



YEARLY REPORT 2023

GREEN KORDOFAN



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Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2023

To follow is the annual report and financial statements presented by the Trustees of Green Kordofan. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act, Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) and with the financial reporting standards applicable in the U.K. and Ireland.

Reference and administrative details

Charity name:	Green Kordofan
Charity registration number:	1164386
Principal Address:	Flat 5, 57 Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent CT20 1DF

Director, Patrons and Board of Trustees

Director and founder:	Raga Gibreel
Patrons:	Olivia Warham, OBE Jessica Hynes
Board of Trustees:	Nagwa Shagga Peter Keenan Omema Dain Jane Champion Aida Silvestri Abena Akuffo-Kelly Tom Law
Ambassador:	Steve Bishopp

NB: In June 2023 Abena Akuffo-Kelly and Tom Law resigned as Trustees and were replaced on the Board by Steve Bishopp and Ailsa Brookes. This will be reported more fully in the 23/24 Trustees report.



Structure, governance & management

Green Kordofan is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and is controlled by its governing document/constitution. Its only voting members are the Trustees.

Recruitment, appointment, induction and training of Trustees

The existing Trustees are responsible for the recruitment and appointment of new Trustees. In selecting new Trustees our aim is to identify individuals who have knowledge of the situation in South Sudan and the region, who support our aims and objectives and who are willing to attend community/fundraising events as well as Trustee meetings. In the first instance potential Trustees are invited to attend events and meetings as observers so existing Trustees can assess their suitability and commitment. New Trustees are given copies of the constitution and relevant charity commission publications and are instructed in the responsibilities of their position. They also attend a training session with Green Kordofan's Director and founder to ensure they have a full understanding of the work of the organisation.

Risk Management

The welfare of children is paramount regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity. Each child has the right to equal protection and the right to freedom



from any harm or abuse. We work with parents, guardians, NGOs and government agencies to maintain child welfare.

The Trustees have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed, the nature of those risks and the measures taken to manage them. These include governance risks, operational risks, financial risks, external risks and compliance with laws and regulations. In September 2022, Raga Gibreel and Steve Bishop attended the Charity Commission workshop on Working Overseas: Risks, Responsibilities and Legal Duties which provided helpful information and reassurance on risk management.

The senior staff in Yida report weekly by phone and Zoom to the Director who in turn keeps Trustees apprised of what is happening within the camp. Periodically Trustees also hold Zoom meetings with the staff and are able to view virtually the developments in the Green Kordofan compound.

Objectives

Green Kordofan supports war displaced children from Sudan who currently live in Yida refugee camp in South Sudan.

The purpose of the charity is to promote the wellbeing and meet the needs of children and young people who have been displaced by conflict through:

- (a) the provision of healthy recreational activities provided in the interest of social welfare, designed to improve their conditions of life; and
- (b) the provision of support and activities which develop their skills, capacities and

capabilities to enable them to participate in society as mature and responsible individuals.

We work with around 1000 children each year and have supported well over 6000 young people since 2017. We offer sports and educational programmes designed to meet the objectives stated above and encourage a community-based approach to camp life. Our programmes aim to support children by providing activities which improve their life skills, promote good health and keep them occupied and safe in a hostile environment.

Public benefit

The Trustees have given consideration to the Charity Commission's published guidance on the public benefit requirement and believe we meet this through our work in South Sudan and our awareness raising, community work and fundraising activities in the U.K.

Though we engage primarily with children and young people our work has a wider benefit and positively impacts many more residents of the Yida Refugee camp. Green Kordofan is supporting seven paid workers in Yida camp and one in Juba, the capital of South Sudan, as well as approximately 50 volunteers – many of whom were supported by the charity when they were children.

Sexual violence against women and girls is a very big issue in Yida and much of our focus is on educating young people from an early age. By maintaining a safe environment and educating boys and girls equally and together, we aim to foster mutual respect and understanding. Our goal is to educate, inform, encourage and connect and to amplify the voices of those we support, particularly women and children. To this end, Green Kordofan has been fully engaged in facilitating therapy for women and girls who have experienced sexual violence by enabling healing to take place through trauma workshops.

We approach difficult social and gender issues such as roles, responsibilities and social ailments, including bullying, through a number of practical, educational and therapeutic

initiatives. We also address health problems such as HIV, Malaria, Yellow fever and more recently COVID-19 through games, role play, workshops, community activities and advocacy.

Again, while our work is primarily with young people, we hope to positively impact the culture of the camp and also to support women who have been victims of sexual violence both through the workshops and by providing safe care and education for their children while they focus on their healing.

2022/23 activities and achievements

As an organisation we are so grateful for the efforts of all our volunteers, donors and supporters in the UK and beyond. Despite the challenging times and conflict in the region we serve, there was so much goodness revealed and our friends at Yida Camp and all the Refugees supported by Green Kordofan are appreciative of the support. We say, when people come together, good things happen!

Enhancements to Green Kordofan Infrastructure

One of our most notable successes in 2022/23 was the acquisition of satellite internet for the Green Kordofan compound and the installation of solar panels to generate our own power. Both have opened up incredible possibilities and greatly increased our ability to meet our core objectives of offering programmes and activities which develop the skills and capacity of the children we support. We are looking to identify teachers and health professionals in the UK who are willing to offer on-line session to the children and hope to have class to class interaction between children in South Sudan and the UK. We are also planning a training programme for our staff, working on-line

with UK professionals so that they are better equipped to support the children.

In 2022/23 we also started to build a small brick building to provide greater sustainability for our programmes. During the rainy season it can be difficult to deliver all our sessions with the children, but this will increase our capacity to continue to operate indoors when necessary. We anticipate that this will be operational by summer 2023.

The enhancements to the physical facilities in the past 2 years have made a huge difference. Our senior on-site staff member David Philips and senior coach David Philip Tutu report “The solar panels were a great addition. It provides enough power for satellite internet and for powering our phones for the field report. The power is also used to light up the rooms including the activity room. We would benefit from additional panels & batteries to power the TV Screen & the projector for training and educational purpose. The internet transformed our work as did the building. we suffered greatly from the lack of adequate shelter. Looking back to 2016 when I started with Green Kordofan, we used to conduct meetings, workshops and training under the tree but thank God now, we have structured building, a big room with capacity to take in more than 50 people. We are now able to do all our meetings, trainings, workshops and host other activities here. We also, have a medical assistance, and a storage facility, it's safer for the children and we are able to deliver better services in Yida refugee camp.

In 2021/22, as outlined in the Trustee report, we were able to enhance the Green Kordofan compound by building a room which we hoped to use to offer basic medical care and advice by a nurse. In 2022/23 we were delighted to obtain the services of a professional nurse who is now offering ongoing first aid and health and safety training to staff and workshops to camp residents. During the COVID-19 pandemic Green Kordofan played a part in distributing information on the virus and what people could do to minimise their risk of catching it. The addition of a nurse to our team

will strengthen our capacity to provide information on preventative health and create a framework for us to respond to any future health crises. We hope that by offering advice on good practice and preventative measures we can promote better health amongst the Yida community.

This year we were also able to recruit a professional football coach to revamp our sports training programmes and work with the staff and children to enhance performance. See video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jkkcKbteXsI>)

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Sports programme

The sports programmes continue to form the core of our activities and are very popular with the young people. We are almost back at full capacity following a hiatus during the Covid-19 pandemic and currently have 37 teams with 15-20 children in each.

In 2022/23, to further engage with the community we have introduced a number of sessions for parents to join their children and broadened our reach in the camp. As Coach



Armall Habila describes, “During my time working with the Green Kordofan organization, I have gained great experience in the field of sports. I am eager to use this experience to contribute to sports affairs, not only within the Green Kordofan organization itself, but also on a broader scale. We have formed a team of parents and children who participate in exercises and fun games together on scheduled days under the umbrella of Kordofan. We have also established a team for deprived children working in markets, who have become part of the orphans under the umbrella of Kordofan.”

Health and educational classes

To meet our objective of providing activities which improve conditions in Yida and develop the skills the children need to participate in society as mature and responsible individuals, we continue to offer activities and classes beyond our very successful sports programmes.



Sabri who joined Green Kordofan in July 2020 and works with 10-15 year olds in the camp reports that in addition to coaching the sports teams “I also participate in conducting health workshops and reading classes for both boys and girls. Children have learned many things through Green Kordofan’s various activities and been

united as one.”

We have started a project to obtain books and educational materials which can be shipped to Yida to support the children’s learning and hope to send these in the latter half of 2023. We are also fundraising for furniture and equipment for the new building which will be used primarily as classroom space.

Professional development

In May 2022 the Green Kordofan Director Raga Gibreel attended a 3-day conference, supported by the UK Government under an initiative led by Lord Ahmed, focusing on strengthening the international response to conflict-related sexual violence.

Green Kordofan also participated in a November 2022 conference in London on preventing sexual violence which brought together survivors, politicians, humanitarian organisations, UN agencies and the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, sharing best practice and practical advice on combating sexual violence and supporting those affected by it. We used this experience to build on our knowledge and expertise to lead our small team on the ground and created a guidance document for staff on how to respond to sexual violence including how to empower the victims to stand for themselves.

Our staff in Yida work closely with children who are often traumatised and vulnerable. We offer ongoing support and training to ensure that all staff are familiar with our safeguarding policies and can understand their roles and responsibilities within it. We have created a culture that prioritises safeguarding and continue to work with the staff to help them to support and engage with vulnerable people in a safe and respectful way.

The addition of internet service to the Green Kordofan compound will enable us to provide more regular training for local staff and we are speaking with professionals in the UK who

would be willing to offer relevant on-line training sessions.

Fundraising

Green Kordofan is funded entirely by donations and fundraising is an important part of our work. Some notable successes in 2022/23 include a fundraising walk from Sarria to Santiago de Compostela by the Director which raised £1,714 and a donation from a Quaker group - “When I first met Raga a few years ago, walking with Refugee Tales, I was deeply impressed by her description of Green Kordofan’s work. My local Quaker Meeting in north Suffolk (Beccles) was equally impressed and decided to make GK one of our special appeals. My mum, Taize, met Raga in 2019 and was keenly interested in, and supportive of, GK’s work. When she died, we made a donation which has been used for installing/improving internet access. Taize loved the idea of promoting connections between people, so helping to enable this electronic communication seems very apt.”

We also had some success in increasing the number of supporters who make monthly donations which provides a stable source of revenue and aids with our planning.

U.K. activities

Much of our work is around raising awareness of the situation in Sudan and South Sudan and raising funds for our work. In 2022/23 the Director engaged in a project entitled The Journey is the Map, a series of awareness raising activities which included organised walks and creative arts performances. These activities brought people in the UK together, joining in solidarity with the people of Yida and raising much-needed funds for our work in South Sudan. Folkestone community member and Green Kordofan supporter Lucy Thane reflected “I have had the honour and pleasure of collaborating with Raga Gibreel and Green Kordofan on the ongoing project “The Journey is the map”. It is wonderful to help raise money and awareness towards Green Kordofan’s vital and estimable aims. This company,

and Raga's exceptional leadership, provide possibilities for truly reciprocal partnership and mutual education. We are not only seeking care and stimulation for people with palpable needs but through thoughtfulness and humanity altering the thought systems that allow people to become refugees. This is a very special and important company. I would not



hesitate to work with them again.”

Local resident Laura Davidson commented “I’m constantly impressed and inspired by Raga’s determination, empathy and insight in her work for Green Kordofan and in her daily life. We are very lucky to have these things as part of our local community. I have really appreciated being able to participate, thank you.”

In 2022 we also joined The Gold from the Stone Foundation, set up by poet and writer Lemn Sissay OBE to deliver a magical Christmas dinner for care leavers in Folkestone, some of whom were young refugees. We had venue, guests and outstanding volunteers who put on a magical Christmas party. Jafar, one of the guests connected to the event by Green Kordofan said “I like how the party was organised, and food and the present we’ve received were all good, for everything about the party was amazing. I just want to say thank you

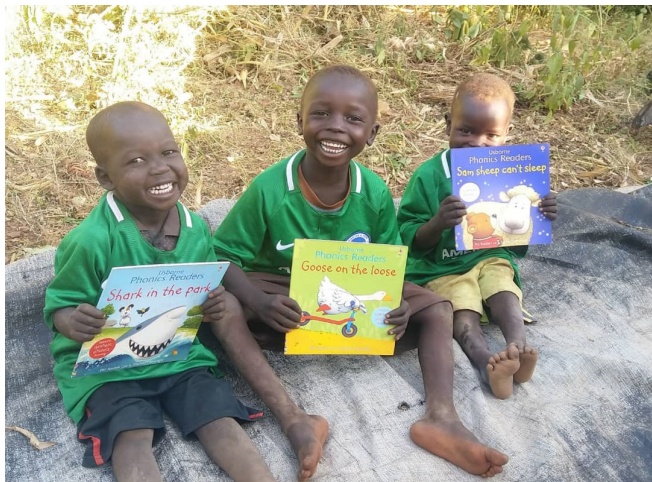


for the taking the time to organise all these, I really appreciate it, it was pleasure to have attended the party and received the amazing gift.

“On 25 December 2022, Folkestone held its Christmas Dinner for twenty-five young care leavers. Hard to believe this was only the second year of the project, since it had grown and developed in so many extraordinary ways. From September, Steering Group members contacted local businesses with a view to seeking in-kind donations and gifts for the guests. The generosity extended to the project was humbling to see, especially as these were often family concerns struggling in the economic downturn.” SUSAN POTTER

“It was a god send last year, when I was poorly in bed, over Christmas, knowing that my boys were well happy and celebrating Christmas day. ❤️ absolutely amazing organisation. Well done everyone and thankyou again for all of your hard work and dedication” Pam Barrow, Foster carer.









Thanks for the support !

Financial Review

Finance/ Funding for GK Activities in South Sudan:

- Money brought forward from last year: Opening Balance was £19,643.24. The biggest part of that was a legacy donation of £15,000 from late Dennis Olds.
- Income from Crowdfunding: £6212.67
- Bethnal Green mission church: £600
- A generous donation of £2000 from The Gold from the stone foundation who support the Christmas dinner. We are very grateful for every single gift that we receive; from the regular donations of £5 a month, to the large donations and grants, thank you!

Account: A table showcasing Income and expenditure for the Year 2021/ 2022
With a short summary below.

GREEN KORDOFAN DRAFT ACCOUNTS 2022-23

Income items	£ 2022-23 2021-22		£ Expenditure	
Voluntary Charitable Grants etc.	£18,946.77 £0.00	£13,602.97 £19,995.00	Transactions fees Charitable activities Equipment sent to S Sudan Christmas Meal	 £1,127.43 £4,507.31 £1,130.75 £1,191.94
Christmas Meal	£4,687.57	£9,432.38	Donated Goods sent to S Sudan	£5,239.99
Donations of Goods for S Sudan	£0.00	£5,265.00	Charity running costs	£3,563.06
Other (Mostly Paypal Donations)	£672.02	£1,156.31	Expenses claimed in UK	£0.00
Sales of Donated Goods	£0.00	£0.00	Wages and other operating costs in S Sudan	£1,209.10
Expenses not claimed and Loans			Building works in S Sudan	£1,080.36
			Internet and Satellite system	£315.73
			Solar Installation	£11,289.72
			Equipment etc purchased in S Sudan	£18,243.46
				£3,092.69
				£4,061.78
				£401.98
Total income	£24,306.36	£49,451.66	Total expenditure	£41,918.03
				£30,776.62
Total income	£24,306.36	£49,451.66	Opening Balance	£19,643.24
Total expenditure	£41,918.03	£30,776.62	This year's Surplus/(Deficit)	£968.20
NET INCOME BALANCE	-£17,611.67	£18,675.04	Closing Balance	£18,675.04
				£19,643.24
			Made up of:	31/03/2023
			Bank Balance	£1,530.02
			Unbanked cash	£490.89
			Paypal balance	£10.66
			Closing Balance	£19,643.24
				£2,031.57

Signed: S. Slot ACMA

Date: 31/8/23

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Green Kordofan

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Green Kordofan for the year ended 31 March 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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

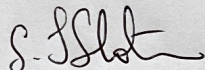
Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name: Stephen John Stokes

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies: ACMA

Address: 104 Stade Street, Hythe, Kent, CT21 6DY

Date: 31/08/2023



**Green kordofan compound, Yida camp,
pariang/ Unity State, South Sudan.**

