



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

31st. December 2023

Charity no
(if any) 1179605

Set out on pages

One and Two

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

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:

3rd July 2024

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.

Trustees' Annual Report for the period								
From		Period start date			To	Period end date		
		1	Jan	2023		31	Dec	2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	AdAmi Project
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Other names charity is known by	
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Registered charity number (if any)	1179605
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Charity's principal address	1 Trillo Avenue		
	Rhos on Sea, Colwyn Bay		
	Conwy		
	Postcode	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	Resigned 9th March 2023	
3	Donna Hazlewood	Treasurer	Added 9th March 2023	
4	Emily-Anne Tunnacliffe	Trustee		
5	Polly Blenkin	Trustee		
6	Rumbidzai Ndungwani	Trustee	Resigned 10th March 2023	
7	Jenny Benton	Trustee		
8	Dr Aba Lisa Graham	Trustee		

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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Section B Structure, governance and management

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

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objects of the CIO are:

- 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.
- 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 2023 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, **170** young mothers in Bo and Kenema district participated in some or all of our holistic programme. This consisted of:

- 1) scholarships to return to education (secondary and university level) 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 young mothers, many more have benefitted indirectly, including at least **170** of the young mother's children, as well as other family and community members.

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 partners. We require all local partners to have a robust safeguarding policy in place and to submit details of any safeguarding incidents to us within quarterly safeguarding reports. We are pleased to report that there were no major safeguarding incidents in 2023.

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.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Delivery of tailored and holistic support to young mothers

170 young mothers in Bo and Kenema district participated in some or all of our holistic programme.

The young mothers ranged in age from **13 to 25**, 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.

Of the young mothers, **67** were new to the programme in August/September 2023, while the remaining (**103**) joined at various points in previous years. Of the 170 young mothers:

- **45** received scholarships and support to pursue formal education. **7** of these students sat and successfully passed their WASSCE examinations in June 2023 (the final examination to complete secondary education). The others are continuing their education during the 2023/2024 academic year.
- **107** pursued vocational training at both formal learning institutions and on the job apprenticeships. **25** of these graduated from their training during the year, receiving a graduation start up kit and being supported into training. The remaining young mothers are continuing their training into 2024.
- **4** young mothers opted to pursue business and received business training and non-refundable grants to start or grow their petty trading businesses, typically buying and selling items at local markets (i.e. food items, clothing).
- **5** young mothers received university scholarships to start/continue their education at university level.
- **9** young mothers participated in 6 months of life skills training, together with the other young mothers, but decided not to pursue further education and exited the programme early.

Overall, the young mothers showed excellent levels of engagement in the programme, with a retention rate of **95%**.

We maintained our high programme standards throughout the year, tailoring support to reflect the individual needs and circumstances of each young mother. As well as scholarships and material support to pursue their education, the young mothers benefitted from some or all of the following activities:

- **1:1 mentoring and monitoring:** All of the young mothers (**170**) received regular (at least once weekly) mentoring and support with a local female mentor or social worker (all paid members of staff).
- **Group life skills sessions:** All of the young mothers (**170**) participated in regular group life skills sessions throughout the year, exploring important life skills topics, such as sexual and reproductive health, caring for their child and girls' rights. These

sessions were delivered by our trained social workers, with occasional external guests (i.e., local district nurses). Life skills sessions provide a safe space for the young mothers to explore important topics, share stories and experiences, build new friendships and a support network, as well as helping them to gain new knowledge, skills and confidence.

- **Family meditation and reunification support:** the majority of young mothers (upwards of 90%) received support to help them rebuild relationships with their families, which had broken down due to their pregnancy. Many were supported to return to their family homes, having been thrown out when their pregnancy was discovered. Family and community engagement sessions were organised throughout the year, including regular family meals, of which approximately **67** families joined, community meetings and business training opportunities where **40** families were trained and provided with small grants to help set-up or grow their businesses.
- **Start-up kits and support to graduating students:** **25** young mothers graduating from their vocational training courses received start-up kits to help them continue their trade and secure work, either with a local business or independently. For example, the tailoring graduates received sewing machines, thread and cloth, and hairdressing graduates received hair weaves, scissors and brushes.

Support towards the Community Girls Network (CGN)

We continued to invest in the activities of the CGN this year. CGN is a girl-led initiative set up by the young mothers in 2020. The goal of the network is to raise awareness and support for their rights and the rights of other young women in their community, and to facilitate new social and economic opportunities. Through their own initiative, and with micro-grants from the AdAmi Project, the young mothers have been busy developing and delivering a range of new initiatives to address their unmet needs this year. This has included establishing a community farm (30 young mothers involved) and creating a soap making cooperative (10 young mothers involved). We have also supported the network in Gondama and Baoma communities to construct a modest local structure which is now used as a meeting point and for group livelihood activities.

Networking and profile raising in Sierra Leone

In 2023 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, such as International Women's Day celebrations and the 16

Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence. A cross-section of the young mothers also joined in to celebrate these events.

Updates from the UK team and activities have included:

- **Trustee visit:** Kirsty Wood, Chair of Trustees, visited Sierra Leone in September to monitor the work and spend time with the teams delivering planning sessions and training. This included delivering a safeguarding refresher training session.
- **Fundraising:** we continued to nurture and grow both existing and new donor relationships this year. This included a second year of participating in the Big Give Christmas Challenge, the UK's biggest match-funding campaign. In a week, we raised almost £7,000 for our work. A special thanks goes to our individual pledgers and the Coles-Medlock Foundation for championing our campaign.

Impact story - Hawa sews her way to success

Hawa joined the AdAmi Project at the start of 2021, when she was just 17 years old. At the time, she was pregnant with her first child and struggling to make ends meet. Three years on and Hawa's life has been transformed.

Hawa comes from a very poor home and had dropped out of school a long time ago because her family did not have the financial means to keep her in education. The team first began to engage Hawa when she was pregnant, who showed a keen interest in the programme. Shortly after giving birth to her son, the AdAmi Project supported her to pursue a vocational training course in tailoring at a local educational centre. Throughout her time on the project, Hawa impressed the team with her commitment and hard work, and obvious talent in tailoring. When she graduated from the Project in January 2023 she received a sewing machine, fabric and other items to start her business as a tailor.

Almost a year after graduating, Hawa's business is growing every day. Her workload and profit vary depending on the seasons/time of year, but she says she is making enough money to take care of her child and her family. She says, 'the sewing machine has helped me to be self-reliant and productive in society. I no longer sit idle on the streets, I am busy. I know my future is brighter because I am even now taking care of my parents.'

Tiangay - from school dropout to university scholar

2017 was a tough year for Tiangay - in quick succession she lost her father, became pregnant to a boy who denied responsibility and ran away, and was forced out of her home by

Section D

Achievements and performance

her mother, who at the time was in a deep state of mourning for her deceased husband. When the team met her and her young daughter, Hannah, in early 2018, she struggled to fight back the tears, as she cautiously opened up about everything she had endured.

With the support of the AdAmi Project, Tiangay returned to school in 2018, and in 2022, successfully graduated from secondary school. Based on her impressive performance, Tiangay the AdAmi Project awarded Tiangay a university scholarship in 2023 and she is now pursuing a degree in community development at Njala University. Inspired by the work of her local mentors, she plans to one day train as a social worker, a highly regarded and sought after job in Sierra Leone.

But Tiangay does not have to wait until she finishes her degree to put her passion for helping others into action. She is already a fearless leader of the Community Girls Network, using her voice and experience to advocate and protect the rights of other vulnerable girls and young mothers. She is also working with the team to facilitate new income generating opportunities for the network locally; this includes establishing a community farm, with land gifted by a local community leader.

Her relationship with her mother and family has also been transformed. When we first met Tiangay, she was in mourning - not just for the loss of her father - but also for the breakdown of her relationship with her mother. 'I worry she will never love me again' she had told us when we met her in 2018. But thanks to family mediation and reunification support, her mother is now her number one cheerleader. She says 'the Project has not only brought us back together again, but brought great improvements in our life. Look at the confidence Tiangay now has and the positive change she is bringing to our community. I can't thank the Project enough for everything they have done.'

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)

Kirsty Wood

Full name(s)

Kirsty Wood

Position

Chair of Trustees

Date

2nd July 2024



Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

1st January 2023

To

31st December 2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
T&F	35,750	9,520	-	45,270	44,510
Individuals	13,705	-	-	13,705	6,954
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	49,455	9,520	-	58,975	51,464
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	49,455	9,520	-	58,975	51,464
A3 Payments					
Programme - MEANS	16,427	6,000	-	22,427	19,480
Programme - AdAmi SL	18,718	3,520	-	22,238	27,260
Admin	250	-	-	250	241
Travel	1,537	-	-	1,537	2,462
Assets	-	-	-	-	429
Fundraising	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	36,931	9,520	-	46,451	49,872
A4 Asset and investment purchases,					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	36,931	9,520	-	46,451	49,872
Net of receipts/(payments)	12,523	-	-	12,523	1,592
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	32,577	3,000	-	35,577	33,985
Cash funds this year end	45,100	3,000	-	48,100	35,577

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash at bank	45,100	3,000	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	45,100	3,000	-
	(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		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	-	-	-
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B3 Investment assets

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

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

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

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which	Amount due	When due
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
<i>Kirsty Wood</i>	Kirsty Wood	2nd July 2024
<i>D. Hazlewood</i>	Donna Hazlewood	2nd July 2024