



## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

### Section A

### Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name  
AdAmi Project

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>st</sup>. December 2022

Charity no  
(if any) 1179605

Set out on pages

One and Two

Respective  
responsibilities of  
trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent  
examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent  
examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

*Alan A Clements*

Date: 31<sup>st</sup>. May 2023.

Name:

Rev'd. A. A. Clements MA, ACIB, FCIE

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

Fellow Association of Charity Independent Examiners.  
15 Carleton Road, Great Knowley, Chorley PR6 8TQ.



AdAmi Project		1179605		CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts				
For the period from	1st January 2022	To	31st December 2022	

## Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted to the	Restricted to the	Endowment to the nearest	Total funds to the nearest	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
T&F	38,510	6,000	-	44,510	42,200
Individuals	6,954	-	-	6,954	2,738
Corporate Donations	-	-	-	-	530
Events	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b> (Gross income for AR)	<b>45,464</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>51,464</b>	<b>45,468</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>45,464</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>51,464</b>	<b>45,468</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Programme - MEANS	16,480	3,000	-	19,480	25,296
Programme - AdAmi SL	17,510	9,750	-	27,260	11,481
Admin	241	-	-	241	168
Travel	2,462	-	-	2,462	-
Assets	429	-	-	429	-
Fundraising	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>37,122</b>	<b>12,750</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>49,872</b>	<b>36,945</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>37,122</b>	<b>12,750</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>49,872</b>	<b>36,945</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>8,342</b>	<b>- 6,750</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,592</b>	<b>8,523</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>24,235</b>	<b>9,750</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>33,985</b>	<b>25,462</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>32,577</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>35,577</b>	<b>33,985</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>				
	Cash at bank	32,577	3,000	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

<b>Total cash funds</b> (agree balances with receipts and payments)	<b>32,577</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>-</b>
	OK	OK	OK
	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b>Endowment funds</b>
	<b>to nearest £</b>	<b>to nearest £</b>	<b>to nearest £</b>
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	<b>Fund to which asset belongs</b>	<b>Cost (optional)</b>	<b>Current value (optional)</b>
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	<b>Fund to which asset belongs</b>	<b>Cost (optional)</b>	<b>Current value (optional)</b>
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	<b>Fund to which liability relates</b>	<b>Amount due (optional)</b>	<b>When due (optional)</b>
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			
		-	
<b>Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Print Name</b>	<b>Date of approval</b>
	Kirsty Wood	KIRSTY WOOD	30/05/23

<b>Trustees' Annual Report for the period</b>								
<b>From</b>		Period start date			<b>To</b>	Period end date		
		1	Jan	2022		31	Dec	2022

## Section A Reference and administration details

<b>Charity name</b>	AdAmi Project		
<b>Other names charity is known by</b>			
<b>Registered charity number (if any)</b>	1179605		
<b>Charity's principal address</b>	1 Trillo Avenue		
	Rhos on Sea, Colwyn Bay		
	Conwy		
	<b>Postcode</b>	LL28 4NS	

### 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	Kirsty Wood	Chair		
2	Brett Moreton	Treasurer		
3	Emily-Anne Tunnacliffe	Trustee		
4	Polly Blenkin	Trustee		
5	Rumbidzai Ndungwani	Trustee		
6	Dr Aba Lisa Graham	Trustee		
7	Jenny Benton	Trustee	Added 23rd November 2023	

### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

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<b>Section B</b>	<b>Structure, governance and management</b>
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**Description of the charity's trusts**

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Self-appointed

**Additional governance issues (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

None
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<b>Section C</b>	<b>Objectives and activities</b>
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**Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document**

The objects of the CIO are:

- (i) To advance the education of children and young adults in Sierra Leone, particularly those affected by pregnancy and early motherhood, by providing and assisting in the provision of facilities for education.
- (ii) The prevention or relief of poverty in Sierra Leone through the provision of shelter, food, health, education and other charitable services as the trustees from time to time deem appropriate.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

In 2022, we worked in close partnership with two locally registered non-government organisations (NGOs) in Sierra Leone - our sister organisation AdAmi Project Sierra Leone and Movement for Education and Advocacy Salone (MEANS). Both are run by experienced, local teams who have an excellent understanding of the local context, and strong working relationships with the communities in which we work.

Over the 12 month period, 137 young and expectant mothers in Bo and Kenema district accessed tailored and holistic support through the project.

The young mothers were able to benefit from the following:

- 1) scholarships to return to education or pursue vocational training;
- 2) one-to-one and group mentoring to help the young mothers grow in confidence and self-esteem, and to set and work towards life goals;
- 3) family mediation support to help rebuild relationships that have broken down, and to ensure that the young mothers have a safe place to call home;
- 4) business grants both to young mothers and their caregivers to help them set up or grow small businesses, helping the family to become financially more secure;
- 5) childcare provision to ensure the young mothers are able to go to school/training and concentrate on their studies;
- 6) wider support and interventions including grassroots community engagement and awareness raising activities.

Besides the 137 young and expectant mothers, we have indirectly benefited many more individuals, including at least 140 young children, thanks to the significant ripple effects that our project generates, as well as through community-focused activities, such as grassroots awareness raising and advocacy events.

We confirm that the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**



You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Safeguarding is of the utmost importance to the AdAmi Project and we believe that we share this responsibility alongside our local partner(s). We require all local partners to have a robust safeguarding policy in place and to submit details of any safeguarding incidents to us within monthly safeguarding reports. We are pleased to report that there were no major safeguarding incidents in 2022.

The AdAmi Project has its own safeguarding policy which is reviewed and updated regularly. Should any trustee, volunteer or supporter visit the work in Sierra Leone, they are required to review and comply with our safeguarding policies and procedures. They may also be required to undergo a DBS check depending on the nature of their contact with beneficiaries.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

Section D	Achievements and performance
<p><b>Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year</b></p>	<p><b>Key highlights from our work in Sierra Leone has included:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Delivery of tailored and holistic support to young mothers</b></li> </ul> <p>In 2022, 137 young and expectant mothers in Bo and Kenema district received tailored and holistic support through our core programme. Of these:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 40 received school scholarships. Attendance and pass rates were high, including four young mothers who passed their WASSCE, and there was a 100% retention rate.</li> <li>- 81 pursued vocational training (at both formal learning institutions and on the job apprenticeships). Retention rate was high at 90%, with only 8 young mothers deciding not to continue their training.</li> <li>- One young mother successfully completed her first year of university with a scholarship from the project. She received a further scholarship in September to pursue her second year of the course.</li> <li>- 23 caregivers received a small grant to set up their own businesses.</li> </ul> <p>Throughout the year, all of the young mothers participated in a range of other activities and support services, including one-to-one and group mentoring, weekly life skills education, family mediation and reunification, transportation allowances and childcare provision. Other support was given on an adhoc basis as needed, such as signposting and accompanying young mothers to other local services (i.e. medical appointments). In total:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 100% (137) of the young mothers were matched with a local female mentor or social worker (all paid members of staff) and received ongoing mentoring and encouragement from the team (at least weekly visits).</li> <li>- 53% (73) of the young mothers participated in formal weekly life skills sessions delivered by our partner, AdAmi Project Sierra Leone. Throughout the year they explored a range of different topics and issues, from sexual and reproductive health to good communication skills, and confidence.</li> <li>- 58% (80) of the young mothers received weekly transport allowances to attend their training courses or educational facilities, removing the financial barriers to attendance. This allowance was given on a case-by-case basis depending on the distance they needed to travel.</li> <li>- 27% (37) of the young mothers were supported through our childcare initiative, where family members, neighbours or friends (chosen by the young women) are given a small monthly allowance in return for caring for their children.</li> <li>- Five other young mothers were supported to return to school through a micro-grant given to the Community Girls Network (see further information below). Grants were given to girls who have been active in the network and are now being mentored and supported by young mothers from our programme.</li> </ul> <p>Of the 137 young mothers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 51 joined the programme in 2022</li> <li>• 26 of the young mothers graduated from the programme at various points during the year, and nearly all are now in employment</li> <li>• 12 left the programme early or were asked to leave for various reasons.</li> </ul> <p>The young mothers ranged in age from 14 to 22, with the median age being 19. They typically remain in the programme for 2 to 4 years depending on their selected education and learning pathways.</p>



- **Engagement and participation of family members and the wider community**

Family and other community members participated in the project in a number of ways, including:

**62 families participated in 'family meals'** organised at regular intervals throughout the year. These events saw family members come together to hear updates from the project and to celebrate the successes of the young women, whilst enjoying a hot meal together. These meals served as a means of engaging the families and ensuring their buy-in and support, which is essential if the young mothers are to succeed in the project.

**25** parents and caregivers received business training and **23** received a small business grant during the year to help them set up or grow their small businesses. The goal of these grants is to enable them to generate further household income, which they agree to use to support the young women and their children. 91% (21) of those who received small business grants are still successfully running the businesses.

**37** parents, caregivers, friends and neighbours received a monthly stipend in return for caring for the children of the young mothers while they were attending school or training.

- **Launch and growth of the Community Girls Network**

The AdAmi Project has proudly been supporting the development of the Community Girls Network (CGN), an initiative being managed by our local partner MEANS. The network is led by the young mothers on our programme with the goal of raising awareness and support for their rights and the rights of other young women in their community.

Since its formal launch in March 2022, the network has gone from strength to strength with the girls now regularly delivering educational and awareness campaigns on issues affecting them and their communities, such as child marriage and teenage pregnancy.

The young mothers have also, on their own initiative, started to proactively reach out to and support other young women in their community who are experiencing exploitation or abuse.

The members of the network have grown in confidence as a result of speaking up for their rights. They are increasingly seen as role models within their community and have a new sense of identity and purpose.

- **Networking and profile raising in Sierra Leone**

In 2022 we continued to raise our profile and voice in Sierra Leone through our local partners, who attended consultations, meetings and events throughout the year with stakeholders and other organisations. This included participating in a number of high profile awareness raising and advocacy events in Bo, including International Women's Day celebrations and the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence. A cross-section of our young mothers also joined in to celebrate these events.

**Updates from the UK team and activities have included:**

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

- **Trustee and supporter visits** - after two years of being unable to visit Sierra Leone due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this year Kirsty Wood, Chair of Trustees, made two visits to Sierra Leone to monitor the work and spend time with the teams delivering planning sessions and training. These visits were conducted in January and September. In September our programme committee volunteer Jenny Benton also joined the visit.
- **Fundraising** - we continued to nurture and grow both existing and new donor relationships this year. This included successfully participating in the Big Give Christmas Challenge, the UK's biggest match-funding campaign, for the first time. In a week, we raised over £7,000 for our work. This was the first public-facing fundraising effort for the AdAmi Project and we were delighted with the results. A special thanks goes to our individual pledgers and the Coles-Medlock Foundation for championing our campaign.

### Our impact this year

We continued to make good progress towards our overall mission of working alongside young mothers in Sierra Leone to lead happy, healthy and financially independent lives.

Through data, stories and testimonials gathered by our team on a regular basis, we also are able to evidence our impact against our three overarching organisational goals:

#### **Goal one: Young mother have increased knowledge, skills and confidence to make informed and positive life choices:**

**100%** of the young mothers on our programme agree that the support they receive, including mentoring and life skills education, is enabling them to make more informed and positive life choices.

During feedback sessions, some of the young mothers told us that:

*"Through life skills sessions, I have learnt that early marriage is not good for us, that it is more important to stay in school and complete my education so I can build a better life for myself and my child."* Mary, AdAmi participant.

*"I never had the confidence to believe I could continue in school. Thanks to the project and my aunty [her mentor Miatta] who encouraged me, I came to realise that maybe I could return to school. Now I am a university student. I want to pass on this courage and inspiration to other young mothers in the position I was once in. I want to give back."* Nasi, AdAmi participant.

*"The programme has really helped me to be bold. Before I could not talk to anyone, now I am now shut and can speak up for myself."* Hawa, AdAmi participant.

#### **Goal two: Young mothers achieve greater financial independence**

The majority of young mothers who are participating in or have graduated from the programme are more financially independent thanks to new vocational skills, employment or business grant support. This is evidenced through discussions and stories from the young mothers, who are using the skills, training and resources accessed through the project to set-up and run new business initiatives.

**Binta's story**

Binta lost her mother when she was very young and, not knowing who her father was, she was looked after by her grandmother. That is until her grandmother found out she was pregnant. Binta was thrown out and, with no other means of earning money, she turned to sex work. When Binta was introduced to the AdAmi Project by one of her friends, at first she was unconvinced. She didn't want to try to give up sex work – it was her only means of survival. But, with continued mentoring and support Binta eventually decided to train to become an auto mechanic. Now, her mentor Fatmata says, “she loves her work more than ever” and she's increasingly respected by the rest of her community. “Other young women really want to be like Binta”.

**Baindu's story**

Baindu was orphaned at a young age and her community forced her into an early marriage. When she ran away from her husband, she did not know she was pregnant. When she realised that she was expecting a baby, she tried to return home – but her husband turned her away. The AdAmi project helped her return to school and to start a small business to bring in an income. With a grant and business skills training from AdAmi, Baindu bought stationary which she could then sell on at school. Three years later, Baindu has almost finished her studies, and is hoping to become a doctor. At the same time, her business is still going strong and enables her to pay for the transport to school, her lunch and extra tuition.

**Goal three: Communities provide a supportive and safe environment for young mothers to succeed**

Through feedback and discussions with family and community members, our local team reports that there is a significant increase in support and empathy for the rights and opportunities of young mothers. Once viewed as ‘drop outs’, family and community members now speak of admiring the young mothers, their accomplishments and drive.

During feedback sessions, some of the young mothers told us that:

*“My community used to see me as a dropout but now they see me back at school and they have changed their mind. I feel more important and have a better status in the community. I feel less ashamed and I feel proud to be in my school uniform walking to school.”* Tiangay, AdAmi participant.

*“I wanted nothing to do with her...the team made me realise that the pregnancy was not her fault and I should support her... She has now made me proud as a successful tailor making a good income.”* Mother of an AdAmi participant.

*“When my daughter became pregnant I did not want anything to do with her. I drove her from the house because I was so angry. The project's team came to talk to me and encouraged me to let her return to the home. They made me realise that the pregnancy was not her fault and that I should support her. Now, she has made me proud. She is a successful tailor making a good income, and even has enough money to send food home to us. This project is really doing great things. It is helping not just the young mothers but all of us women.”* Mother of an AdAmi Project participant.

## Section E Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The charity's policy is to maintain reserves at an appropriate level throughout the period which should be equivalent to six months' worth of budgeted project costs.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

#### Restricted funding - AdAmi Policy

When submitting fundraising proposals AdAmi will generally give an indication of what the funding could be used for. When receiving subsequent grants, unless it is explicitly stated that the funds are to be restricted for a particular purpose, AdAmi assumes the funds are for general use.

## Section F Other optional information

## Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

*KJ LL*

Full name(s)

KIRSTY WOOD

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

CHAIR

Date

30/05/23