



sainted
roots

Sainted
Roots

2023
Annual
Report

Charity
Number:
1184408

Contents



Executive Summary	P 2
How We Make A Difference	P 3
2022 Delivery Summary	P 4
2022 Achievements	P 5
The Sainted Roots Theory of Change	P 7
Community Champions Program	P 8
Programme Challenges & Lessons Learnt	P 9
Impact Since Inception	P 8
2022 Financial Review	P 9 - 10
Meet The Team	P 11 - 12

Executive Summary



Zimbabwean communities have long struggled to make ends meet, as the nation's leaders continue to rely heavily on aid to support the population. Yet, with this reliance comes a weakening of the drive for self-sufficiency, stifling efforts to improve conditions independently. Aid, as it stands, is not working in Zimbabwe, though studies to explain why remain scarce. At Sainted Roots, we focus on our core values, aiming to reveal the inherent strength within families, communities, and the nation, fostering peace, unity, and sustainable development.

Our mission to support Zimbabwe persists, and we adapt our model to confront the challenges of a shifting political and social environment.

Post-COVID Challenges: The pandemic disrupted our rural projects, with lockdowns fracturing social structures. School closures have had a lasting impact, leading to increased rates of teenage pregnancy, substance abuse, illness, and violence since 2020. The morale of our communities is low, and lawlessness has increased.

2023 Election Fallout: The 2023 elections were contentious, especially for rural communities, where hope, peace, and trust in leadership have diminished. This has strained our relationships, complicating the implementation of community-driven initiatives.

Social Division over LGBTQ Rights: Communities are increasingly divided on LGBTQ rights, particularly as some religious leaders return from abroad with new directives for acceptance. This has led to tension within churches and among the communities we serve.

Despite these challenges, Sainted Roots has taken this time to reflect, reassess, and refine our approach. By pausing our community farming program, we've discovered the impact of strategically working with motivated individuals rather than entire communities from the outset. We are now focusing our resources on these individuals, providing farming inputs, entrepreneurship training, and support in leadership, community development, and peacebuilding. Additionally, we remain committed to protecting vulnerable groups, especially women and children, by partnering with local agencies to address child abuse and gender-based violence.

Through our deeply held values, Sainted Roots is dedicated to healing Zimbabwe's rural communities, empowering them to break free from poverty and build sustainable futures.

Faith Nyabdza - St Francis

Co-founder and Chair of Trustees

How We Make A Difference



Sainted Roots, a community-led development system, continues its work in the Makoni District of Zimbabwe, partnering with rural communities to lead their own development out of poverty.

In 2023, we concluded our community farming projects and shifted our focus to developing the Community Champions Program. We are currently working with five Community Champions based in five different villages: Shenayeguta, Njanike, Chikuruwo, Gandanzara, and Jecha.

Through the program we are helping these champions grow as leaders so they can expand their impact on and inspiration to their respective communities. By empowering these individuals, we aim to foster sustainable development that continues to benefit the entire community.

Aim

Promoting sustainable development in the rural community.

Objectives

- I. To support sustainable livelihood options through provision of skills and inputs.
- II. To provide support for economic growth and regeneration through capacity building.
- III. To engage and strengthen communities in implementing viable gender sensitive projects.
- IV. To train communities in entrepreneurship and value chains.

Activities

- We support and provide training to proactive individuals, helping them become Community Champions that have the capacity to uplift their communities.
- We work with Agriculture Officers to train and encourage sustainable farming methods to improve harvests, for food and economic stability.
- We plant fruit and indigenous trees, to enhance biodiversity and to help restore the local environment.
- We work with consultants to provide training and community counselling to empower and build capacity.
- We work with local agencies and are committed to safeguarding the most vulnerable members of the communities we serve.

2023 Delivery Summary



Operations Summary

In 2023, Sainted Roots focused on deepening community empowerment through more targeted initiatives. Building on the lessons learned in 2022, we recognized that sustainable development could only be achieved by shifting greater responsibility to local leaders and fostering self-reliance within communities.

This year, our primary goal was to transition from direct involvement in projects to a model that positions Community Champions as the driving force behind change. By stepping back and empowering these leaders, we aimed to create an environment where communities could take ownership of their development efforts, reducing dependency on external support.

The development and implementation of the Community Champion Programme was central to this strategy (see [page 6](#)). Through this initiative, we worked to nurture strong, capable leaders who could inspire and guide their communities toward interdependent growth and lasting progress.



2023 Achievements



Peacebuilding and Community Engagement

In 2023, peacebuilding has been a central focus for us. With the guidance of a consultant, we launched "village conversation cafés" to create open forums for addressing and resolving both individual and community issues. The consultant has successfully helped Shenayeguta village find common ground on divisive topics, including same-sex marriage, the 2023 election disputes, and other pressing social matters.

We also enhanced our Community Champion Programme by selecting five dedicated individuals from five different villages, whom we call our "Big 5." These champions receive targeted support, training, and coaching to build their capacity as future community leaders, inspiring others to contribute positively and actively to their communities.

Our annual Harvest Festival and New Year's Eve celebration remain vital community events, bringing people together through music, gratitude, and optimism. Like the conversation cafés, these gatherings create a welcoming space for sharing ideas and discussing important issues.

Strengthen the Local Economy

Working with the "Big 5" has also helped create local employment and provided rural communities with access to foreign currency, as workers are now able to earn US dollars for their contributions.

Building Strong Local Partnerships

This year we continued liaising with ZWLA (Zimbabwe Women's Lawyers Association), One Stop Shop and Makoni District Police on safe-guarding matters. Petitioned the local council for the reinstatement of local dip tanks and supplied medicines for treating and controlling cattle tick disease outbreak in Shenayaguta.

2023 Achievements



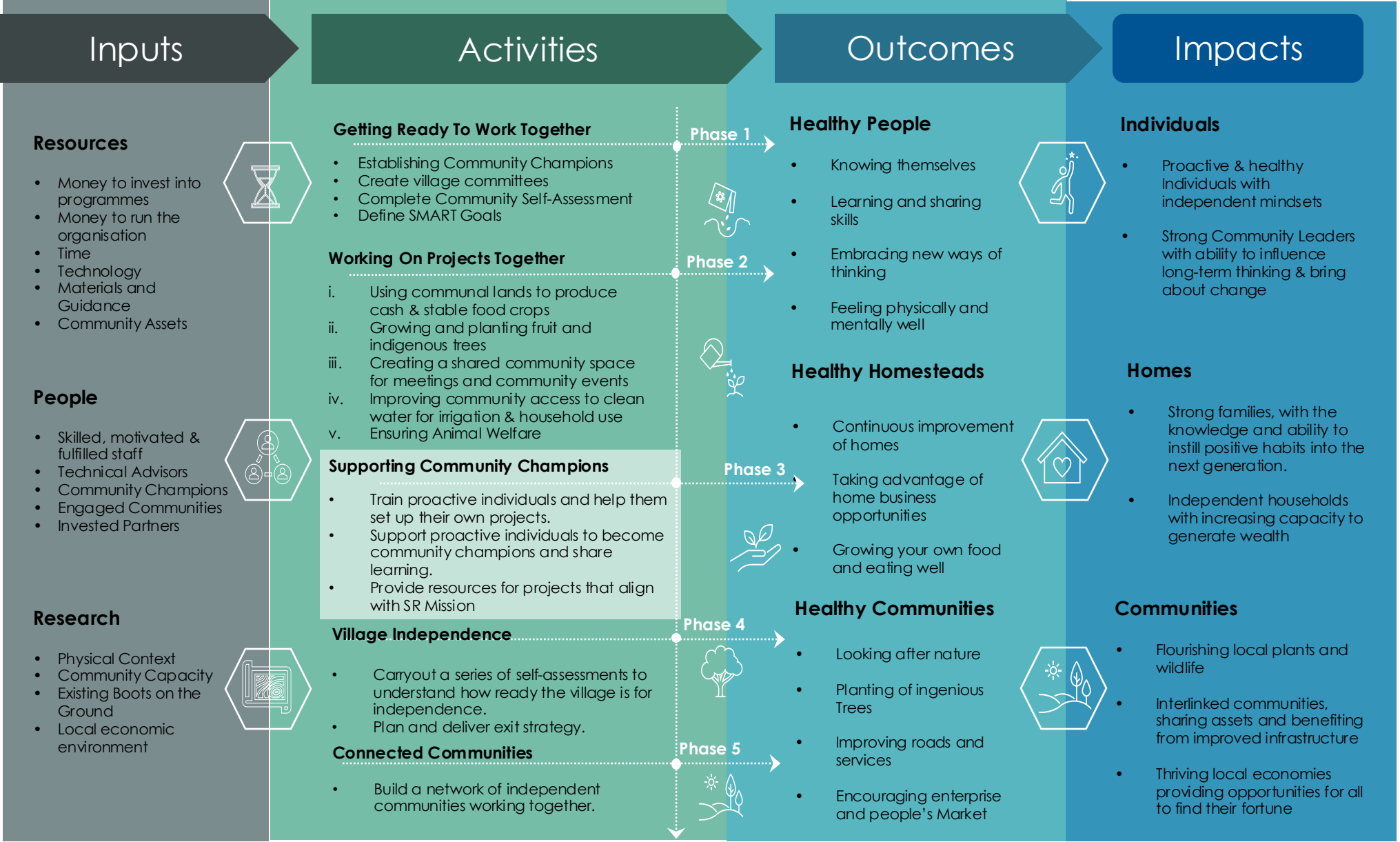
Achievements Include:

- **3 no. Conversation Café sessions** with the local community on leadership training, conflict resolutions and community development. Impacting 20-30 individuals (**14 men & 16 Women**)
- **1 no. Conversation Café** with the Big 5 on Ia
- **16 piglets** sired by Njanike Village
- **Murehwa village piggery project** implemented with help from Njanike village.
- 10no. **Workshops delivered** with Njanike and Murehwa communal farming groups impacting
- **6 Employees and Big 5 Trained** in Santed Roots Theory of Change, Mission, and values
- Following on from our 2022 collaboration with local agencies. Victims of the 4 safeguarding incidents raised have been supported and perpetrators have prosecuted.
- **Toys donated** to Chingono Primary School ECD classes to start a toy library.
- Strengthening operations in the rural community by building crop storage and thrashing floor for processing harvests



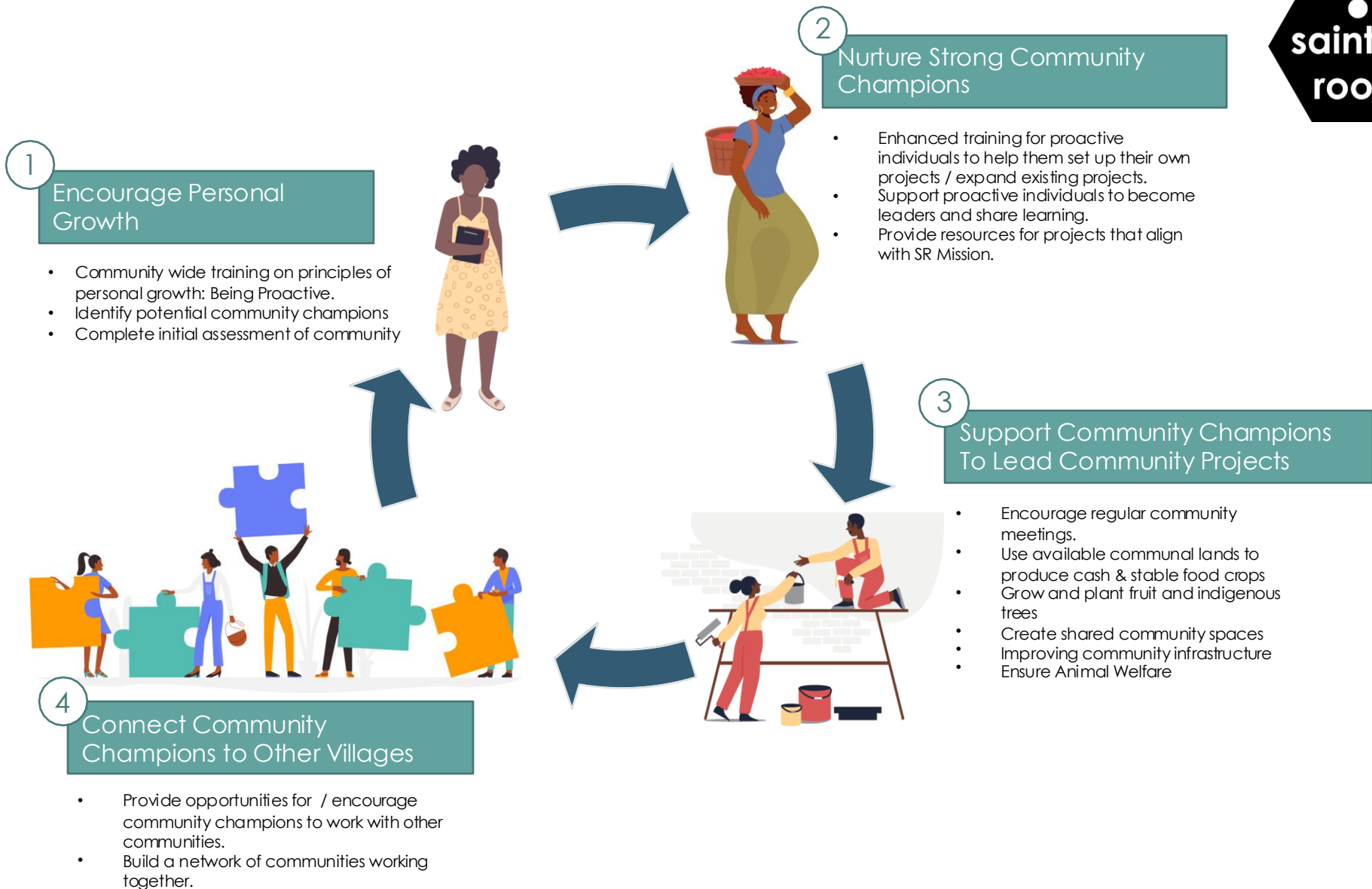
Sainted Roots' Theory of Change

Creating Lasting Change



Sainted Roots' Theory of Change

Activities Refined



Programme Challenges



A summary of the challenges faced with delivery/scaling of programmes and improvements that will be made as a result.

Challenges

- **Collapse community farming projects** - Njanike and Shenayaguta projects disbanded
- **Pre-natal Droughts.** Low rainfall has impacted harvest for 2022; compounded
- **Marketing Challenges.** Rural farmers continue to struggle with finding profitable markets for their produce.
- **Economic Conditions.** Local currency instability and price fluctuations have been a challenge. RTG collapsed and a new currency ZIG was implemented but not fully adopted.
- **Lack Of Resources.** On going limited availability of farming tools means over reliance on animals. Bio-engineered seeds and the restriction of seed production / distribution also have an impact.
- **Community peace and harmony** – Fallout from national elections and international influence on LGBTQ and Church standing.

Lessons Learnt

- Reduce scale and restructure projects to allow for smaller groups working together.
- Develop the Community Champions programme further and integrate a strong change management strategy.
- Establish a Conversation Café to get people to communicate more effectively.
- Strengthen relationship with police and other agencies to increase community awareness of safeguarding issues, relevant laws and support available.
- Be prepared for climate change by providing a borehole to each community.
- Develop Tree planting program and encourage the use of drought farming methods such **diga-u-gute** and **zero-tillage**.
- Develop clearer pathways to market and to improve the profitability of rural farmers.

Impact Since Inception



Data: Activities delivered between Nov 2015 - Dec 2023.



School Fees Funded For 175 Children (including 35 orphans), supporting the education provision of 600+ children from surrounding villages



20 Hectares of communal land donated to support our work



Improvement in health of 20 adults living with HIV



1,640+ Adults impacted through training provision



Working in 6 villages through the Community Champions Program and community farming projects



\$62,000 Donated to SR programmes and invested in rural communities



\$45,000 income generated and invested back into the community



40+ seasonal jobs and 6 part time jobs created to support delivery of our work



40% of villagers surveyed were reported to have access to 3 meals per day & further 54% had access to at least 2 meals per day



Over 48 Tonnes of produce grown



Support given to children and vulnerable adults experiencing abuse



Over 1,500 Trees budded & grafted

2023 Finance Review

2023 Charity Commission Report

Sainted Roots - 1184408

For the year ended 31 December 2023



Account Name		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds
Net Income / (Expenditure)					
Income					
	Donations & Legacies				
	Donations and Gifts	6,374.99	0.00	0.00	6,374.99
	Total Donations & Legacies	6,374.99	0.00	0.00	6,374.99
	Other				
	Bank Interest	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.70
	Total Other	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.70
Total Income		6,375.69	0.00	0.00	6,375.69
Expenditure					
	Charitable Activities				
	Delivery of Charitable Goods and Services	(4,186.81)	0.00	0.00	(4,186.81)
	Governance Costs	(1,008.33)	0.00	0.00	(1,008.33)
	Total Charitable Activities	(5,195.14)	0.00	0.00	(5,195.14)
	Other				0.00
	Motor Vehicle Repairs	(850.34)	0.00	0.00	(850.34)
	Connectivity, Phone & Data	(263.03)	0.00	0.00	(263.03)
	IT Software	(47.98)	0.00	0.00	(47.98)
	Loan Repayment to External Funder	(50.00)	0.00	0.00	(50.00)
	Total Other	(1,211.35)	0.00	0.00	(1,211.35)
Total Expenditure		(6,406.49)	0.00	0.00	(6,406.49)
Total Net Income / (Expenditure)		(30.80)	0.00	0.00	(30.80)

2023 Finance Review

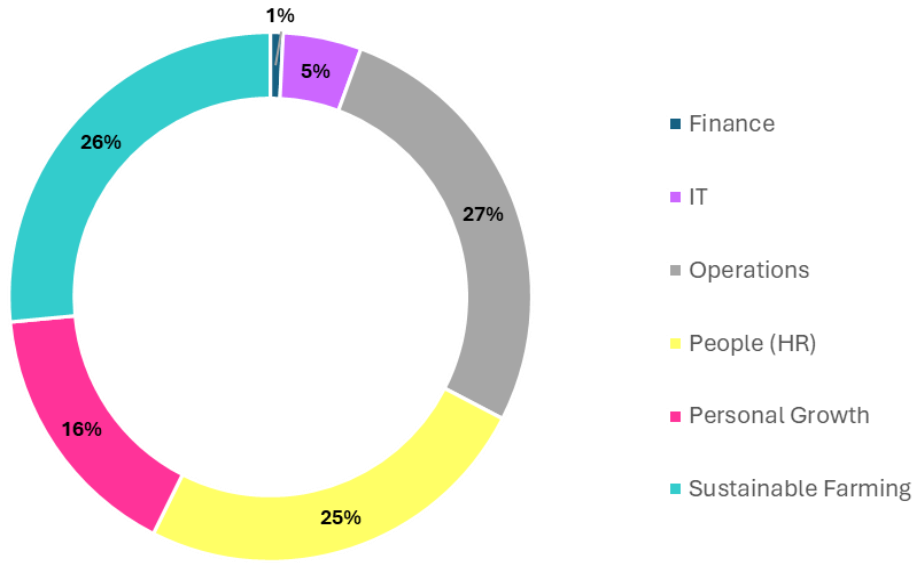
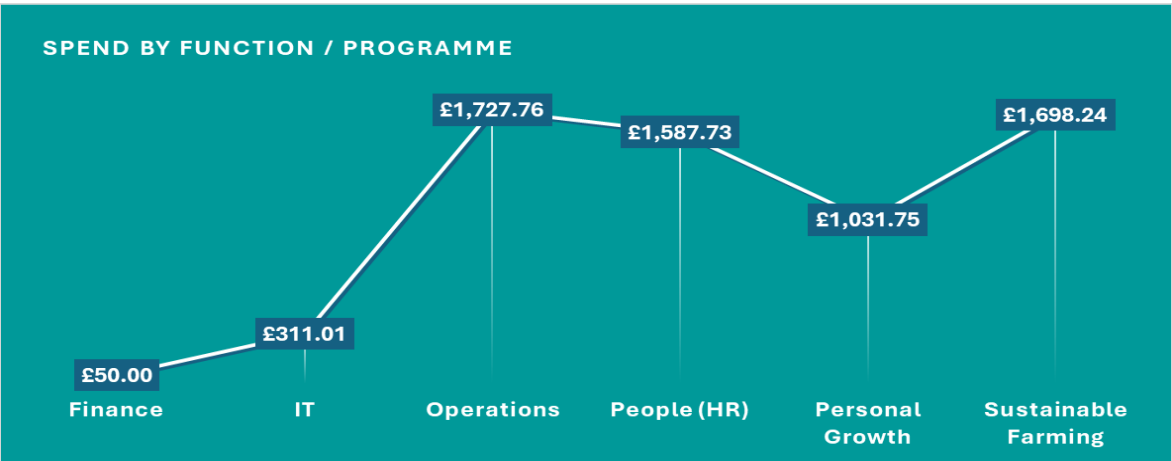
2023 Spend Breakdown by Function / Programme

Sainted Roots - 1184408

For the year ended 31 December 2023



	Amount
Finance	£50.00
Loan Repayment to External Funder	£50.00
IT	£311.01
Enthuse - Donation Platform	£47.98
Phone & Data	£263.03
Operations	£1,727.76
Diesel – Travel to rural for monthly checks	£865.48
Vehicle Repairs to Freelander	£550.00
Tax and Insurance for Freelander	£84.03
PVO Registration for Sainted Roots	£58.82
Travel Expense - Monthly Wage Distribution	£169.43
People (HR)	£1,587.73
Staff Christmas Bonus	£118.25
Wages	£1,469.48
Personal Growth	£1,031.75
Conversation Cafés	£162.19
Sustainable Farming	£1,698.24
Diesel - Freelander	£613.05
Travel Expense – Capacity building training & coaching	£256.51
Farming Inputs (community Champions - Big 5)	£902.08
Fuel	£181.06
Repair to Vehicle	£300.34
Vehicle Tax and Insurance	£84.03
Food for the Rural Team	£230.73
Grand Total	£6,406.49



Meet The Team



Think Long Term: Hope grows where teamwork sows its seeds

Trustees

Ms. Faith Nyabadza-St Francis

Chairperson

Overseeing and organising programs & safeguarding on the ground. Developing structure and capacity building programmes.

Ms Tandy St Francis

Secretary

Accounting, Operational procedures, Architecture & Infrastructure Program, Governance and Reporting

Ms Chi St Francis

Treasurer

Accounting, Operations & IT, Programme Development, Digital marketing, Fundraising, Governance & Reporting

UK Board Advisors

Ms Christina Adetiba

Operational procedures, Governance and Reporting

Mrs. Tsitsi Masukume

Safeguarding advisor.

Ms. Tamuka Chitemere

General Guidance

Mrs. Annette Mashingaidze

General Guidance

Zimbabwe Board Advisors

Mr Simon Matsvai

Sustainable Farming Programme Advisor

Ms Rumbidzai Chijiri

Personal Growth & Education Programme Advisor

Mrs. Mercy Hatendi

Safeguarding-training strategies, Operational Procedures and Governance.

Mr David Nyamurera

Operational procedures, programme development and registration

Ms Ruth Tapfumaneyi

Entrepreneurism Advisor

Meet The Team



Sainted Roots Rural Team

Mr Stanley Makoni

Rural Farming Projects Manager

Mr Enoch Chibika

Shenayeguta Farming Projects Supervisor
Tree Grafting & Budding

Mr Enock Nyabadza

Assistant Shenayeguta Farming Project Supervisor
Construction Projects

Mrs Melodious Gudoricharima

Homestead Maintenance and Hospitality Supervisor

Mrs Chipo Nyabadza (Mai Tapi)

Assistant Homestead Maintenance and Hospitality

Consultants and Support

Mrs Mashaya

Agriculture Specialist

Emmanuel Manyati

Training and Community Counselling Consultants

Mrs Enock Nyabadza

Project support - on standby

Community Champions

Mrs Makoni

Njanike Village

Mr Mbauya

Shenayaguta Village

Mr and Mrs Chikuruwo

Chikuruwo Village

Mr Mutondoro

Gandanzara / Mutondoro Village

Mr Sandzira

Jecha Village