



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **01 April 2022** To **31 March 2023**

Charity name: **International Society for
Developmental Origins of Health and Disease | DOHaD**

Charity registration number: **1190519**

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To preserve and protect health and relieve sickness in particular but not exclusively.
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	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Promoting the coordination of a research strategy in different countries for the scientific exploration of early development in relation to chronic disease in later life2. Promoting the development and application of public health strategies to prevent chronic disease3. Supporting activities and professional development to achieve these objectives.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Trustees have all had regard to the guidance issued by the 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	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
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>This year, the Society has focused on activities aimed at meeting its objectives, with a particular emphasis on fostering growth and enhancing community interaction for the benefit of all our members:</p> <p>1) The International DOHaD Society has recently undergone governance changes, transitioning Regional Chapters and Affiliate Groups into independent Regional Societies. This shift aligns with the organisation's goal to coordinate global research and advocacy for ensuring a healthy start to life. The nine Regional Societies now receive targeted support for advocacy, education, and research tailored to their specific regions, contributing significantly to international research collaboration. With a focus on improving communication and engagement, each Regional Society centralises administrative processes, requiring members to affiliate with their local society during International Society membership renewal. This change, mandated for Charitable Status, ensures continued affiliation with the Regional Society and access to benefits from both organisations. An Associate Membership tier accommodates individuals wishing to maintain affiliation with their local society without requiring full International Society benefits. This strategic reorganisation reinforces the crucial role of Regional Societies in fostering research interests, promoting collaboration, and enhancing a sense of collegiality within the global DOHaD research community.</p> <p>2) As anticipated in the year following our World Congress, there has been a slight decrease in membership. However, with the successful completion of Regional Society transitions, we expect membership to resume growth. Currently, we have 985 active members spanning 51 different countries. We remain committed to offering reduced or free memberships for individuals in low to middle-income countries. Additionally, we are actively encouraging more Trainee/ECR and Undergraduate within the DOHaD field to join, recognising their crucial roles in shaping the future of our Society.</p> <p>3) The Council Subcommittees have been highly active across various fronts. In Advocacy, the group played a key role in webinars with the Society and FIGO, publishing impactful papers on the economic and social rationale for early-life investments post-COVID. Mark Hanson's representation in the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health (PMNCH) resulted in the launch of the influential report "Born Too Soon" in South Africa. The Society's influence extended to climate change initiatives, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) for Universal Health Coverage (UHC), and ongoing economic analyses supporting early life investments. In the UK Preconception Partnership, Developmental Origins of Health and Disease (DOHaD) concepts gained prominence.</p> <p>The Professional Development & Education subcommittee oversaw the selection of a new Brain Mobility Award winner and introduced additional short courses in collaboration with the previous Education and Communications subcommittee. Looking ahead, the subcommittee aims to introduce new courses, compelling webinar topics, and revitalised award initiatives.</p>

		<p>The Scientific Programme Support Sub-Committee analysed survey data from the latest World Congress in Vancouver, compiling a report shared with the Council and Vancouver organisers. With the 2025 World Congress in Buenos Aires, efforts are underway to support its organisation.</p> <p>In Sponsorship and Fundraising, the committee is now shifting focus to the Buenos Aires Congress in 2025, supporting activities like Brain Mobility and Travel Awards.</p> <p>The Trainee and Early Career Researcher Subcommittee fostered international communication, collaborating with Regional Society Representatives and initiating thematic virtual symposia.</p> <p>Lastly, the Workshop Subcommittee approved three workshops for 2023 and actively runs short courses, including the DOHaD Canada 2023 Meeting, the UK Preconception EMCR Network 2023 Conference, and the inaugural DOHaD ANZ Pacific Island (ANZPac) engagement workshop.</p> <p>4) The DOHaD Society's journal, JDOHaD, continues to thrive, boasting a 36% publication acceptance rate in 2022. Focused on early life development and its interplay with environmental and genetic factors, the journal covers developmental programming, neonatal biology, early life nutrition, human ecology, and gene-environment interactions. JDOHaD, a multidisciplinary platform, publishes original research, short communications, reviews, and themed issues, welcoming contributions from diverse scientific fields such as physiology, nutrition, genetics, anthropology, and public health. The journal serves as a hub for conference reports, opinions, comments, and interactions, emphasising its pivotal role in advancing scientific discourse.</p> <p>5) We were delighted to announce that the Latin American DOHaD Society had won the bid to host our prestigious DOHaD World Congress in 2025 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. This victory reflects their dedication and the potential of the Latin American DOHaD community. It's a significant milestone, showcasing the region's contributions to DOHaD. Additionally, we commend DOHaD Japan for an impressive bid and announce their hosting of the 2027 World Congress in Hamamatsu, Japan. These decisions mark exciting opportunities for knowledge exchange, networking, and scientific advancements.</p>
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
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 Society maintains a transparent financial record through independently audited receipts and payments accounts, approved by the governing Council. As of the end of the fiscal year 2022/23, the total balance stands at £36,297, reflecting the sound financial health of the organisation.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The Society's governing Council has approved a reserves policy, carefully crafted based on both known and potential liabilities of the Society. This policy serves as a strategic guide for managing reserves.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Currently set at £30,125.96
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Not applicable
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	There are no uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern.

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	
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	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g., unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Association Model)

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elections are held biennially, to elect one-third of the charity trustees, thus replacing each charity trustee every six years. If the number of charity trustees is not three or a multiple of three, then the number nearest to one-third shall retire from office but if there is only one charity trustee, he or she shall retire. 2. The charity trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment. If any trustees were last appointed or reappointed on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot. 3. Elections are held by an electronic mail process completed not later than the end of June in the relevant year. Charity trustees shall hold office from the conclusion of the next scientific meeting after the election. Serving charity trustees may be re-elected. If any charity trustee should retire mid-term, interim elections may be held. 4. The date of any election shall be notified by the Secretary in a call for nominations. The call for nominations shall precede the ballot by at least 28 days and ballot papers shall be circulated 14 days in advance if posts are contested. The names of those elected shall be circulated to members or announced at the AGM. 5. The charity trustees may in addition appoint not more than 2 co-opted charity trustees but so that no-one may be appointed as a co-opted member if, as a result, more than one third of the charity trustees would be co-opted. Each appointment of a co-opted member shall be made at a special meeting of the charity trustees called under clause 19(c) and shall take effect from the end of that meeting unless the appointment is to fill a place which has not been vacated in which case the appointment shall run from the date when the post becomes vacant. 6. The members of the CIO or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee, whether in place of a charity trustee who has retired or been removed in accordance with clause 15 (Retirement and removal of charity trustees), or as an additional charity trustee, provided that the limit specified in clause 12(3) on the number of charity trustees would not as a result be exceeded. 7. A person so appointed by the members of the CIO shall retire in accordance with the provisions of sub-clauses (2) and (3) of this clause. A person so appointed by the charity trustees shall retire at the conclusion of the next annual general meeting after the date of his or her appointment, and shall not be counted for the purpose of determining which of the charity trustees is to retire by rotation at that meeting.
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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	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	As Above
Other name the charity uses	N/A
Registered charity number	As Above
Charity's principal address	MRC LifeCourse Epidemiology Centre University of Southampton Southampton General Hospital Southampton SO16 6YD
Charity's postal address	DOHaD Society KCL Dept Women and Children's Health 10th Floor North Wing St Thomas' Hospital Westminster Bridge Road London SE1 7EH

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	Professor Lucilla Poston	President		
2	Professor Nuruddin Mohammed	Secretary		
3	Professor Torsten Plösch	Treasurer		
4	Professor Caroline Fall	Trustee		
5	Professor Mark Hanson	Trustee		
6	Professor Shane Norris	Trustee		

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved **N/A**

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity **N/A**

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	No assets are held by the Society 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	N/A

Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A
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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)

Professor Lucilla Poston (President)
Professor Nuruddin Mohammed (Secretary)
Professor Torsten Plösch (Treasurer)

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A



Other optional information

N/A

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)	Professor Nuruddin Mohammed	Professor Torsten Plösch
Position (e.g., Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	Treasurer
Date	22 nd November 2023	



Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/04/2022	To	31/03/2023
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Section A Receipts and payments



	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership subscriptions (standard, student & affiliate)	26,967	-	-	26,967	14,086
Returned OHSU workshop payment	-	-	-	-	-
DOHaD Journal income	8,429	-	-	8,429	12,925
Account banking adjustment	-	-	-	-	-
Sponsorships for DOHaD Congress 2022 travel awards	-	12,030	-	12,030	-
Donations	100	-	-	100	-
Interest received	126	-	-	126	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	35,622	12,030	-	47,652	27,011
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	35,622	12,030	-	47,652	27,011
A3 Payments					
Administration including teleconference charges, promotional materials & secretariat support	28,256	-	-	28,256	15,021
Congress Travel Awards	11,324	12,030	-	23,354	-
Brain mobility award	3,050	-	-	3,050	3,083
Web & journal promotion of Society objectives	9,170	-	-	9,170	8,716
DOHaD Congress 2022 expenditure	8,851	-	-	8,851	-
DOHaD Chapters Membership processing	5,655	-	-	5,655	1,419
Workshop support awards	1,500	-	-	1,500	-
Bank charges	1,571	-	-	1,571	-
Accounting fees	84	-	-	84	-
Insurance	920	-	-	920	-
Sundries	100	-	-	100	-
	-	-	-	-	1,024
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	70,481	12,030	-	82,511	29,261
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	70,481	12,030	-	82,511	29,261

<i>Net of receipts/(payments)</i>	- 34,859	-	-	- 34,859	- 2,250
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	71,156	-	-	71,156	73,406
<i>Cash funds this year end</i>	36,297	-	-	36,297	71,156

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	DOHaD Society general funds	36,297	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	36,297	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf
of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Professor Torsten Plösch	25/05/2023
	Professor Nuruddin Mohammed	25/05/2023

The International Society for Developmental Origins of Health Disease (DOHaD)
Independent Examiner's Report for the year ending 31st March 2023

Report to the Trustees of: DOHaD Charity No: 1190519

Accounts for the Year ended 31st March 2023.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act), and that an independent examination is needed

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- 1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act: and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination, have not been met; or
- 2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report

Signed  Date
Name Mrs J Crouch

17th August 2023

Relevant Professional Qualification or Body

Association of Accounting Technicians

Address

35 Pixham Lane
Dorking Surrey RH4 1PL