

TREEZ

England & Wales · Charity number 1185908

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-10-21

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 16a High Street
Bugbrooke
Northampton
NN7 3PA

Phone 01604 830933

Email jandb.inch@gmail.com

Activities

Objects: THE ADVANCEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT IN MALAWI BY PROVIDING FUNDING FOR LOCALLY MANAGED REFORESTATION PROJECTS.

Activities: The charity activities are confined to raising funds and making grants to assist projects carried out by others in Malawi. During the period of this report the projects being supported in this way are those of Zomba TREEZ Ltd, a not for profit company recently formed in Malawi in an effort to protect and restore the once well forested area of the Zomba Plateau.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations
- **What:** Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Malawi

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£19,653	£13,782	-	-
2024-12-31	£9,904	£13,798	-	-
2023-12-31	£55,674	£53,526	-	-
2022-12-31	£10,549	£6,322	-	-
2021-12-31	£24,801	£22,624	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr Patricia Margaret Weir		2026-06-09
Dr Selena Gleadow Ware		2019-10-21
JAMES DAVIDSON INCH		2019-10-21
Laura Coyle		2019-10-21

TREEZ

England & Wales - Charity number 1185908

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025

Charity name: Treez CIO

Charity registration number: 1185908

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The advancement of environmental protection and improvement for the public benefit in Malawi by providing funding for locally managed reforestation projects.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The charity's activities are confined to raising funds and making grants to assist projects carried out by others in Malawi. During the period of this report the projects being supported in this way are those of Zomba TREEZ Ltd, a not for profit company formed in Malawi in an effort to protect and restore the once well forested area of the Zomba Plateau. Work for which grants have been given relate to the planting, maintenance and protection of trees in this location.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have had regard to the guidance from the Charity Commissioners on public benefit

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	The grants that the CIO can make are necessarily dependent on the amount of donations received. The aim is for all donation income ultimately to be given as grants, apart from a minimal amount for expenses and a small working balance. (but bearing in mind that it will generally be safer to retain funds in the UK, until they are actually needed). An organisation seeking a grant must submit a costed proposal for a project in Malawi (and at least for the period covered by this report it must also be in the Zomba Plateau region). The organisation must hold a bank account in

		<p>its name.</p> <p>Eligibility for a grant is then assessed against the following criteria: The proposal must be for community based tree planting and protection initiatives that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilise communities to tackle deforestation • Improve nutrition, food security, incomes and local livelihoods • Support communities' rights to manage natural resources in a sustainable way • Mitigate the negative impacts of climate change • Preserve and promote indigenous knowledge of natural resource management <p>The aim is to support organisations that are based within or close to their community, and which represent the interests of the local community, including women and vulnerable groups; and to help such community-based organisations build their capacity.</p>
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The charity has no paid employees. All its activities are carried out by volunteers
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	<p>Para 1.20</p>	<p><u>Some Background</u></p> <p>The Charity was formed as a result of the Trustees' awareness of efforts being made in Malawi to reverse the degradation being suffered to the once well forested highland area of the Zomba Plateau. These efforts were at first undertaken by individuals, in particular the proprietors of Zomba Forest Lodge. Then in 2016 a not for profit company was formed to facilitate the work. This was named Zomba TREEZ Ltd (using an acronym that stands for "The Reforestation of the Environment and Ecosystem of Zomba"). The Charity was formed to help raise funds outside of Malawi to help with the work being done by Zomba TREEZ and potentially other similar projects in Malawi.</p> <p><u>Why reforestation is needed in Malawi</u></p> <p>Malawi has one of the highest rates of fuelwood use in the world, with 97% of the population dependent on firewood or charcoal for home use. Fast population growth and increased pressure on fuelwood and charcoal have led to the depletion of Malawi's forest resources. In the last few decades, Malawi has lost over half of her forests.</p> <p>The loss of forests brings with it multiple issues. Some of the most pressing ones include the loss of potential forest-based income (fuelwood, timber, honey, wild foods); changes in microclimate, leading possibly to less precipitation in areas with high deforestation; threats to local water resources and overall land degradation due to disturbances like fires and soil erosion. Loss of tree cover also leads to much greater risk to life from flooding. This was tragically illustrated by the devastation caused by Cyclone Freddy in 2023.</p> <p>Poverty is both cause and effect in this scenario; Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world in terms of per capita income, and the loss of forest resources is likely to disproportionately affect communities in and around forested areas that might already inhabit marginal lands</p> <p><u>Making a start in Zomba</u></p> <p>It is against the above backdrop that the current efforts are being made to protect and enhance the forest resources of the Zomba Forest Reserve.</p> <p>Zomba Forest Reserve encompasses Zomba Plateau, a massif rising to 2000m in southern Malawi. The plateau is the <i>only</i> source of water for the city of Zomba, the former colonial capital and now Malawi's fourth largest city with a population of around 100,000. The plateau</p>

		<p>further gives rise to multiple streams and small rivers that are used for drinking water and irrigation by local communities all around the plateau. Zomba, and the country's second largest city Blantyre (which is only an hour away), have placed rising pressure on Zomba Plateau's forest resources; research has noted that urban areas depend heavily on charcoal (not locally collected firewood), meaning that the rising population of Zomba and Blantyre will continue using more and more charcoal, sourced one way or another from local timber resources. Zomba Plateau has lost vast amounts of its natural forest in the recent past. The existing forests have also been ravaged by human-induced wildfires. This has led to a vicious cycle of forest depletion, leading to loss of livelihoods, which in turns pressures communities to extract even more resources from the forest</p>
--	--	---

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

<p>Achievements against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	<p>In the year the Charity received donations of £7,617, and a grant of £12,000 from the Belvedere Trust. From Malawi, Zomba TREEZ made two funding requests in the period: the first for £5000, the second for £8000. Both related to the on-going project under which community groups have been set up and allocated areas in need of reforestation. There are now 14 such groups. Reforestation is being sought through both new planting and rewilding. Zomba TREEZ pay an annual sum to the groups based on the number of trees, whether newly planted, previously present or naturally regenerated, which are still surviving in their respective areas. This approach is designed to encourage continuing maintenance of the regrowing forest as well as new planting. The two requests were granted making a total of £13,000 given in the year to aid this key project.</p>
--	------------------	---

		<p>In September Zomba TREEZ held their annual Run4Reforestation on the Plateau. As in previous years the Charity saw an increase in donations around that time, some of this coming from sponsorship of “virtual runs” elsewhere. As well as being a fundraiser, the event itself is important locally in Malawi to raise awareness of conservation, and show what is being done.</p> <p>Towards the end of the dry season Malawi had hot and windy weather. This increased the danger of fire; and several fires did break out on the plateau. As in previous years Zomba TREEZ had organised local groups earlier in the year to clear fire breaks, which helped with containment. Nevertheless, bringing the fires under control was far from easy. Without any professional fire service or special equipment, it was down to Zomba TREEZ and their sponsored community groups to fight the fires in difficult terrain, often at night and with no more than a pickup truck to carry water to anywhere near where it is needed. Their efforts however were largely successful in limiting damage and protecting areas where conservation efforts had been concentrated.</p> <p>.</p>
<p>Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	
<p>Investment performance against objectives</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	

Other		
-------	--	--

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The Charities Income for the year was £19,653
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Funds are retained for the purpose of making future grants as needed
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£19,845 at the year end
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Donations Grants An annual fund- raising event- the Run4Reforestation
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	A written Constitution adopted in August 2019
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	As a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	The Constitution named the first trustees. It further provides that the CIO shall have a board of trustees comprising at least 3 persons; and that the Board may recruit new trustees. In selecting these the Board must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	As described elsewhere in this report the Charity is achieving its charitable objectives by providing funding to Zomba TREEZ Ltd in Malawi. That organisation was the Charity's inspiration and so far has been the Charity's only direct beneficiary.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Two of the trustees are related to Thomas Inch who is a director of Zomba TREEZ Ltd (and also the proprietor of Zomba Forest Lodge). James Inch is Thomas's father and Laura Coyle is his cousin. The other trustees, Selena Gleadow-Ware and Colin Doney, are not related, but were acquainted with Thomas Inch during the respective times they lived in Malawi. The trustees are aware of the need to treat Zomba TREEZ Ltd as they would any other beneficiary and expect them to submit written, costed applications in accordance with the Charity's grant making policy before making any funding available to them.
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Treez CIO
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1185908
Charity's principal address	2 Underwood Cottages, The Coombe, Streetly-on Thames, RG8 9RA

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	Mrs Laura Coyle			
2	Dr Selena Gleadow-Ware			
3	Mr James Inch			
4	Mr Colin Doney			
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

--

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

--

Other optional information

--

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	James Davidson Inch	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Trustee	
Date	January 2026	

Treez CIO (Charity number 1185908) (incorporation date 21/10/2019)

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS for period from 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025

Opening Balance £13,974.01

Income

Donations	£7,617.34	
Grants received	£12,000.00	
Bank interest	<u>£36.37</u>	
	£19,653.61	<u>£19,653.61</u>
		£33,627.62

Expenditure

Fundraising expenses-	
Just Giving subscription	£126.00
Enthuse subscription	£545.88
Bank charges	£110.00

Grants

Zomba Treez	<u>£13,000.00</u>	
	£13,781.88	<u>£13,781.88</u>

Surplus £19,845.74

Balance Sheet

	<u>at 31 /12/24</u>	<u>at 31/12/25</u>
-		
Assets		
Cash at Bank	£13,974.01	£19,845.74
Retained surplus	£13,974.01	£19,845.74

TREEZ

England & Wales - Charity number 1185908

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024

Charity name: Treez CIO

Charity registration number: 1185908

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The advancement of environmental protection and improvement for the public benefit in Malawi by providing funding for locally managed reforestation projects.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The charity's activities are confined to raising funds and making grants to assist projects carried out by others in Malawi. During the period of this report the projects being supported in this way are those of Zomba TREEZ Ltd, a not for profit company formed in Malawi in an effort to protect and restore the once well forested area of the Zomba Plateau. Work for which grants have been given include new tree planting (and its subsequent maintenance), fire prevention and fire-fighting.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have had regard to the guidance from the Charity Commissioners on public benefit

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	The grants that the CIO can make are necessarily dependent on the amount of donations received. The aim is for all donation income ultimately to be given as grants, apart from a minimal amount for expenses and a small working balance. (However in 2023 Malawi experienced a massive currency devaluation, which has shown that it will generally be safer to retain funds in the UK, until they are actually needed). An organisation seeking a grant must submit a costed proposal for a project in Malawi (and at least for the period

		<p>covered by this report it must also be in the Zomba Plateau region). The organisation must hold a bank account in its name.</p> <p>Eligibility for a grant is then assessed against the following criteria: The proposal must be for community based tree planting and protection initiatives that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilise communities to tackle deforestation • Improve nutrition, food security, incomes and local livelihoods • Support communities' rights to manage natural resources in a sustainable way • Mitigate the negative impacts of climate change • Preserve and promote indigenous knowledge of natural resource management <p>The aim is to support organisations that are based within or close to their community, and which represent the interests of the local community, including women and vulnerable groups; and to help such community-based organisations build their capacity.</p>
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The charity has no paid employees. All its activities are carried out by volunteers
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
--	----------------	--

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.

Para 1.20

Some Background

The Charity was formed as a result of the Trustees' awareness of efforts being made in Malawi to reverse the degradation being suffered to the once well forested highland area of the Zomba Plateau. These efforts were at first undertaken by individuals, in particular the proprietors of Zomba Forest Lodge. Then in 2016 a not for profit company was formed to facilitate the work. This was named Zomba TREEZ Ltd (using an acronym that stands for "The Reforestation of the Environment and Ecosystem of Zomba"). The Charity was formed to help raise funds outside of Malawi to help with the work being done by Zomba TREEZ and potentially other similar projects in Malawi.

Why reforestation is needed in Malawi

Malawi has one of the highest rates of fuelwood use in the world, with 97% of the population dependent on firewood or charcoal for home use. Fast population growth and increased pressure on fuelwood and charcoal have led to the depletion of Malawi's forest resources. In the last few decades, Malawi has lost over half of her forests.

The loss of forests brings with it multiple issues. Some of the most pressing ones include the loss of potential forest-based income (fuelwood, timber, honey, wild foods); changes in microclimate, leading possibly to less precipitation in areas with high deforestation; threats to local water resources and overall land degradation due to disturbances like fires and soil erosion. Loss of tree cover also leads to much greater risk to life from flooding. This was tragically illustrated by the devastation caused by Cyclone Freddy in 2023.

Poverty is both cause and effect in this scenario; Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world in terms of per capita income, and the loss of forest resources is likely to disproportionately affect communities in and around forested areas that might already inhabit marginal lands

Making a start in Zomba

It is against the above backdrop that the current efforts are being made to protect and enhance the forest resources of the Zomba Forest Reserve.

Zomba Forest Reserve encompasses Zomba Plateau, a massif rising to 2000m in southern Malawi. The plateau is the *only* source of water for the city of Zomba, the former colonial capital and now Malawi's fourth largest city with a population of around 100,000. The plateau further gives rise to multiple streams and small rivers that are used for drinking water and

		<p>irrigation by local communities all around the plateau. Zomba, and the country's second largest city Blantyre (which is only an hour away), have placed rising pressure on Zomba Plateau's forest resources; research has noted that urban areas depend heavily on charcoal (not locally collected firewood), meaning that the rising population of Zomba and Blantyre will continue using more and more charcoal. Zomba Plateau has lost vast amounts of its natural forest in the recent past. The existing forests have been ravaged by human-induced wildfires that are often set to get easier access to stands of trees deeper in the forest and to catch wildlife fleeing the fires. This has led to a vicious cycle of forest depletion, leading to loss of livelihoods, which in turns pressures communities to extract even more resources from the forest</p>
--	--	---

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

<p>Achievements against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	<p>In the year the Charity raised donations of £9,9871.81; and, apart from a minimal amount of bank interest, that was their only income. This was a considerable contrast to the previous year when the Charity's income exceeded £55,000. That, however, was an exceptional year, partly because of generous grants received, and partly because of a much-appreciated boost in donations following Cyclone Freddy. Despite the more modest income in 2024, the Charity were able to meet all Zomba TREEZ requests for funding in the year (though relying in part on the surplus from earlier years). The first such request was for just under £5000 to meet the cost of a supply of 2500 bamboo seedlings. These were of a fast-growing species suitable for providing a long-term source of firewood. The plants were then distributed to 500 households in the local communities, with the aim of relieving pressure on the forests for firewood and charcoal. The second request for was for £8000 to cover</p>
--	------------------	---

	<p>the cost of survival payments for 40,000 trees. This relates very much to the strategy that Zomba TREEZ have adopted, involving numerous community groups. Each group is allotted a zone and encouraged to establish and maintain it as forest. This they can do not only by new planting (using seedlings from local nurseries), but also by protecting established trees and self-sown saplings. Towards the end of the year the total number of living trees is counted in each area and the groups are paid a sum for each tree. This provides an incentive for the groups not only to plant trees, but to maintain and protect them.</p> <p>Another charity working with Zomba TREEZ is Sustainable Global Gardens (SGG), whose remit overlaps with ours in the areas of agro-forestry and forest gardens. In the previous two years SGG provided funding for tree planting in Zomba by giving grants to us, which were passed on to Zomba TREEZ. In 2024, however, they funded their work in Zomba more directly. Also in 2024 we pledged support in the sum of £4000 towards a 4 year project of SGG (backed by Rotary) for the reforestation and regeneration of the Zomba area through the planting 250,000 trees.</p> <p>Zomba TREEZ held their annual Run4Reforestation on the plateau again in September. Although this was not as successful a fund-raiser as in the last few years, nevertheless the run (together with offshoot “virtual runs” elsewhere) resulted in an increase in donations to the Charity around that time.</p> <p>2024 has been a difficult year in</p>
--	--

		<p>Malawi, with the country suffering high inflation and fuel shortages. In addition, a poor rainy season at the beginning of the year led to many crop failures for subsistence farmers. As the year went on temperatures were unusually high. This made forested areas particularly vulnerable to fire. As usual Zomba TREEZ sponsored local community groups (particularly football and netball teams) to clear fire breaks etc. Nevertheless, the area did suffer several worrying fires. A wonderful response from the community groups helped to keep the fires contained and the damage limited. But at times it was a close thing. Finally in December Malawi was hit by Cyclone Chido. 13 people were killed across the country. In the Zomba area high winds brought down a number of trees and caused disruption, but the effects were short lived and reforestation efforts were not seriously affected.</p>
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The Charity's income for the year was £9,903, which was a considerable reduction from the previous year's figure of £55,674. However, expenditure was also very considerably down, at £13, 978 against last year's £53,526. At the end of the year the Charity had a closing cash balance of £13,974, down from £17,868 at the start of the year
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Funds are retained for the purpose of making future grants as needed
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£13,974 at the year end
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Donations Grants An annual fund- raising event- the Run4Reforestation
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	A written Constitution adopted in August 2019
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	As a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	The Constitution named the first trustees. It further provides that the CIO shall have a board of trustees comprising at least 3 persons; and that the Board may recruit new trustees. In selecting these the Board must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	As described elsewhere in this report the Charity is achieving its charitable objectives by providing funding to Zomba TREEZ Ltd in Malawi. That organisation was the Charity's inspiration and so far has been the Charity's only direct beneficiary.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Two of the trustees are related to Thomas Inch who is a director of Zomba TREEZ Ltd (and also the proprietor of Zomba Forest Lodge). James Inch is Thomas's father and Laura Coyle is his cousin. The other trustees, Selena Gleadow-Ware and Colin Doney, are not related, but were acquainted with Thomas Inch during the respective times they lived in Malawi. The trustees are aware of the need to treat Zomba TREEZ Ltd as they would any other beneficiary and expect them to submit written, costed applications in accordance with the Charity's grant making policy before making any funding available to them.
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Treez CIO
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1185908
Charity's principal address	2 Underwood Cottages, The Coombe, Streetly-on Thames, RG8 9RA

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	Mrs Laura Coyle			
2	Dr Selena Gleadow-Ware			
3	Mr James Inch			
4	Mr Colin Doney		From 17/02/24 to 31/12/2024	
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

--

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

--

Other optional information

--

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	James Davidson Inch	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Trustee	
Date	28 th January 2025	

Treez CIO (Charity number 1185908) (incorporation date 21/10/2019)

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS for period from 01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024

Opening Balance £17,868.69

Income

Donations	£9,871.81	
Grants received	-	
Bank interest	<u>£31.90</u>	
	£9,903.71	<u>£9,903.71</u>
		£27,772.40

Expenditure

Fundraising expenses-	
Just Giving subscription	£446.40
Enthuse subscription	£251.94
Bank charges	£116.00

Grants

Zomba Treez	<u>£12,984.05</u>	
	£13,798.39	<u>£13,798.39</u>

Surplus £13,974.01

Balance Sheet

	<u>at 31 /12/23</u>	<u>at 31/12/24</u>
-		
Assets		
Cash at Bank	£17,868.69	£13,974.01
Retained surplus	£17,868.69	£13,974.01

TREEZ

England & Wales - Charity number 1185908

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023

Charity name: Treez CIO

Charity registration number: 1185908

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The advancement of environmental protection and improvement for the public benefit in Malawi by providing funding for locally managed reforestation projects.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The charity's activities are confined to raising funds and making grants to assist projects carried out by others in Malawi. During the period of this report the projects being supported in this way are those of Zomba TREEZ Ltd, a not for profit company formed in Malawi in an effort to protect and restore the once well forested area of the Zomba Plateau. Work for which grants have been given include new tree planting (and its subsequent maintenance), fire prevention and fire fighting.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have had regard to the guidance from the Charity Commissioners on public benefit

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	The grants that the CIO can make are necessarily dependent on the amount of donations received. The aim is for all donation income ultimately to be given as grants, apart from a minimal amount for expenses and a small working balance. (However in 2023 Malawi experienced a massive currency devaluation, which has shown that it will generally be safer to retain funds in the UK, until they are actually needed). An organisation seeking a grant must submit a costed proposal for a project in

		<p>Malawi (and at least for the period covered by this report it must also be in the Zomba Plateau region). The organisation must hold a bank account in its name.</p> <p>Eligibility for a grant is then assessed against the following criteria: The proposal must be for community based tree planting and protection initiatives that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilise communities to tackle deforestation • Improve nutrition, food security, incomes and local livelihoods • Support communities' rights to manage natural resources in a sustainable way • Mitigate the negative impacts of climate change • Preserve and promote indigenous knowledge of natural resource management <p>The aim is to support organisations that are based within or close to their community, and which represent the interests of the local community, including women and vulnerable groups; and to help such community-based organisations build their capacity.</p>
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The charity has no paid employees. All its activities are carried out by volunteers
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
		<p>Some Background The Charity was formed as a result of the Trustees' awareness of</p>

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.

Para 1.20

efforts being made in Malawi to reverse the degradation being suffered to the once well forested highland area of the Zomba Plateau. These efforts were at first undertaken by individuals, in particular the proprietors of Zomba Forest Lodge. Then in 2016 a not for profit company was formed to facilitate the work. This was named Zomba TREEZ Ltd (using an acronym that stands for "The Reforestation of the Environment and Ecosystem of Zomba"). The Charity was formed to help raise funds outside of Malawi to help with the work being done by Zomba TREEZ and potentially other similar projects in Malawi.

Why reforestation is needed in Malawi

Malawi has one of the highest rates of fuelwood use in the world, with 97% of the population dependent on firewood or charcoal for home use. Fast population growth and increased pressure on fuelwood and charcoal have led to the depletion of Malawi's forest resources. In the last few decades, Malawi has lost over half of her forests.

The loss of forests brings with it multiple issues. Some of the most pressing ones include the loss of potential forest-based income (fuelwood, timber, honey, wild foods); changes in microclimate, leading possibly to less precipitation in areas with high deforestation; threats to local water resources and overall land degradation due to disturbances like fires and soil erosion. Loss of tree cover also leads to much greater risk to life from flooding. This was tragically illustrated in 2023 by the devastation caused by Cyclone Freddy.

Poverty is both cause and effect in this scenario; Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world in terms of per capita income, and the loss of forest resources is likely to disproportionately affect communities in and around forested areas that might already inhabit marginal lands

Making a start in Zomba

It is against the above backdrop that the current efforts are being made to protect and enhance the forest

		<p>resources of the Zomba Forest Reserve.</p> <p>Zomba Forest Reserve encompasses Zomba Plateau, a massif rising to 2000m in southern Malawi. The plateau is the <i>only</i> source of water for the city of Zomba, the former colonial capital and now Malawi's fourth largest city with a population of around 100,000. The plateau further gives rise to multiple streams and small rivers that are used for drinking water and irrigation by local communities all around the plateau. Zomba, and the country's second largest city Blantyre (which is only an hour away), have placed rising pressure on Zomba Plateau's forest resources; research has noted that urban areas depend heavily on charcoal (not locally collected firewood), meaning that the rising population of Zomba and Blantyre will continue using more and more charcoal. Zomba Plateau has lost vast amounts of its natural forest in the recent past. The existing forests have been ravaged by human-induced wildfires that are often set to get easier access to stands of trees deeper in the forest and to catch wildlife fleeing the fires. This has led to a vicious cycle of forest depletion, leading to loss of livelihoods, which in turns pressures communities to extract even more resources from the forest</p>
--	--	---

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

<p>Achievements against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	<p>In the year the Charity raised donations of £30,375 and received grants of £25,250. Using these funds; it gave £53,000 in grants to Zomba TREEZ. These figures are all a considerable increase on previous years. In March southern Malawi was struck by Cyclone Freddy, which wreaked terrible destruction across the region. This event dominated the activity of Zomba TREEZ for some time. They fed and clothed 296 households and were the only people to get to the remote Kasonga community in the Domasi Valley, where the road had been washed away. The support they gave earned much local goodwill and ensured that the communities were able to resume reforestation work at the earliest opportunity. The cyclone brought home the benefits of reforestation. The planting and protection of trees in this area meant it escaped the lethal</p>
--	------------------	--

		<p>mudslides that occurred on the denuded mountains round Blantyre and on the Mulanje Massif.</p> <p>Another effect of the cyclone was that the Charity noticed a considerable boost in donations in the weeks following it.</p> <p>Apart from the disruption caused by the cyclone, work continued in the ways detailed in the previous years' reports. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The creation and maintenance of Water Catchment Corridors; Working through Community Groups - each allotted a zone to plant and maintain (3 new groups set up in the year); The establishment of Community Resource Planting- within communities using quick growing trees for firewood, building materials etc, and establishing fruit orchards; Micro-financing seedling nurseries; Sponsoring the local Tour Guides association; Sponsoring local football and netball teams, in return for fire prevention work and fire-fighting, when necessary (for a second year running this proved very successful, with only one small fire occurring, which prompted an impressive community response to put it out). <p>Zomba TREEZ also held another Run4Reforestation in September, which was very successful, despite their not getting a sponsor. Virtual runs also took place outside Malawi and a large amount of the donations received by the Charity came in response to the runs.</p> <p>In the year the Charity received generous donations from two other charities. The Belvedere Trust gave £19,450 and Sustainable Global Gardens (SGG) gave a total of £5800. The Charity are most grateful for those grants. In the case of SGG they also welcome the fact that SGG are working in Malawi with Zomba TREEZ.</p>
<p>Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	
<p>Investment performance against objectives</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	
<p>Other</p>		

--	--	--

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	2023 saw the Charity's income increase considerably. At the end of the year the Charity had a closing cash balance of £17,868
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Funds are retained for the purpose of making future grants as needed
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£17,868 at the year end
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Donations Grants An annual fund- raising event- the Run4Reforestation
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	A written Constitution adopted in August 2019
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	As a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	The Constitution names the first trustees (who throughout the year remained the only trustees, with one retiring close to the end of the year). It further provides that the CIO shall have a board of trustees comprising at least 3 persons; and that the Board may recruit new trustees. In selecting these the Board must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	As described elsewhere in this report the Charity is achieving its charitable objectives by providing funding to Zomba TREEZ Ltd in Malawi. That organisation was the Charity's inspiration and so far has been the Charity's only direct beneficiary.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Three of the trustees are related to Thomas Inch who is a director of Zomba TREEZ Ltd (and also the proprietor of Zomba Forest Lodge). James Inch is Thomas's father and Laura Coyle is his cousin. Ray Coyle is Laura's husband. The fourth trustee, Selena Gleadow-Ware, is not related, but she has been a guest at Zomba Forest Lodge several times. Ray Coyle resigned as a trustee in December 2023. (In February 2024 a new trustee was appointed, who is not related) The trustees are aware of the need to treat Zomba TREEZ Ltd as they would any other beneficiary and have required them to submit written, costed applications in accordance with the Charity's grant making policy before making any funding available to them.

Other		
-------	--	--

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Treez CIO
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1185908
Charity's principal address	2 Underwood Cottages, The Coombe, Streetly-on Thames, RG8 9RA

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	Mr Raymond Coyle		1 st January to 14 th December 2023	
2	Mrs Laura Coyle			
3	Dr Selena Gleadow-Ware			
4	Mr James Inch			
5	Mr Colin Doney		Appointed 17/02/24	
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

--

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

--

Other optional information

--

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

--	--

Full name(s)

James Davidson Inch

James Davidson Inch	
---------------------	--

Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)

Trustee

Trustee	
---------	--

Date

14th march 2024

14 th march 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

Report to the Trustees/members of Treez CIO

On accounts for the period from 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023

Charity Number: 1185908

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/23

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 the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the Act.

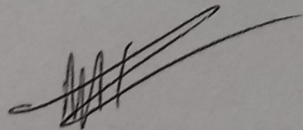
Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matter have come to my attention other than that disclosed below) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- The accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed



Mr N A Thomas
Jervis & Partners Chartered Accountants
Cranford Terrace
30 Harborough Road
Kingsthorpe
Northampton
NN2 7AZ

TREEZ

England & Wales - Charity number 1185908

Accounts

Treez CIO (Charity number 1185908) (incorporation date 21/10/2019)

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS for period from 01/01/2022 to 31/12/2022

Opening Balance		£11,493.89
<u>Income</u>		
Donations	£ 7,038.75	
Grants received	£ 3500.00	
Bank interest	<u>£ 9.79</u>	
	£10,548.54	<u>£10,548.54</u>
		£22,042.43

Expenditure

Fundraising expenses-

Just Giving subscription £ 216.00

Bank charges £ 106.00

Grants

Zomba Treez £6,000.00
£6,322.00

£ 6,322.00

Surplus £15,720.43

Balance Sheet

	<u>at 31 /12/21</u>	<u>at 31/12/22</u>
-		
Assets		
Cash at Bank	£11,493.89	£15,720.43
Retained surplus	£11,493.89	£15,720.43



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2023

Charity name: Treez CIO

Charity registration number: 1185908

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The advancement of environmental protection and improvement for the public benefit in Malawi by providing funding for locally managed reforestation projects.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The charity's activities are confined to raising funds and making grants to assist projects carried out by others in Malawi. During the period of this report the projects being supported in this way are those of Zomba TREEZ Ltd, a not for profit company recently formed in Malawi in an effort to protect and restore the once well forested area of the Zomba Plateau. Work for which grants have been given include new tree planting (and its subsequent maintenance), fire prevention and fire fighting.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have had regard to the guidance from the Charity Commissioners on public benefit

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	The grants that the CIO can make are necessarily dependent on the amount of donations received. The aim is for all donation income ultimately to be given as grants, apart from a minimal amount for expenses and a small working balance. An organisation seeking a grant must submit a costed proposal for a project in Malawi (and at least for the period covered by this report it must also be in the Zomba Plateau region). The organisation must hold a bank account in its name.

		<p>Eligibility for a grant is then assessed against the following criteria: The proposal must be for community based tree planting initiatives that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilise communities to tackle deforestation • Improve nutrition, food security, incomes and local livelihoods • Support communities' rights to manage natural resources in a sustainable way • Mitigate the negative impacts of climate change • Preserve and promote indigenous knowledge of natural resource management <p>The aim is to support organisations that are based within or close to their community, and which represent the interests of the local community, including women and vulnerable groups; and to help such community-based organisations build their capacity.</p>
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The charity has no paid employees. All its activities are carried out by volunteers
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider	Para 1.20	<p><u>Some Background</u></p> <p>The Charity was formed as a result of the Trustees' awareness of efforts being made in Malawi to reverse the degradation being suffered to the once well forested highland area of the Zomba Plateau. These efforts were at first undertaken by individuals, in</p>

benefits to society as a whole.

particular the proprietors of Zomba Forest Lodge. Then in 2016 a not for profit company was formed to facilitate the work. This was named Zomba TREEZ Ltd (using an acronym that stands for “The Reforestation of the Environment and Ecosystem of Zomba”). The Charity was formed to help raise funds outside of Malawi to help with the work being done by Zomba TREEZ and potentially other similar projects in Malawi.

Why reforestation is needed in Malawi

Malawi has one of the highest rates of fuelwood use in the world, with 97% of the population dependent on firewood or charcoal for home use. Fast population and increased pressure on fuelwood and charcoal demand, leading to the depletion of Malawi’s forest resources. In the last few decades, Malawi has lost over half of her forests.

The loss of forests brings with it multiple issues. Some of the most pressing ones include the loss of potential forest-based income (fuelwood, timber, honey, wild foods); changes in microclimate, leading possibly to less precipitation in areas with high deforestation; threats to local water resources and overall land degradation due to disturbances like fires and soil erosion.

Poverty is both cause and effect in this scenario; Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world in terms of per capita income, and the loss of forest resources is likely to disproportionately affect communities in and around forested areas that might already inhabit marginal lands

Making a start in Zomba

It is against the above backdrop that the current efforts are being made to protect and enhance the forest resources of the Zomba Forest Reserve.

Zomba Forest Reserve encompasses Zomba Plateau, a massif rising to 2000m in southern Malawi. The plateau is the *only* source of water for the city of Zomba, the former colonial capital and now Malawi’s fourth largest city with a population of around 100,000.

		<p>The plateau further gives rise to multiple streams and small rivers that are used for drinking water and irrigation by local communities all around the plateau. Zomba, and the country's second largest city Blantyre (which is only an hour away), have placed rising pressure on Zomba Plateau's forest resources; research has noted that urban areas depend heavily on charcoal (not locally collected firewood), meaning that the rising population of Zomba and Blantyre will continue using more and more charcoal. Zomba Plateau has lost vast amounts of its natural forest in the recent past. The existing forests have been ravaged by human-induced wildfires that are often set to get easier access to stands of trees deeper in the forest and to catch wildlife fleeing the fires. This has led to a vicious cycle of forest depletion, leading to loss of livelihoods, which in turns pressures communities to extract even more resources from the forest</p>
--	--	--

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

<p>Achievements against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	<p>In the year the Charity has raised donations of £7,038.75 and received a grant of £3,500. Using these funds; it has given £6,000 in grants to Zomba TREEZ. They have reported that with the help of this aid they have achieved the following: Water catchment areas- This, their first and most urgent project, was to create Water Catchment Conservation Corridors to protect vital water sources by restoring mainly indigenous tree cover. Work on this has progressed well, through engaging with groups recruited from local communities. Each community group has been allotted a zone to manage and they are then paid on the basis of the number of trees and seedlings that are surviving in their zone at the end of a year. This includes not only planted seedlings, but also naturally regenerating trees. Community resource planting – Zomba TREEZ have continued to support planting within the local village communities, both to help the communities thrive and to relief pressure on the Forest Reserve for firewood and illegal timber felling. This planting has included creating woodlots of quick growing pines, eucalyptus and bamboo in order to provide a legal source of timber for building etc and firewood; establishing fruit tree</p>
--	------------------	--

		<p>orchards to provide nutrition and generate income; and the planting of suitable trees around maize gardens to help nitrogen enrichment and reduce erosion (and over time be a further sustainable source of firewood).</p> <p>Seedling nurseries – Zomba TREEZ have continued to micro-finance the establishment of seedling nurseries within communities. They have also continued to sponsor the Zomba Tour Guides Association, in the creation of an indigenous tree seedling nursery on the top of the Plateau, using seeds gathered locally; and then raised in the correct conditions regarding altitude, climate and soil. The seedlings thus produced are being used to stock a particularly important Water Catchment Conservation Corridor along the Mulunguzi River (the main catchment for Zomba City). A further indigenous seedling nursery has recently been created, which serves as a visitor site and tourist attraction as well as furthering reforestation.</p> <p>Firefighting and prevention – Efforts in this high priority area have been very successful in 2022, with no serious fire damage occurring. At the forefront of these efforts have been 4 local village football teams, and their netball counterparts, who in return for sponsorship from Zomba TREEZ help in cutting and clearing firebreaks, patrolling during the dry season, and firefighting when necessary. The Tour Guides Association, as part of their sponsorship, also help with any firefighting (their knowledge and experience being much valued).</p> <p>Run4Reforestation – In September 2022 Zomba TREEZ were able again to organise this running event on the Zomba plateau. (They had been unable to do this in 2020 and 2021 because of covid, although virtual fund-raising runs and walks were done by individuals in various places round the world). The actual run this year was a big success both financially and in spreading the conservation message. And happily the virtual runs/walks took place as well. Indeed the majority of donations received by the UK Charity in the year arose from Run4Reforestation, one way or another.</p>
<p>Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	

Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Although income was considerably down on the previous year, the charity remained in a healthy financial position with a closing cash balance of £15,720
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Funds are retained for the purpose of making future grants as needed
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£15,720 at the year end
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Donations Grants An annual fund- raising event- the Run4Reforestation
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	A written Constitution adopted in August 2019
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	As a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	The Constitution names the first trustees (who throughout the year remained the only trustees). It further provides that the CIO shall have a board of trustees comprising at least 3 persons; and that the Board may recruit new trustees. In selecting these the Board must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	As described elsewhere in this report the Charity is achieving its charitable objectives by providing funding to Zomba TREEZ Ltd in Malawi. That organisation was the Charity's inspiration and so far has been the Charity's only direct beneficiary.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Three of the trustees are related to Thomas Inch who is a director of Zomba TREEZ Ltd (and also the proprietor of Zomba Forest Lodge). James Inch is Thomas's father and Laura Coyle is his cousin. Ray Coyle is Laura's husband. The fourth trustee, Selena Gleadow-Ware, is not related, but she has been a guest at Zomba Forest Lodge several times. The trustees are aware of the need to treat Zomba TREEZ Ltd as they would any other beneficiary and have required them to submit written, costed applications in accordance with the Charity's grant making policy before making any funding available to them.
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Treez CIO
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1185908
Charity's principal address	2 Underwood Cottages, The Coombe, Streetly-on Thames, RG8 9RA

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

--

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

--

Other optional information

--

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

--	--

Full name(s)

--	--

Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)

--	--

Date

--

TREEZ

England & Wales - Charity number 1185908

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 January 2021 Period start date To 31 December

Charity name: TREEZ

Charity registration number: 1185908

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>The advancement of environmental protection and improvement for the public benefit in Malawi by providing funding for locally managed reforestation projects.</p> <p>Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>The charity's activities are confined to raising funds and making grants to assist projects carried out by others in Malawi. During the period of this report the projects being supported in this way are those of Zomba TREEZ Ltd, a not for profit company recently formed in Malawi in an effort to protect and restore the once well forested area of the Zomba Plateau. Work for which grants have been given include new tree planting (and its subsequent maintenance), fire prevention and fire fighting.</p> <p>Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit</p>

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees of the Charity have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.
--	-----------	---

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	<p>The grants that the CIO can make are necessarily dependent on the amount of donations received. The aim is for all donation income to be given as grants, apart from a minimal amount for expenses and a very small working balance.</p> <p>An organisation seeking a grant must submit a costed proposal for a project in Malawi (and at least for the period covered by this report it must also be in the Zomba Plateau region). The organisation must hold a bank account in its name.</p> <p>Eligibility for a grant is then assessed against the following criteria: The proposal must be for community based tree planting initiatives that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilise communities to tackle deforestation • Improve nutrition, food security, incomes and local livelihoods • Support communities' rights to manage natural resources in a sustainable way • Mitigate the negative impacts of climate change • Preserve and promote indigenous knowledge of natural resource management

		The aim is to support organisations that are based within or close to their community, and which represent the interests of the local community, including women and vulnerable groups; and to help such community-based organisations build their capacity.
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The charity has no paid employees. All its activities are carried out by volunteers.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>Some Background</p> <p>The Charity was formed as a result of the Trustees' awareness of efforts being made in Malawi to reverse the degradation being suffered to the once well forested highland area of the Zomba Plateau. These efforts were at first undertaken by individuals, in particular the proprietors of Zomba Forest Lodge. Then in 2016 a not for profit company was formed to facilitate the work. This was named Zomba TREEZ Ltd (using an acronym that stands for "The Reforestation of the Environment and Ecosystem of Zomba"). The Charity was formed to help raise funds outside of Malawi to help with the work being done by Zomba TREEZ and potentially other similar projects in Malawi.</p> <p>Why reforestation is needed in Malawi</p> <p>Malawi has one of the highest rates of fuelwood use in the world, with 97% of the population dependent on firewood or charcoal for home use. Fast population</p>

growth and increased urbanization has increased pressure on fuelwood and charcoal demand, leading to the depletion of Malawi's forest resources. In the last few decades, Malawi has lost over half of her forests.

The loss of forests brings with it multiple issues. Some of the most pressing ones include the loss of potential forest-based income (fuelwood, timber, honey, wild foods); changes in microclimate, leading possibly to less precipitation in areas with high deforestation; threats to local water resources and overall land degradation due to disturbances like fires and soil erosion.

Poverty is both cause and effect in this scenario; Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world in terms of per capita income, and the loss of forest resources is likely to disproportionately affect communities in and around forested areas that might already inhabit marginal lands

Making a start in Zomba

It is against the above backdrop that the current efforts are being made to protect and enhance the forest resources of the Zomba Forest Reserve.

Zomba Forest Reserve encompasses Zomba Plateau, a massif rising to 2000m in southern Malawi. The plateau is the *only* source of water for the city of Zomba, the former colonial capital and now Malawi's fourth largest city with a population of around 100,000. The plateau further gives rise to multiple streams and small rivers that are used for drinking water and irrigation by local communities all around the plateau. Zomba, and the country's second largest city Blantyre (which is only

		<p>an hour away), have placed rising pressure on Zomba Plateau’s forest resources; research has noted that urban areas depend heavily on charcoal (not locally collected firewood), meaning that the rising population of Zomba and Blantyre will continue using more and more charcoal. Zomba Plateau has lost vast amounts of its natural forest in the recent past. The existing forests have been ravaged by human-induced wildfires that are often set to get easier access to stands of trees deeper in the forest and to catch wildlife fleeing the fires. This has led to a vicious cycle of forest depletion, leading to loss of livelihoods, which in turns pressures communities to extract even more resources from the forest.</p>
--	--	---

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

<p>Achievements against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	<p>The Charity has raised donations of £14,622 and received grants of £10,179 and awarded £21,562 in grants to Zomba TREEZ, who have reported that with this aid they have achieved the following:</p> <p>TREEZ is the conservation project managed by Zomba Forest Lodge. Its goals are the protection, rehabilitation and enhancement of the environment and ecosystem of Zomba Plateau Forest Reserve, working together with the local communities around the Plateau and the Department of Forestry.</p> <p>Tree planting and conservation</p> <p>TREEZ first project was water catchment areas on the south western outer slopes of Zomba Plateau. The aim was to create Water Catchment Conservation Corridors (WCCCs) within, and complementary with, areas of timber plantation. The idea was to develop a workable system of conservation within the Forest Reserve that would</p>
--	------------------	---

	<p>protect the vital water sources for the communities surrounding the Plateau.</p> <p>TREEZ recruited local groups within the communities to help. The species chosen were indigenous and/or fruit trees. Part of the plan was for the communities to see and realise that there were benefits for them in helping conservation. Everyone from the community would have a source of extra nutrition for themselves and their families, and also a potential source of income from the forest that came from protecting trees rather than cutting them. In future, once tree cover is mature enough to support it, we hope to encourage bee-keeping programmes; this again would be both a source of nutrition and income generation.</p> <p>Each sponsored community group is assigned a specific zone for them to manage. The groups are paid a survival rate each year, for each tree/seedling that has made it through the year. The aim is to give a sense of ownership and responsibility to each group as well as much needed income. Both seedlings <i>and</i> naturally regenerated trees are counted. TREEZ now sponsors 2 church choirs, 1 women's group, 1 local hip-hop band, and three self-formed Community conservation groups.</p> <p>Within the communities themselves TREEZ has introduced tree planting, in order to ease pressure on the Forest Reserve for firewood and illegal timber, and to improve livelihoods within communities. Planting is done in 3 different types:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Woodlots (away from water catchments and crops) of pines and eucalyptus, providing legal sources of timber.2. Fruit trees, which are provided to each household so villages can become their own fruit orchards giving both nutrition and income.3. Agroforestry trees, planted around maize gardens. Species are selected
--	---

that help nitrogen enrichment, soil erosion, and with good management (like coppicing) can provide a sustainable source of firewood.

TREEZ also micro-finances the creation and development of seedling nurseries within communities, engendering a sense of ownership and vested interest in conservation and acting as a source of income generation.

TREEZ sponsors the Zomba Tour Guide Association to create and maintain an indigenous tree seedling nursery on top of the Plateau. The seeds are collected from locally growing species and are raised in the correct soils and at the correct altitude and climate. A water catchment conservation area has been planted along the Mulunguzi River, helping to protect the water catchment for Zomba city. A new, additional indigenous seedling nursery has been constructed that will be a visitor site and tourist attraction, as well as a being an important addition to our reforestation efforts.

Firefighting and fire prevention

The main threat to any newly planted or existing trees is fire. One fire can destroy years' worth of growth and conservation.

TREEZ now sponsors 4 football teams and their netball counterparts from local communities around the Forest Reserve (Malakumu, Nankhunda, and Kasonga) These help with cutting fire breaks, firefighting, and patrolling during the dry season. They are a wonderful way of spreading environmental messages and sensitisation to villagers. During the rainy season they help with tree planting and maintenance of new and young trees. The amount of sponsorship that is given each year is linked to how many trees have been counted in the area they are responsible for.

The Zomba Tour Guide Association as part of their sponsorship help with any fires that might occur.

TREEZ provides tools and equipment to the football and netball teams, community groups, the Tour Guides, as well as the Forestry Department.

The reduction in fires in the area that is covered by the TREEZ community groups, means thousands of indigenous trees are naturally regenerating and slowly forests are being restored. In the past dry season fires in the areas TREEZ is working in have been almost eliminated to only 1 or 2 fires that have been contained and controlled.

Environmental Awareness

In 2018, TREEZ sponsored the first Environmental Awareness concert in the local community. Its aim was to spread environmental awareness messages to the local people who attended the concert. We bring a Malawian Popstar to the community, as well as local musicians, to perform the free concert.

This proved so popular that in 2019 TREEZ ensured school participation as well. 8 schools were requested to write an environmental awareness song that was performed on the day of the concert and judged by famous Malawian artists. Prizes of school equipment were awarded to the first three places. The winning school was sent a studio to record a track of their song. It was a huge success, one that TREEZ hopes to repeat on an annual basis.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions this programme is temporarily on hold. However, both the two church choirs and the local hip-hop band that TREEZ sponsors have written and recorded environmental awareness songs. These have been played and shared throughout the local area. TREEZ also paid for a "no bushfires" radio message to be recorded and played.

		<p>Environmental Education programme</p> <p>For conservation work to be successful, the communities involved need to understand the reasoning behind the ideas that TREEZ is trying to spread, so on the back of the success of the Environmental Awareness concert, TREEZ put together an environmental education programme to be taught in schools as an extracurricular activity. As an incentive for participation, TREEZ sponsored football and netball tournament between the schools, as well as a knowledge quiz. Sadly, this was temporarily put on hold due to the Covid-19 situation.</p> <p>Run4Reforestation</p> <p>Run4Reforestation is an attraction for residents and tourists alike.</p> <p>In 2018, Zomba Forest Lodge organized the first Run4Reforestation to raise funds for TREEZ and conservation around the Plateau. Over 300 runners came for the first event and nearly 400 for the year after. The success of the event not only helps fund TREEZ but also raises awareness about deforestation and environmental degradation.</p> <p>In 2019 a Sustainability Fair to coincide with the Run was introduced, this attracted stallholders from all over Malawi promoting sustainable development and products.</p> <p>The 2020 and 2021 Run4Reforestations were organised on a virtual basis due to the Covid-19 situation and both were a huge success with people participating all over the world and raising the funds towards annual TREEZ activities.</p>
<p>Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	

Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The charity has a cash balance of £11,493 at the end of the period.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The balance of £11,493 has been retained for a further grant2 in 2022.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£11,493
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Three principle sources of funding are:" Donations Grants An annual fundraising event – the Run4Reforestation
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	A written Constitution adopted in August 2019
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	As a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) whose only voting members are its trustees Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	The Constitution names the first trustees (who at present remain the only trustees). It further provides that the CIO shall have a board of trustees comprising at least 3 persons; and that the Board may recruit new trustees. In selecting these the Board must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	As described elsewhere in this report the Charity is achieving its charitable objectives by providing funding to Zomba TREEZ Ltd in Malawi. That organisation was the Charity's inspiration and so far has been the Charity's only direct beneficiary.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Three of the trustees are related to Thomas Inch who is a director of Zomba TREEZ Ltd (and also the proprietor of

		<p>Zomba Forest Lodge). James Inch is Thomas's father and Laura Coyle is his cousin. Ray Coyle is Laura's husband. The fourth trustee, Selena Gleadow-Ware, is not related, but she has been a guest at Zomba Forest Lodge several times.</p> <p>The trustees are aware of the need to treat Zomba TREEZ Ltd as they would any other beneficiary and have required them to submit written, costed applications in accordance with the Charity's grant making policy before making any funding available to them.</p>
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	TREEZ
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1185908
Charity's principal address	2 Underwood Cottages Streatley RG8 9RA

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
-----------------	------	---------

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

--

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

No executive personnel

Other optional information

--

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	<i>Ray Coyle</i>	
Full name(s)	Ray Coyle	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Trustee	
Date	13 May 2023	

Treez CIO

Annual Accounts

Incorporation date 21/10/2019

Income and Expenditure as at 31/12/2021

Income

opening balanceeq	£	9,317.35	
Donations	£	14,622.00	
Grants received	£	10,179.00	£ 34,118.35

Expenditure

Fundraising expenses	£	916.00	
Bank charges	£	146.00	£ 1,062.00

Grants

Zomba Treez	£	21,562.80	£ 21,562.80
-------------	---	-----------	-------------

Outgoings

£ 22,624.80

Surplus

£ 11,493.55

Treez Balance Sheet

	31/21/20		31/12/2021	
Assets				
Cash at Bank	£	9,317.35	£	11,493.89
Retained surplus	£	9,317.35	£	11,493.89