	18,361

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		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	3,793	7,548	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK

OK

OK

**Unrestricted
funds
to nearest £**

**Restricted
funds
to nearest £**

**Endowment
funds
to nearest £**

Details

B2 Other monetary assets

Ring making machine	-	6,000	-
Songani Centre Building	-	125,000	-
Songani Centre Equipment	-	36,000	-
Chiyambi Building	-	29,000	-
Chiyambi Equipment	-	9,000	-
	-	-	-

Details

B3 Investment assets

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Details

**B4 Assets retained for the charity's
own use**

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Details

B5 Liabilities

	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

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

Signature

Print Name

Date of
approval



Michael Cook

14-Jun-25



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 2025

**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 05/04/2025

**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**

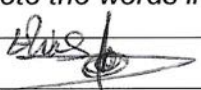
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below *~~) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- 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:

29/7/2025

Name:

ELASKHONEIZER - ON BEHALF OF WYNNIATT HOUSE

**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