

OpenEdge Transforming Conflict



OpenEdge Transforming Conflict

(Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Charity number: 1176903

Annual Report 2023.

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Contents

Statement of the Chair of Trustees	3
Objectives and activities for the public benefit	4
A review of our achievements and performance	5
Organisational development	8
Professional Development	9
Plans for Future Periods	9
Financial review	10
Structure, governance and management	11

Statement of the Chair of Trustees 2023

The last year in OpenEdge has been characterised by a consolidation of service provision to third sector clients, internal organisational development, and a strategic review for the years ahead. This report gives details about our activities and an update on our organisational development to achieve our charitable purposes in 2023 and beyond.

OpenEdge has continued being in great demand for our Otherness Lab project in particular, as more and more organisations and individuals understand the need for engaging with systemic racism, anti-oppression and transforming inclusion. We have also been busy with our Festival of Conflict work through supporting groups and individuals in conflict, as well as helping groups to develop skills and capacities to build their own restorative conflict systems.

This year OpenEdge has worked with Trusts and Foundations, climate change organisations, community-based organisations, other change-making groups, educational institutions, run public workshops and collaborations, and offered a residential programme.

Excitedly, OpenEdge has grown in personnel this year too! We welcome Declan D'arcy (darcy) to our core team of directors and practitioners. darcy's contributions have not only helped OE expand its capacity to deliver vital work, but have also helped us with essential organisational development and strategy. We also welcome Linda Doyle, a new volunteer who has been giving their time and skills to help us develop our evaluation frameworks, as well as supporting our outreach. Again, these are such valuable contributions. And we welcome Anish Chhibber who is a new trustee with great academic and facilitator experience in identity and equity work. Anish has also taken on a specific role to develop our Accountability processes which, again, are essential and inspiring us forward.

We sadly lost our fundraiser, Kristen, due to personal circumstances, but we have been supported by an external organisational strategy specialist, Charlotte Millar, with whose help we are on our way to a very powerful next 12 months of development for OpenEdge.

OpenEdge continues to build its governance, and is currently about to induct a new Chair of Trustees, as well as two new general trustees.

The OpenEdge team would like to thank each one of you who has and who continues to support us. We value your interest and care, and would also like to hear any feedback, comments or questions.

Paul Bazely

Interim Chair of Trustees.

Objectives and activities of the public benefit

For the public benefit, OpenEdge – Transforming Conflict will work to advance the prevention, reduction and transformation of violence and violent conflict in any part of the world with:

- anyone affected by direct and/or structural violence (in the community or workplace)
- individuals and groups who work with those affected by violence
- and/or violent conflict (e.g. staff of NGO's, government agencies or organisations)
- those whose activities impact and/or influence violence and violent
- conflict (e.g. academics, policy makers, policy implementers, armed
- actors)

Through a combination of scholarship, research, practical expertise, fundraising, core and project funding and management, OpenEdge Transforming Conflict will guide, train, coach, facilitate, and support participants, colleagues and partners in developing their understanding, choices and actions regarding violence and violent conflict both in the UK and internationally.

Review of our achievements and performance

From November 2021 to November 2022 OpenEdge has completed the following activities

1) Friends of the Earth

3-month consultancy and training on Anti-racism and White supremacy for Friends of the Earth core staff and network.

2) Southall Trust

Systemic inequity training for family philanthropic foundation.

3) Collaborate CIC

9-month training, consultancy, leadership coaching and identity inequity mediation services for London-based systemic leadership consultancy.

4) Transition Together - THRIVE

'Power & Privilege 101' training for Transition Network's THRIVE programme to support their grassroots leaders to begin considering issues of power and inequity within their community-building projects.

5) Tudor Trust

Targeted support for emerging conflict following internal identity inequity learning programme. Provision of both conflict transformation support & specific anti-racism/identity equity training for board of trustees and incoming CEO.

6) Bristol GCP – CCA Programme

Systemic equity introduction and training for Bristol Council's Green Capital Partnership grassroots leadership programme.

7) Tipping Point UK

Whole team anti-oppression training, conflict transformation training, as well as 'power audit' process & targeted support with structural power dynamics.

8) Peace Direct

2-day NVC training with additional follow-up and conflict support to support leading peace organisation to develop internal practice and praxis of nonviolence.

9) Skylarks Transforming Inclusion immersive summer camp
For the third year running, OpenEdge has collaborated with Change in Nature to deliver a 7-day residential immersive learning journey.

10) Salford and Trafford GP training programme
Training as part of the GP training programme delivered for the 4th year.

11) Beyond A Story of Separation Course
x2 Courses in NVC Foundation with a Systemic Lens, for individuals from change-making organisations. In person in Frome, Somerset, and an on-line version April/May 23.

12) Newcastle Clinical Psychology Dept
Second year of a three-year contract, supporting integration for students following in-house programme for decolonising psychology.

13) Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences, Oxford University
Facilitating diversity and anti-oppression in research group meetings.

14) Vestiaire Clothing
Presentation on Nonviolent Communication for organisation Wellbeing Week.

15) Whiteness Self-Repair Project initiation
Convening a collaborative project to develop a Whiteness programme to support changemakers and activists in engaging transformatively with emerging systemic dynamics.

16) Medicine Festival. Wasing Park 2023
Panel contributions and workshop offerings.

17) Co Liberation Pod, Stroud.
Began and co-led a pilot project, 'Whiteness Co liberation' with people with experiences racialised as White and those racialised as People of Colour'. This experiment was to pilot new decolonised material and explore what the 'co' in co liberation actually needs to look like.

18) Environmental Funders Network

Began conversations with EFN regarding possible funding, as well as collaborations and partnerships with other grantees. Ongoing.

Organisational Development

Over the past year the OE team has focused on programme development, accountability, strategic development, processes and procedures; addressing availability and resilience within the team and looking into Trusts and Foundation fundraising.

1) Programme Development

Clear sense of the necessary 'pillars' and structures that need to be in place for both organisational and public offerings. Particularly around inputs and the development of a number of '101's' to equip participants with the necessary framing and understanding to engage in the relational work that is required. Also, this has been particularly important for developing our understanding and ways of working to protect those most systemically at risk of harm and marginalisation, through developing parallel learning structures and support spaces for dominant/non-dominant experiences (in contrast to all working together from the beginning).

2) Accountability

A clear principle of OpenEdge's work is in terms of how we can be accountable for our actions in the world. To operationalise this we have created a dedicated accountability role within the organisation to support us in developing our accountability systems for public, client and internal work.

Generally, the purpose of this work is to hold monthly accountability sessions with the facilitation team to be in touch with impact feedback from course participants and develop systems, strategies and evolutions to the courses and modes of facilitation to care for the needs of all and centring non-dominant experiences often marginalised by systemic power relations. As a result the following proposals were submitted to The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust to fund honorariums to support practitioners to attend peer supervision for scrutiny, accountability, and transformation.

3) Strategic Development

For the past 6-months OpenEdge has been working with a strategic consultant to develop our Organisational Strategy. We have been working diligently to explore and refine our vision, theory of change, purpose, and short and longer-term goals. This has been vital work to increase our attractiveness to potential funders, as well as to be more targeted in our funding strategy. In addition, this work has also been important in defining ourselves within a larger ecosystem of changemaking work, understanding what is 'ours to do', and in turn being clearer in our offerings and which collaborations to say yes or no to in achieving our organisational aims.

Professional Development

In the past year staff have undertaken the following professional development courses:

- Online training programme: NVC for Systems Change + Facilitating Inequity
- Roots Up – a programme exploring the relationship between Nature Connection methodology and social justice work
- My Body & the World – Processwork seminar to understand body experiences and signals in relation to world issues
- Healing History – Processwork seminar to understand body trauma in relation to histories of ongoing violence

Plans for future periods

Following our strategic review, our plans for 2024 and beyond include a significant increase in public programme offerings to develop a clearer network of interested and engaged practitioners with OpenEdge's approach to interrupting systemic inequity and identity-based violence.

This approach is based on the acquisition of core and project funding, which is a high priority focus for the end of 2023 and into the beginning of 2024.

Shifting to an increasing reliance on external funding does have its risks, however, to develop OpenEdge as a project within itself, it is necessary to secure funding to develop this R&D aspect of our organisation to share our findings and best practice with other engaged practitioners in this field.

Longer-term we are considering the possibility of a dedicated OpenEdge learning centre from which to run residential programmes.



Financial Review

Our work is entirely reliant on income from the organisations and groups who engage us, plus fees for public workshops. This year OpenEdge has focused on delivering work and generating more income for a sustainable year ahead, while delivering less work and developing our organisation and raising funds.

The increase in income generated from our activities has allowed us to become more suitable and resilient covering core costs, increasing our reserves and allocating resources for other essential elements of our work, including a part-time accountability specialist, professional development, supervision and wellbeing support. The financial strategy for the forthcoming year is based upon the need to spend more time doing internal organisational work this year, and raising funding from donors. With less time to deliver work, OE will use the increased income from 2023 to carry us into a year of more organisational strategic development and fundraising.

Please see our accompanying financial returns for more details.

Structure, Governance and Management

Chair: Paul Bazely (Interim Chair)

Trustees: Kevin Gough (Treasurer), Anish Chhibber

Charity number: 1176903

Key personnel:

Sarri Bater, Founder, Director

Sophie Docker, Director

Declan D'Arcy (darcy), Director

Contact information

OpenEdge - Transforming Conflict

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www.openedge.org.uk

OpenEdge-Transforming Conflict

Unaudited Financial Statements

For The Accounting Year Ended 31st December 2022

Charity Registration Number: 1176903

OpenEdge-Transforming Conflict

Company Information

Registered Charity: OpenEdge-Transforming Conflict

Charity Registration: 1176903

The Trustees: Graham Woods
Kevin Gough
Paul Baxely

Principal Office: 168, Church Road
HOVE
East Sussex
BN3 2DL

Accountants: K.M.G. Taxation
Ground Floor
76, Highdown Road
HOVE
East Sussex
BN3 6EB

OpenEdge-Transforming Conflict

Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Trustees' Annual Report	1
Statement of Financial Activities	2
Statement of Financial Position	4
Notes to Financial Statements	5 - 7

OpenEdge-Transforming Conflict

Trustees Annual Report

The Trustees presents their report and the unaudited financial statements for the period from 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022.

Objectives and Activities

Public workshops and presentations. Events with other organisations and groups. Partnership, department of peace studies and international development at Bradford University. Partnership with youth led groups in Sri Lanka. Technical advisors to peace and community action. Online leadership courses.

Education; Citizenship or community development; Human Rights

To promote conflict resolution and reconciliation for the public benefit through the prevention and reduction of violence and conflict by the provision of advice and support to individuals affected in the community and or workplace.

The Charity was established on 30th January 2018.

Financial Review

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, in particular, those related to the operation and finances of the Charity, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the exposure to major risks.

The Trustees Annual Report was approved on 28th October 2023, and signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees by;

Paul Bazely
Trustee

OpenEdge-Transforming Conflict

Accountants Report

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the Financial Statements of OpenEdge-Transforming Conflict ('the Charity') for the accounting period ended 31st December 2022.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the Financial Statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act')

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's Financial Statements carried out under Section 145 of the 2011 Act, and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all 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 any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. The Financial Statements do not accord with those records; or
3. The Financial Statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

K.M.G. Taxation
Ground Floor
76, Highdown Road
HOVE
East Sussex
BN3 6EB

OpenEdge-Transforming Conflict

Statement of Financial Activities
For The Accounting Year Ended 31st December 2022

	Year Ended 31st December 2022 £	Year Ended 31st December 2021 £
<i>Income & Endowments</i>		
Donations and Legacies	19,820	19,487
Investment Income	-	-
<i>Total Income</i>	<u>19,820</u>	<u>19,487</u>
<i>Expenditure</i>		
Expenditure on raising funds	-	-
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	27,052	15,021
<i>Total Expenditure</i>	<u>27,052</u>	<u>15,021</u>
<i>Net income and net movement in funds</i>	- 7,232	4,466
<i>Reconciliation of funds</i>		
Total funds brought forward	-	-
<i>Total funds carried forward</i>	<u><u>- 7,232</u></u>	<u><u>4,466</u></u>

The statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

OpenEdge-Transforming Conflict

Statement of Financial Position
as at 31st December 2022

	Year Ended 31st December 2022 £	Year Ended 31st December 2021 £
Fixed Assets		
Intangible Assets	-	-
Tangible Assets	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	-
Current Assets		
Stock & Work in Progress	-	-
Debtors	-	-
Cash at Bank and in Hand	4,959	12,192
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4,959	12,192
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	-
Net Current Assets	<hr/> 4,959	<hr/> 12,192
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities	4,959	12,192
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	-	-
Net Assets	<hr/> 4,959	<hr/> 12,192
Funds of the Charity		
Restricted Funds	-	-
Unrestricted Funds	4,959	12,192
Total Charity Funds	<hr/> 4,959	<hr/> 12,192

The Financial Statements were approved by the Board of Trustees, and authorised for issue, on 28th October 2023, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Paul Bazely
Trustee

OpenEdge-Transforming Conflict

Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Accounting Year Ended 31st December 2022

1. General Information

The Charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales, and is unincorporated.

2. Statement of Compliance

These Financial Statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland, the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

3. Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

The Financial Statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The Financial Statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue.

OpenEdge-Transforming Conflict

Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Accounting Year Ended 31st December 2022

4. Fixed Assets

	Freehold Property	Plant & Machinery 20%	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment 20%	Motor Vehicle 25%	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1st January 2022	-	-	-	-	-
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31st December 2022	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation					
Depreciation B/fwd	-	-	-	-	-
Charge for Year	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation C/fwd	-	-	-	-	-
Net Book Values					
At 31st December 2022	-	-	-	-	-
At 1st January 2022	-	-	-	-	-

5. Debtors

	Year Ended 31st December 2022 £	Year Ended 31st December 2021 £
Prepayments and Accrued Income	-	-
Other Debtors	-	-
	-	-

6. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Year Ended 31st December 2022 £	Year Ended 31st December 2021 £
Accruals and Deferred Income	-	-

OpenEdge-Transforming Conflict

Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Accounting Year Ended 31st December 2022

7. Independent Examination fees

2022

Fees payable to the independent examiner for;
Independent examination of the Financial Statements

-

8. Staff Costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows;
The average headcount of employees during the period was Nil.
No employee received employees benefits during the accounting period.

9. Analysis of Charitable Funds

2022

Unrestricted funds brought forward
Income
Expenditure
Unrestricted funds carried forward

-

19,820

- 27,052

- 7,232

10. Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the Charity, or a related entity,
were received by the Trustees.

OpenEdge-Transforming Conflict

Detailed Trading and Profit and Loss Account
For The Accounting Year Ended 31st December 2022

	Year Ended 31st December 2022 £	Year Ended 31st December 2021 £
<i>Income and Endowments, Donations and Legacies</i>		
Donations	19,820	19,487
Gift Aid Receipts	-	-
	<u>19,820</u>	<u>19,487</u>
<i>Investment Income</i>		
Bank Interest Receivable	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Total Income</i>	19,820	19,487
<i>Expenditure</i>		
Costs of raising donations and legacies	-	-
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>		
Consultants, Training & Event Costs	24,771	15,021
Purchases	52	-
Insurance	184	-
Legal & Professional	251	-
General Administration costs	1,794	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Total Expenditure</i>	<u>27,052</u>	<u>15,021</u>
<i>Net Income for the period</i>	<u>- 7,232</u>	<u>4,466</u>

OpenEdge-Transforming Conflict

Administrative Expenses
For The Accounting Year Ended 31st December 2022

	Year Ended 31st December 2022	Year Ended 31st December 2021
<i>Administration Expenses</i>	£	£
Directors' Remuneration	-	-
Business Use of Home	-	-
Insurance	184	-
Telephone, Mobile 'phone & Broadband	1,409	-
Office Furniture	-	-
Computer Consumables	-	-
Printing, Postage & Stationary	-	-
Repairs, Maintenance & Renewals	-	-
Travel Expenses	-	-
Advertising	-	-
Entertaining	-	-
Website	105	-
Bank Charges	52	-
Accountancy Fees	-	-
Legal & Professional Fees	251	-
Depreciation of Plant & Machinery	-	-
Depreciation of Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment	-	-
Depreciation of Motor Vehicles	-	-
Sundry Expenses	<u>280</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>2,281</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Interest Receivable</i>		
Bank Interest Receivable	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Interest Payable & Similar Charges</i>		
Bank Interest Payable	-	-
Other Similar Charges	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>