



Burundi Action

Trustees' Annual Report & Accounts

For the period 6 August 2024 to 31 March 2025



REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Burundi Action is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation which is governed by our Constitution.

Registered Charity number: 1209458

Trustees:

- Fabien Raymondau (Chair)
- Mitchell Payne
- Rev Gary Green
- Dorothy McLean
- Claude Chappe
- Andrea MacDonald

Registered office:

Green Oak,
Upper Battlefield,
Shrewsbury,
Shropshire,
SY4 4AA

Bankers: The Co-Operative Bank Plc

Burundi Action

Report of the Trustees

For the period 6 August 2024 to 31 March 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Burundi Action is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed by its Constitution dated 16 May 2024. The charity's objects are focused on the relief of poverty, advancement of education and training, and the relief of sickness and preservation of health in Burundi. The charity trustees are the only voting members of the CIO.

Trustee Appointment and Terms

Trustees are appointed by resolution of the existing trustees in accordance with the Constitution. Trustees serve on a fixed-term basis and may be reappointed. When appointing new trustees, the board considers the skills, knowledge and experience required for the effective administration of the charity.

Trustee Meetings and Decision Making

The trustees meet formally at least quarterly, with additional meetings or consultations held as circumstances require. Decisions may be taken at meetings or by written/electronic resolution, in line with the Constitution. Financial position, programme activities, safeguarding matters and risk are reviewed regularly as part of trustee oversight.

Financial Oversight and Controls

The charity holds its funds in a UK bank account where access is held by at least three trustees. Two authorised signatories are required for payments. The Chair maintains the charity's financial records and reports income and expenditure to the trustees.

Programme plans and budgets are agreed at trustee level in advance. Our expenditure in Burundi is generally small-scale and aligned with agreed priorities. Any significant changes or exceptional costs are communicated to the trustees.

Overseas Delivery and Monitoring

Charitable activities are delivered in Burundi through trusted local individuals with whom the charity has established working relationships. Oversight is maintained through regular communication, photographic and narrative reporting, and direct observation during periodic trustee visits to the country. Trustees use this combination of reporting, direct relationships and in-country visits to monitor how funds are applied and to assess needs and outcomes.

Due to local banking constraints, high transfer fees on small amounts, and practical limitations in the areas of operation, the charity has at times used Muhecash to move funds. Trustees are aware of the associated risks

and mitigate these through limiting transfer amounts, using trusted intermediaries with a track record of reliability, maintaining clear records of amounts sent, and requiring confirmation of receipt and use of funds.

Safeguarding and Welfare Oversight

The charity works with vulnerable children and families. Trustees review welfare situations and have not proceeded with activities where risk was considered too high.

The trustees are in the process of strengthening formal safeguarding procedures. Concerns may be raised through more than one channel, and trustees maintain oversight of child welfare through regular updates and communication with those providing day-to-day care.

Conflicts of Interest and Trustee Benefit

Trustees receive no remuneration and no trustee benefits personally from the charity. Trustees declare any conflicts of interest in line with the Constitution and withdraw from decisions where appropriate. The charity's funds are applied solely to further its charitable purposes.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CHARITY

Burundi Action is established for charitable purposes for the public benefit. The charity's objects, as set out in its Constitution, are:

1. The prevention or relief of poverty in Burundi by providing: grants, items and services to individuals in need and/or charities, or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.
2. The advancement of education and training for children and teachers in Burundi by the provision of but not limited to equipment, books and sponsorships.
3. The relief of sickness and the preservation of health among people residing permanently or temporarily in Burundi.

The charity pursues these purposes in Burundi by providing practical assistance and support to individuals and families experiencing hardship, with a particular focus on vulnerable children and those with limited access to essential services.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when planning and reviewing the charity's activities. The charity's work is directed toward the relief of poverty, the advancement of education, and the relief of sickness and preservation of health among vulnerable individuals and families in Burundi.

The trustees consider that these activities further the charity's objects and provide public benefit by supporting individuals and families experiencing poverty, poor health and limited access to education and essential services.

ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Context of the Charity's Work

Burundi Action operates in a context of significant economic hardship, limited access to healthcare and education, and reduced presence of international support in parts of Burundi. The charity focuses on providing practical, direct assistance to individuals and families experiencing poverty, poor health and vulnerability, particularly children.

Family and Community Support

During the reporting period, the charity continued to provide essential support to vulnerable families in Burundi. This included assistance with food, rent, basic living needs, access to healthcare and support with education costs.

Support was directed toward stabilising living conditions and improving access to essential services. Previous interventions, including improvements to housing conditions and access to safe water, continued to have a positive effect on beneficiary wellbeing during the year.

Support for Vulnerable Children

During the period, five children were admitted to support who were identified as being in poor health and experiencing significant welfare challenges. At the start of support, the children required medical attention and basic care. Over the course of the year:

- The children received medical treatment and recovered from serious illness
- They were provided with stable accommodation and daily care within a family-based setting
- All five children enrolled in school and are attending regularly
- Ongoing support for nutrition, health and education has been maintained

Trustees consider this to be a significant outcome of the year, demonstrating the impact of timely intervention combined with continued support.

Education and Health Support

The charity continued to assist with school-related costs and educational materials for children in supported households. Access to healthcare was provided when needed, including support for treatment and essential medicines. These interventions aimed to reduce the impact of poverty on health and education outcomes.

Economic Resilience Support

The charity also supported small-scale income-generating activity within the community by providing limited start-up assistance to help stabilise household income. This was intended to reduce dependency and improve longer-term resilience.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Overview

During the period from 6 August 2024 to 31 March 2025, the charity received total income of £21,494 and incurred total expenditure of £19,224, resulting in a surplus of £2,269 for the year. The surplus is retained to support continuing and future charitable activities.

The charity's income was derived primarily from individual donations and small-scale supporter fundraising. The charity did not receive government funding during the reporting period.

Expenditure during the period totalled £19,224. This included direct charitable support costs in Burundi (food and essentials, family support, rent, education and medical costs, and basic household items) as well as loan repayments totalling £6,878.79 relating to earlier charitable commitments. The loan was fully repaid during the reporting period. Trustees confirm that funds were applied in furtherance of the charity's objects and that costs were kept proportionate to the charity's size and activities.

Reserves Policy

The charity operates on a small scale and works in a context of immediate and unpredictable need. The trustees aim to hold a modest level of unrestricted reserves to provide continuity of support for vulnerable beneficiaries and to allow the charity to respond to urgent situations such as medical needs or sudden hardship.

At the end of the reporting period, the charity held free reserves of £2,269. Given the charity's limited income and the ongoing commitments to vulnerable families and children, this level of reserves is considered prudent but modest. The trustees will continue to monitor reserves in line with anticipated commitments and fundraising capacity.

Financial Management

Trustees apply a cautious approach to spending and seek to ensure that the majority of funds are applied directly to charitable purposes. Where funds are transferred overseas, trustees maintain oversight through financial reporting, communication, and monitoring arrangements as described in the governance section of this report.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The trustees intend to continue the charity's core activities in line with its charitable objects. Priorities for the coming period include:

- Continuing support for the five vulnerable children currently receiving assistance, including education, health and welfare support.
- Maintaining essential support for families in Mbuye and Bujumbura facing hardship, particularly relating to food, healthcare and education access.
- Exploring small-scale, sustainable income-generating initiatives that may strengthen household resilience and reduce long-term dependency on external assistance.
- Developing relationships and partnerships that may support improved access to education, including opportunities focused on girls' education, where these can be undertaken safely and in line with the charity's safeguarding approach.
- Strengthening governance, safeguarding arrangements and financial oversight processes to support the charity's continued responsible operation as activities develop.

The trustees will continue to review activities considering local conditions and available resources, and will prioritise safety, sustainability and the effective use of charitable funds.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees summarise below the principal risks affecting the charity and how these are managed.

Safeguarding risks

The charity works with vulnerable children and families. Trustees mitigate this risk through ongoing welfare review, cautious decision-making about new initiatives, and strengthening formal safeguarding procedures.

Overseas operational risks

Activities take place in a context with limited infrastructure and banking access. Trustees manage this through working with established local contacts, maintaining communication and reporting, and monitoring the use of funds through regular updates and visits where possible.

Financial sustainability

As a small charity reliant on donations, income levels may fluctuate. Trustees manage this through careful spending decisions, maintaining modest reserves, and prioritising essential support.

Legal and contextual risks

The charity operates in a changing social and regulatory environment. Trustees monitor local conditions and avoid activities where risks are considered too high.

The trustees review risks as part of their ongoing oversight and adjust activities where necessary to ensure the safety of beneficiaries and the responsible use of charitable funds.

EXTERNAL SCRUTINY OF ACCOUNTS

The charity's gross income for the period was below £25,000. Under the Charities Act 2011, charities with income below this level are not required to have an independent examination or audit. There is no requirement in the charity's governing document or from any funder for external scrutiny of the accounts for this period. Accordingly, no independent examination or audit has been undertaken for the year ended 31 March 2025.

CUSTODIAN FUNDS

The charity did not hold any funds as custodian trustee on behalf of others during the reporting period.

APPROVAL

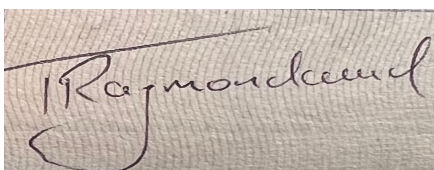
Approved by the trustees on: 15th January 2026

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees

Name: Fabien Raymondau

Role: Chair of Trustees

Signature:

A handwritten signature in dark ink on a light-colored, textured background. The signature is written in a cursive style and appears to read 'F Raymondau'.

ACCOUNTS

For the period 6 August 2024 to 31 March 2025

Receipts and Payments Account

Receipts

Donations and supporter income	£21,494
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Total Receipts	£21,494
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Payments

Charitable support costs in Burundi	£12,346
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Loan repayments (fully repaid in year)	£6,879
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Total Payments	£19,224
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Net movement in funds (surplus for the period)	£2,269
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Statement of Assets and Liabilities

As at 31 March 2025

Assets

Bank balance	£2,269
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Liabilities

None

Burundi Action – Profit & Loss Statement

View shown: Apr 2024 to Mar 2025 (full-year view). Annual Return period: 06/08/2024–31/03/2025.

Income													
Category	Apr 2024	May 2024	Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Aug 2024	Sep 2024	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2024	Jan 2025	Feb 2025	Mar 2025	YTD
Patrice Van Isacker	£100.00	£100.00	£100.00	£100.00	£100.00	£100.00	£2,000.00	£100.00	£100.00	£0.00	£300.00	£300.00	£3,400.00
DeafReach	£1,250.00	£1,250.00	£1,500.00	£1,500.00	£1,500.00	£1,500.00	£2,500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£11,000.00
Caroline Pawed	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,000.00
Gofundme	£116.02	£0.00	£31.79	£0.00	£96.85	£9.46	£145.15	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£399.27
Terry McCabe	£333.00	£0.00	£0.00	£333.00	£0.00	£333.00	£0.00	£0.00	£333.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,332.00
Christopher Kendall											£100.00	£0.00	£100.00
Dorothy McLean											£200.00	£2,200.00	£2,400.00
PayPal Giving Fund	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£296.08	£0.00	£0.00	£1,450.90	£1,746.98
Etsy: Sales of Jewellery	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£116.03	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£116.03
Total Income	£1,799.02	£1,350.00	£1,631.79	£1,933.00	£1,696.85	£2,058.49	£5,645.15	£100.00	£729.08	£0.00	£600.00	£3,950.90	£21,494.28

Expenses													
Category	Apr 2024	May 2024	Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Aug 2024	Sep 2024	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2024	Jan 2025	Feb 2025	Mar 2025	YTD
Food & essentials for Mbuye	£649.00	£657.00	£688.00	£484.08	£568.57	£509.81	£320.26	£0.00	£360.00	£229.89	£401.00	£1,272.34	£6,139.95
Egide & family Aid	£146.00	£165.00	£0.00	£123.19	£147.91	£158.17	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£500.00	£0.00	£800.00	£2,040.27
School Grants	£111.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£250.00	£0.00	£0.00	£90.91	£451.91
Medical Care	£0.00	£47.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£47.00
Rent	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£879.12	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£879.12
Furniture	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£878.64	£909.09	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,787.73
Jean-Marie Nziniza Coop Project (Mugogo)	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,000.00
Loan Repayment	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£2,400.00	£78.79	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£6,878.79
Total Expenses	£1,906.00	£1,869.00	£3,088.00	£686.06	£1,916.48	£1,867.98	£320.26	£1,757.76	£2,519.09	£729.89	£401.00	£2,163.25	£19,224.77

Net Profit / (Loss)	-£106.98	-£519.00	-£1,456.21	£1,246.94	-£219.63	£190.51	£5,324.89	-£1,657.76	-£1,790.01	-£729.89	£199.00	£1,787.65	£2,269.51
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