



COP29
Baku
Azerbaijan

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL (CHEC)

2024 Annual Report

CHEC

Registered Charity No. 272018

Company No. 00966772

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The aim of the Commonwealth Human Ecology Council (CHEC), an educational charity, is to further the importance of a holistic and sustainable view of the world and a continuing emphasis on development through the implementation of human ecology. CHEC's programmes strive to awaken the Commonwealth to the need for deeper human and ecological philosophies in order to achieve a wider coalition between all levels of society and the natural world on which they depend.

CHEC is supported by the Human Ecology Foundation (HEF). This is a subsidiary charity, which manages CHEC's trust fund, and has its own board that supervises both its capital and income. As such, it helps to fund CHEC's projects, as well as supporting management of CHEC's website and social media activity.

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Commonwealth Human Ecology Council (CHEC)

Registered Charity No. 272018

Company No. 00966772

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NGO in Special Consultative Status with the
UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)



Accredited to the Commonwealth Secretariat



Member of Commonwealth Consortium for
Education (CCfE)



Member of BOND



Accredited to COP through UNFCCC

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Emily Robinson).

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A Message from the Chair

Mark Robinson

During 2024, the Commonwealth Human Ecology Council (CHEC), now in its 55th year, has continued its active role especially in the field of Climate Change, with special attention to the 32 Small Island States that are Members of the Commonwealth and also recognizing CHEC's status as an education charity. 2024 was a year in which the Commonwealth Heads of Government (CHOGM) met in Samoa in the Pacific.



CHEC Chair Mark Robinson

As a result, CHEC focused a large part of its project work in that region in time for CHOGM held in October 2024 in Samoa. At that meeting, CHEC's delegation leader was Donnell Davis, a former CHEC Governing Board Member from Australia, who has attended such meetings in the past and who did so on this occasion with distinction.

Particularly important in Samoa was the Mangroves Project, which was done in partnership with Rotary International involving other partners as well. CHEC was delighted that the launch ceremony held at the Mangrove Marine Sanctuary was visited and warmly praised by HM King Charles III, in his capacity as Head of the Commonwealth. His Majesty was received by Judith Diment of Rotary International and Donnell Davis of CHEC.

Also in the Pacific, to coincide with CHOGM, was a CHEC Earth Sisters Project in Fiji regarding sustainable practices in menstrual hygiene. This is to strengthen climate-adaptive menstrual hygiene management at the community level. Also, as part of the Commonwealth Year of Youth, CHEC partnered with Global Shapers Apia Hub and the Commonwealth Secretariat, who generously provided much of the funding, for the project Atamai Sio'siomaga (meaning joy to the environment). This initiative seeks to empower youth to become changemakers and to promote sustainable careers. CHEC looks to work in partnership with others, especially as Human Ecology is a global subject. This is done through projects and attendance at other relevant global meetings. CHEC which is a member of UNFCCC, attended COP-29 in Baku, Azerbaijan in November 2024 and was represented by Emily Robinson, CHEC's Honorary Secretary. CHEC plans to send a delegation to the SHE Conference in Mons, Belgium in 2025.

Since before COVID, CHEC has transformed itself into a virtual organisation. Our meetings are held on-line, with some of them face-to-face in London as well. This has ensured CHEC is a pan-Commonwealth organisation, with a variety of memberships including ECOSOC, UNFCCC, BOND, IFCO and the Commonwealth brand, including accreditation to the Commonwealth Secretariat. We subscribe to the Commonwealth Charter and promote it actively.

A Message from the Chair

Mark Robinson

Further information on projects and CHEC's overall activities can be found on www.checinternational.org where our annual reports, including relevant financial information, and all project work can be found. The Human Ecology Fund (HEF) oversees our portfolio, scrutinise all projects to ensure they are in line with policy and sustainability. The website is regularly updated and rejuvenated by CHEC's Hon. Secretary, Emily Robinson, and digital coordinator, Kate Martin, who also monitors CHEC's social media accounts.

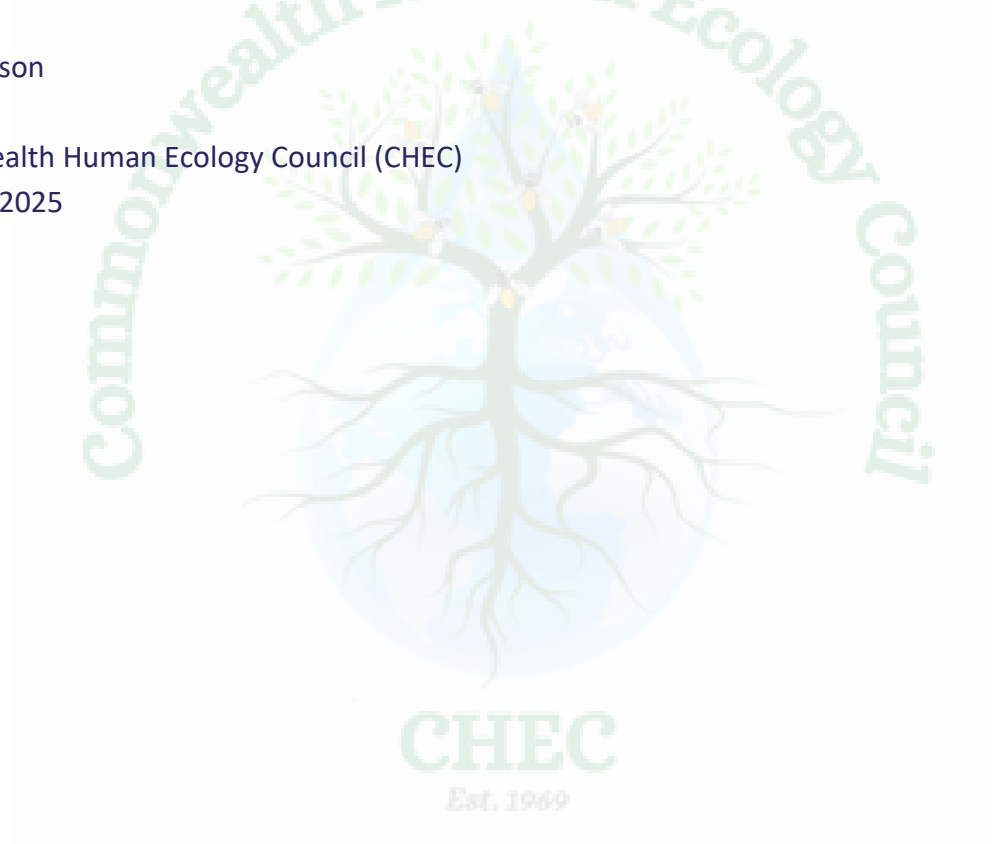
CHEC undertakes all requisites of good governance, being aware of the importance of this for the smooth running of a registered charity. In that regard I must add my thanks to CHEC Trustees and Governing Board Members, along with members of the Chair and Board of the Human Ecology Fund, for all the work that they do to keep CHEC running smoothly and help to enhance its profile.

Mark Robinson

Chair

Commonwealth Human Ecology Council (CHEC)

September 2025



A Warm Welcome

A Warm Welcome to Incoming Secretary General The Hon. Shirley Botchway

As we bid farewell to the outgoing Secretary-General of the Commonwealth Secretariat, Patricia Scotland, we extend our deepest gratitude for her steadfast leadership and enduring commitment to the values of unity, democracy, and development across the Commonwealth. During her tenure, she championed initiatives in climate resilience, youth empowerment, and digital innovation, notably advancing the Commonwealth Blue Charter and promoting inclusive economic growth across member states. Her diplomacy and vision strengthened intergovernmental cooperation and amplified the voices of small and vulnerable states on the global stage.

CHEC wishes to warmly welcome the incoming Secretary-General, The Hon. Shirley Ayorkor Botchway of Ghana.

We look forward to her leadership in guiding the Commonwealth through new challenges and opportunities, building on the strong foundation laid by her predecessor.

As she assumes office, we recognise the vital role the Secretary-General plays in fostering dialogue, promoting shared values, and strengthening partnerships across the Commonwealth's diverse family of nations. We are encouraged by Ms Botchway's proven track record in diplomacy and her dedication to advancing sustainable development, good governance, and youth empowerment throughout her distinguished career.



Incoming Secretary General The Hon. Shirley Botchway with HM King Charles III, Head of the Commonwealth

A Warm Welcome

A Special Welcome to one of CHEC's recently appointed Governing Board Members, John McDonnell

In our 2023 Annual Report, CHEC was pleased to include John McDonnell as a UK Trustee to CHEC's Governing Board, having previously served as CHEC's Communications Officer, an appointment which finished when he assumed full-time, after completing his post graduate degree. His longstanding commitment to CHEC's mission and values has been evident in his dedicated work to raise awareness of key ecological issues and support local communities across the Commonwealth. John's expertise in communications, coupled with his deep understanding of CHEC's operations and ethos, will be invaluable as we continue to expand our outreach and impact. We look forward to benefiting from his insights and leadership as CHEC embarks on new projects and initiatives in the coming years.

A Message from John

"Having worked for CHEC for five years as Communications Officer it was an honour to be asked to join the Governing Board. CHEC is a special charity to me, not only because of the great work it does for local communities across the Commonwealth, or the awareness it brings to key ecological issues, but also because of the people that make it all possible. From the eight years that I have been associated with the organisation, I can confidently say that it is this that sets CHEC apart from other charities. CHEC manages to achieve meaningful outcomes and delivers successful projects on extremely limited resources, and every project is meticulously planned and executed diligently, ensuring that the smallest of projects delivers long-term, sustainable outcomes.



As we head into the future, I hope CHEC can continue to build on its previous successes and will be in a position to support even more local communities through the deliverance of unique and exciting projects. The severe impacts of the ongoing climate crisis will mean that an increasing amount of people around the world will be affected by and required to adapt to environmental changes that would not have even been considered a possibility when Zena Daysh founded CHEC in 1969. This is, of course, a worrying thought for everyone who cares about the future of our planet, however, the positive work that CHEC has done and continues to do should be a sign of hope that we can all take forward with us."

John McDonnell
CHEC UK Trustee
United Kingdom

Projects

In 2024 CHEC partnered with several organisations in the Pacific region for projects in Fiji and Samoa. [Earth Sisters Fiji](#) is strengthening climate-adaptive menstrual hygiene management at the community level while educating women at workshops on the use and sustainable benefits of reusable cloth sanitary pads in the Tailevu and Naitasiri Provinces. The workshops and distribution of reusable sanitary pads and educational workbooks will enable participants to become advocates in their communities and families for Menstrual Hygiene Management and climate action. The project will continue into 2025.



Sanitary Pad Rollout by Earth Sisters in Fiji



Youth Climate Workshop in Apia

CHEC also partnered with the [Commonwealth Secretariat](#) and [Global Shapers - Apia Hub](#) for **Atamai Sio'siomaga** - conducting special workshops on climate related pathways for students and connecting them with climate professionals in Samoa. Originally, a tree-planting exercise with the students was planned, however due to the flooding in and around Apia toward the end of 2024, this proved impossible. A further workshop for students and youth in Samoa is planned for 2025 in lieu of the tree-planting.

Later in the year CHEC teamed up with [Rotary International](#) to establish a mangrove marine sanctuary at Nono'a Saleimoa. The sanctuary will be preserved in perpetuity, dedicating the site for the education and sustainable livelihoods of the Samoan people.

In November, CHEC also partnered with [Mahila Housing Trust](#) (MHT) for a project dedicated to building Resilience of Poor Women Communities against the impacts of Climate Change in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India. Mahila Housing Trust works with communities and cities on building resilience against extreme heat stress, a key concern in urban areas in India by using **solar reflective paint** on the roofs of dwellings. 53 dwellings were included in the project, helping a considerable amount in combatting heat.



White Roofs Project in Lucknow

Details of all projects can be found on CHEC's website [here](#).

Project Spotlight

Atamai Sio'siomaga (Samoan words for Smart / Intelligent and environment. In translation/context, this means “*Restoring Joy to the Environment*”)

Atamai Sio'siomaga (Samoan words for Smart / Intelligent and environment. In translation/context, this means “*Restoring Joy to the Environment*”) aims to prepare Samoa's youth for climate change through education, training, and practical activities like carbon audits, and tree planting. It involves workshops with climate professionals, carbon audits in schools, and a tree planting event to offset emissions. The initiative seeks to empower youth to become changemakers and promote sustainable careers. As part of the Commonwealth Year of the Youth, Global Shapers Apia Hub and CHEC have partnered with the Commonwealth Secretariat who generously provided the funding for this project.



Students participate in the workshop with climate professionals

Empowering Youth in Samoa

Atamai Online and Carbon Audit are two ongoing projects with the Global Shapers Apia Hub. As part of Atamai Sio'siomaga, our goal was to combine the educational aspect of Atamai with the environmental and sustainability efforts of Carbon Audit. As a result, we are able to connect with local schools and young communities in order to inspire and guide the next generation of sustainable leaders. These workshops are used to spark ideas of sustainability and educate students on the impact their actions have on the environment.

Project Spotlight

Atamai Sio'siomaga (Samoan words for Smart / Intelligent and environment. In translation/context, this means “Restoring Joy to the Environment”)

By teaching young people about sustainability, we foster a culture of environmental responsibility and encourage innovative thinking for future challenges of our future leaders. This knowledge equips them to make informed decisions that contribute to a healthier planet and more resilient local economies. Livelihoods are improved by equipping students with the insight and motivation needed to pursue green careers and sustainable business practices. Communities benefit from a reduction in environmental degradation and an increase in eco-friendly initiatives, as it is the children who will foster their local communities into sustainable places. Workshops such as these assist in developing future green leaders.

Students have been equipped with stationery to note down the practices they learnt and the methods of Carbon Audit calculations as well as have been interactively taught how to identify power consuming devices and power points in a room for auditing. They have also been informed of six different methods they can use to support a more sustainable future, as young leaders.



Students have a chance to learn from climate professionals on the impacts of the climate crisis



CHEC GB Member Nicc Moeono speaking to the students

Project Spotlight

Atamai Sio'siomaga (Samoan words for Smart / Intelligent and environment. In translation/context, this means “Restoring Joy to the Environment”)

Project Outcomes

The project was able to address the needs of raising awareness of alternative pathways into various climate professions via the Atamai workshop and a simple carbon audit exercise. The GSAH were able to identify if the needs were met by conducting a simple storytelling exercise for each student to highlight some of the new knowledge that was gained throughout this school visit. Additionally, through student participation, the carbon audit exercise was learnt through ‘learning together’ process where the students engaged with each other to identify different appliances that use electricity, the energy consumption (this was estimated and simplified to make the calculations easier), and then finally identifying the total number of trees to offset. A simple step-by-step simplified method to teach students the process, ensured that the students took away key concepts, reasoning, and knowledge to takeback to their own homes, and indirectly teach other people in their own community.



Workshops such as these assist in developing future green leaders

Project Spotlight

Atamai Sio'siomaga (Samoan words for Smart / Intelligent and environment. In translation/context, this means “Restoring Joy to the Environment”)

Furthermore, the rigidity of the Samoan education system meant that general career opportunities bottom-up were limited to Science, Commerce, and Arts. Young professionals currently working in various professions, with diverse expertise, and lived experiences were able to share the pathway to get to where they are now. For example, a renewable energy engineer, starting from a science background, progressing through to university, and now currently working as a climate and mitigation negotiator for Samoa. Alternatively, a more creative pathway into videography and photograph for youth and climate related content, which is not in the Samoan curriculum, provided insight into the experiences, success, and hurdles, of that profession. Students directly benefitted from other young professionals (engineers, lawyers, government, private sector), experience and most importantly the opportunity to break away from the rigid Samoan curriculum, into a streamlined long-term pathway for climate-related career opportunities.



Carbon Audit Exercise

Publications and Website

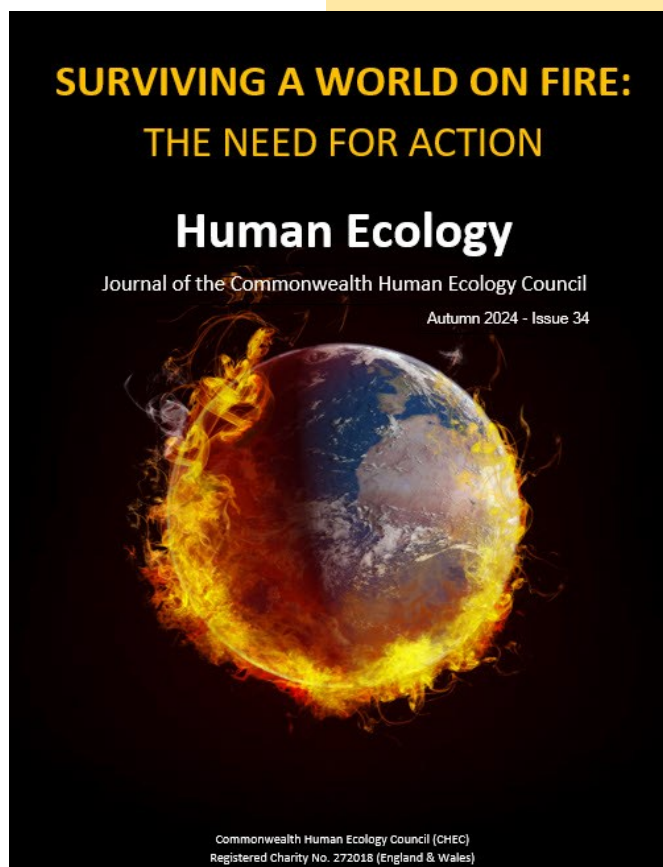
Journal Publication: *Surviving a World on Fire: The Need for Action*

Published in October 2024 - in time for both the October 2024 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Samoa and COP-29 in Baku, Azerbaijan - the latest edition of *Human Ecology* the journal of the Commonwealth Human Ecology Council confronts the pressing need for decisive action in response to the climate crisis. This issue brings together a range of expert perspectives, highlighting the significant challenges posed by climate change and the urgent call for collaborative solutions.

Governing Board Member Professor Emeritus Ian Douglas writes “Too much has been written, but not enough has been done, about how climate change has set a world on fire and how governments, cities and communities have failed to respond adequately and collectively to reduce the rate of global warming and to mitigate its impacts. In writing yet more, the contributors to this issue of *Human Ecology*: the CHEC Journal, seek to re-emphasise who wins and who loses from the activities leading to the world on fire and to call for people to think even more deeply about how their actions, the actions of their communities and governments are helping or hindering the efforts to combat climate impacts and the consequent suffering in many communities, often far removed from where we live.”

The full journal can be accessed [here](#).

CHEC out the rest of our journals and publications on the [Resource Hub](#) on our website where you can learn about Human Ecology and the work that CHEC does. In addition to our news articles and social media posts, CHEC produces Resources, CHEC Points, Journals, Books, and Annual Reports. CHEC has also put together several resources for Fast Fashion and Information Hubs for important events such as Earth Day, UN CSW, COP, and CHOGM.



Publications and Website

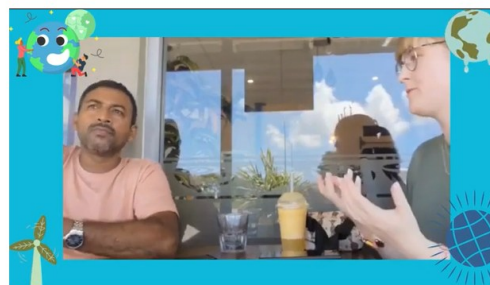
Conversations on Climate Change in the Pacific

Commonwealth Human Ecology Council is pleased to share the launch of our new Media Project - [Conversations on Climate Change in the Pacific](#). On her recent visit to Fiji our digital coordinator [Kate Martin](#) sat down with a number of specialists in the field who were able to give us their insights into how Fiji and the wider Pacific Island region is changing and being transformed by global warming. We hope that you find these interviews both interesting and informative as we bring you voices from across the globe.

Conversations on Climate Change in the Pacific



Conversations on Climate Change in the Pacific: Part I
In conversation with Anish Maharaj



Conversations on Climate Change in the Pacific: Part II
Continuing a dialogue with Anish Maharaj

CHEC's website keeps friends of human ecology updated about discussions around the Commonwealth on climate change adaptation and mitigation, the state of soil, rivers, lakes, and oceans with an annual newsletter. This looks at how our consumption affects the environment and what we can do about it. All of CHEC's reports are available not only on our webpage but are also emailed to our subscribers.

CHEC can be found on Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, and YouTube!



CHEC is dependent on the contributions of members, both in the form of voluntary work and through contributions from funds. We have a range of membership options available – including annual and life-long, student membership, and concessions for over 65s and SHE Members. CHEC will also display any job or volunteer opportunities on [our page](#).

Events

United Nations 68th Conference on the Status of Women (CSW68)

10 – 22 March 2024 - New York, USA

I had the opportunity to attend the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women's 68th session (CSW68) in New York on behalf of CHEC. The UN Commission on the Status of Women is an annual gathering that focuses on advancing gender equality and women's empowerment globally. During CSW68, government officials, civil society representatives, and experts came together to discuss key issues affecting women and girls worldwide. This year's theme was *"Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies."*

As a participant, I was able to engage in dialogues and panels, learning best practices, share challenges, and the solution proposals to promote gender equality in the face of climate change and environmental risks. Some of the key topics included access to education, healthcare - including unpaid care work, economic opportunities, and decision-making roles for women, particularly in vulnerable communities.



CHEC Honorary Secretary attending CSW68 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York



CSW68 took place from the 11th - 22nd of March 2024 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York

United Nations 68th Conference on the Status of Women (CSW68) 10 – 22 March 2024 - New York, USA

The conference aimed to drive policy recommendations and actions that prioritise the needs and rights of women and girls in environmental and disaster risk reduction efforts. By highlighting the intersectionality of gender, climate change, and sustainable development, CSW68 underscored the importance of inclusive and gender-responsive policies for a more resilient and equitable future.



Town Hall with UN Secretary General António Guterres, chaired by UN Women Executive Director, Sima Sami Bahous

I was able to attend several very insightful panels and events at the UN Headquarters, including the Town Hall with UN Secretary General António Guterres, chaired by UN Women Executive Director, Sima Sami Bahous, that was held on the 13th of March. Overall, the conference was a very rewarding and insightful experience.



Emily Robinson at the UN Town Hall at CSW68



Attending "Gender and Climate Change in the Commonwealth"

United Nations 68th Conference on the Status of Women (CSW68) 10 – 22 March 2024 - New York, USA

I was also able to meet up with Dr. Donnell Davis, former CHEC Board Member and a current Trustee of the Human Ecology Foundation (HEF) - who was in from Australia to attend the conference, as well as participate as a speaker in several events.



CHEC Hon. Secretary Emily Robinson and Dr. Donnell Davis - form CHEC Governing Board Member and current HEF Trustee meet up in New York during the CSW68 in March 2024

Events

Commonwealth Day Service

11 March 2024 – London, United Kingdom

One Resilient Common Future: Transforming Our Commonwealth

The year 2024 signified the anniversary of 75 years of the Commonwealth, the second year of the Year of the Youth, and the biennial Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) at which Rwanda handed over to Samoa the Chair in Office. The 2024 theme was inspired by the Commonwealth's founding pledges to peace, liberty, and progress, and continuing to build resilient communities and environments, which highlighted both human ecology concerns and solutions to major climate and pollution issues.



CHEC UK Trustee Jane Samuels (right) with Commonwealth Secretary General Patricia Scotland

CHEC has been honoured to attend the Commonwealth Day Service for many years. This year, I was invited to represent CHEC. As it was my first opportunity to attend, I was moved on arrival, while crossing Parliament Square, to see that on Commonwealth Day all 56 flags of the Commonwealth countries fly high — a magnificent vista to behold. Parliament Square is historic – this is London's ceremonial public space directly opposite Westminster Abbey, bordered by the UK Supreme Court on one side and the Houses of Parliament on another, to provide a sense of place for this event. Then, outside the Great West Door of the Abbey, Eternal Taal, the all-female Indian dhol drummers, performed and set the tone for how meaningful it is to celebrate the Commonwealth Day Service.



Flags of the Commonwealth outside Westminster Abbey

Commonwealth Day Service

11 March 2024 – London, United Kingdom

The Commonwealth Day Service of Celebration has taken place in Westminster Abbey since 1972 thanks to the remarkable efforts of the Royal Commonwealth Society, the oldest charity dedicated to the Commonwealth. Prior to this, in 1966, a “Service of Affirmation of Faith” was held at St Martin-in-the-Fields but it proved controversial. From 1968–1971 a “Multi-Faith Act of Witness and Affirmation of Faith” was staged at London’s Guildhall on Commonwealth Day, with stewarding by younger members of the Joint Commonwealth Societies under the Royal Commonwealth Society’s librarian.



The Commonwealth Day Service held Westminster Abbey

It was not until 1977 that the continued efforts of the RCS helped initiate a mixed, multi-faith observance to represent the faiths of Commonwealth countries, in partnership with the Anglican Church and Palace officials, agreeing a format to be held at Westminster Abbey. The need for a multi-faith service was vital, as the Commonwealth sought to embody a fellowship built on equality rather than rule, so every nation and faith was on the same footing in the capital’s most reverend, historic, and iconic Abbey — Britain’s stage for coronations, royal events, and the resting place of its most celebrated figures. The service had to be plural — embracing Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Zoroastrian, Bahá’í, Christian, Jewish, and Jain faiths, as well as indigenous and secular traditions. A single-tradition rite would have been at complete odds with the modern Commonwealth’s promise of mutual respect.

The RCS successfully established a high-profile, multi-faith gathering, including inviting every High Commissioner to take part. Westminster Abbey’s clerical and lay body enabled an inclusive civic space, adjusting the liturgy so that different faith readings could be integrated alongside traditional Anglican prayers. The Commonwealth Secretariat coordinated with member governments and encouraged their missions in London to nominate young people, faith leaders, and performers.

Commonwealth Day Service

11 March 2024 – London, United Kingdom

Finally, the Royal Household — with the Private Secretary to the Queen as Head of the Commonwealth and the Lord Chamberlain's Office — made sure the Commonwealth Day Service became a fixture in the Sovereign's annual programme, ensuring royal attendance. Therefore, the Commonwealth Day Service at Westminster Abbey is unique in offering multi-faith blessings to the entire Commonwealth from diverse faith leaders, along with cultural performances, with the Royal Family, diplomats, government officials, representatives from accredited organisations, and civil society leaders — placing young people at its heart. Indeed, it was a real joy to see over 800 children in the audience for the 2024 Commonwealth Day service, many seated along the Abbey's long corridors, facing inward so they could watch the processions pass by.



Flags of the Commonwealth of Nations for the Commonwealth Day Service

I've visited Westminster Abbey many times, often to sit quietly amidst its awe-inspiring architecture and ancient traditions. Yet this Commonwealth Day Service was the first official service I had attended in this ancient and beautiful Abbey, joining all the representatives from across the Commonwealth with a profound sense of being present and part of a living celebration.

Commonwealth Day Service

11 March 2024 – London, United Kingdom

The haunting voices of the Choir of Westminster Abbey rising high to the vaulted ceiling and echoing throughout the Abbey; the majestic, deep, resonant great organ; the State Trumpeters of the Household Cavalry; and the Fanfare Team from the Central Band of the Royal Air Force, with that brilliant clarity calling out attention on the arrival of the Royal Family.

Then came the signature, incredible procession of the 56 nations of the Commonwealth with their multicoloured flags, a Commonwealth of Nations. The celebrations began: performances by the Uganda Ghetto Kids; Calum Scott; Jacob Portelli, the singer and harpist from Malta; and the stunning Samoan opera singers. A highlight was the poet, novelist, and playwright Sir Ben Okri OBE, reading his specially commissioned poem for the Commonwealth Day Service 2024.

HM King Charles III, Head of the Commonwealth recorded his message at Windsor Castle (as he was not attending in person due to illness). In it, he reflected on the Commonwealth's journey since 1949, noting milestones such as recent independence anniversaries in The Bahamas, Grenada, and Papua New Guinea. He emphasised how "the Commonwealth family is strongest when we are connected, through friendship" and stressed that diversity is "our greatest strength", representing a third of humanity, with shared challenges from climate change to technological change. He urged members to work together to address inequalities, heal divisions, and share expertise for the betterment of all. Many representatives of the diverse faith leaders across the Commonwealth gave their individual blessings, calling on the history of their faith and wisdom — including Hindu, Jewish, Jain, Muslim, with other representatives from the Buddhist, Bahá'í, Sikh, Zoroastrian, and all the many diverse churches. Each speaker would end their blessing, naming their own tradition. For example — on behalf of the "Jain" community may the Commonwealth be blessed. This was, after all, a celebration service, with Anglican prayers, song, and blessings from all faiths across the Commonwealth. Powerful remarks followed from the Secretary General, the Rt Hon Patricia Scotland KC, and Lise Honsinger of Notpla — winner of the 2022 Earthshot Prize, the environmental award founded by HRH Prince William, the Prince of Wales — for its work on alternatives to plastic: regenerative packaging made from seaweed and plants.

The poem of Ben Okri, *Transcending History*, will stay with me, with its message to all Commonwealth countries — with the image of forests, how myths and stories happen, history of nations, family, and "sometimes injustice at its root; however, families are formed not only by blood but affinities. No family ever stands secure without the mortar of respect, and the magnetism of affection. History sometimes shows that we can transcend history, weave our flowers together, weave our dances and technologies. One has to be strong to come together, wise to stay together."

Commonwealth Day Service

11 March 2024 – London, United Kingdom

The trustees, governing board, and members of CHEC would be delighted to know that the theme of human ecology, environmental awareness, and stewardship featured prominently throughout the Commonwealth Day Service — notably through the award-winning Notpla's seaweed-based, regenerative packaging, and through the Royal Commonwealth Society's youth-led, pan-Commonwealth campaign to prevent one million pieces of plastic from entering Commonwealth waterways, launched at CHOGM 2024 — and the profound message of HM King Charles III and the Secretary General of the Commonwealth, Patricia Scotland.



CHEC UK Trustee Jane Samuels (right) with Commonwealth Secretary General Patricia Scotland at the Commonwealth Day Service on 11 March 2024

You can watch a BBC recording of the entire 2024 Commonwealth Day Service at Westminster Abbey here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FKVJIIVLclM>.

Jane Samuels
CHEC UK Trustee
United Kingdom

Events

Earth Day: Sustainable Cities with Michael Mutter, OBE 22 April 2024 - London, UK

Every year on April 22nd, the world comes together to celebrate Earth Day, a day dedicated to raising awareness about the critical need to protect our planet. For the Commonwealth, with its rich tapestry of diverse landscapes and ecosystems, Earth Day holds particular significance. Consequently, CHEC was uniquely positioned to champion sustainable practices and environmental responsibility through event this day.

The event included a talk from Michael Mutter, OBE for a session on Sustainable Cities with local initiatives. Michael is an urban development specialist trained in Architecture and Town Planning.



CHEC UK Trustee Michael Mutter, OBE



CHEC UK Trustee Michael Mutter, OBE delivers an Earth Day Lecture on Sustainable Cities

His long career has seen him work in Nigeria, Kenya, India, Sri Lanka and Indonesia. He has been Senior Advisor to the UK Department for International Development (DfID). Michael has supported CHEC at international events involving UN-Habitat and the Commonwealth.

This hybrid event brought together urban planners, policymakers from the Commonwealth nations as well as from the Commonwealth Secretariat (ComSec), ecologists, and community activists from across the Commonwealth for an evening of rich discussion. An evening meal with lively discussion from CHEC members and guests followed the event.



The CHEC Board and guests continued the discussion at a dinner following the Earth Day Event

Events

Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM)

21 – 26 October 2024 - Apia, Samoa

For the first time CHOGM was successfully hosted by a Pacific Small Island State – Samoa located midway between Australia and Hawaii. The population of the main 2 islands is about 200,000 but lost records since covid means that up to 11 years of records are not reliable and not capturing children's or adolescent's data for health and legal documentation. However, one of the projects is spearheading that by leapfrogging technology. All community-based projects rely on good information. Vanuatu had planned to host 2017 but two cyclones devastated infrastructure, resulting in London hosting CHOGM in 2018.



HEF Trustee Dr. Donnell Davis (left) with Commonwealth Secretary General Patricia Scotland at CHOGM in Samoa



For the first time a CHOGM took place in a Pacific Nation: CHOGM 2024 in Apia, Samoa - 21st - 26th October 2024

In Samoa, 300 villages across two islands embraced this spotlight. Near Apia, the capital city, villages adopted a Commonwealth country, and each decorated their village in the colours of the flag with icons from that adopted country. Schools learned about their adopted countries and dignitaries visited during CHOGM week. It was a sincere welcome for us.

Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM)

21 – 26 October 2024 - Apia, Samoa

The history includes German occupation, English and Australian presence, and American influence (West Samoa of 7000 population, has a naval base, uses USD, and speak with accent). Samoa is an active country on the world stage, having many UN representatives and consuls, with highly educated youth returning home to advance the country. It is a safe country for all – except for spats after rugby league games and roaming packs of wild dogs at night. Every religion is celebrated.

CHOGM agenda included preliminary forums, side events, invitation-only events, receptions, and extended sessions beyond those advertised dates. I stayed longer to visit projects, connect kindred spirits, and to meet Nicc and Luna in person. Forums included Peoples forum, Women's Forum and Youth Forum simultaneously, and a business forum separately. HM King Charles III and Queen Camilla official opening was held on Friday. Prime Ministers and Foreign Ministers session were held on Friday and Saturday and a retreat was convened after that. Heavy rain caused flooding, local damage with falling trees and road closures, and power outages, so we felt impacts of climate change personally. The interactive session with politicians, permanent secretaries, and directors-general was cut short with no lighting or microphones, while wind blew resort furniture and trees around. My focus was climate justice, health practice and gender equality.

Farewell Baroness Patricia Scotland

After 8 years, Secretary General Baroness Patricia Scotland stepped down as Secretary General of the Commonwealth. The final report from her office can be found [here](#). The Honourable Shirley Botchwey will continue in 2025.



HEF Trustee Dr. Donnell Davis (left) with Commonwealth Secretary General Baroness Patricia Scotland at CHOGM



Commonwealth Secretary General Baroness Patricia Scotland meets with Ministers from the 56 Commonwealth Countries

Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM)

21 – 26 October 2024 - Apia, Samoa

On Climate Justice

The best lessons learned were from side events held in the law courts with session that highlighted innovation in law, on-the-ground practices, diplomacy, challenges, and unintended consequences. The honesty was refreshing, and valuable.



The Climate Justice Panel included the Secretary General and Ministers from Maldives, Fiji, Tonga, Tuvalu, Samoa, and Mauritius,

Some of the discussions included:

- 2202 legal cases for international climate justice still in process since 2022
- Some of these claims could be navigated through the new Pacific dispute mechanism so that some resolutions could be negotiated for Ecocide, loss and damage instead of very prolonged expensive cases through the international court of justice. (J Vui Clarence Nelsen)
- An international environmental court of justice is overdue, although proposed in early 2000s.
- Methodologies and formulae have been offered by Singapore foreign minister to all
- Scope for justice must go beyond land to oceans and space. (OHCHR Heike Alefsen) Rights-based Development. Labour migration was analysed as was human trafficking risk (booklet).
- High per capita emission countries are on notice – including Australia who was embarrassed about extending 3 coal mines despite rejecting 60 new mining applications.
- New Zealand has legal systems to make companies accountable
- Arguments centred on funding rather than a suite of interventions that NGOs are already implementing efficiently and successfully.
- Small poorer country debt burdens were contrasted by small rich country sharing intellectual assets. The climate finance access hub provided a report on 88 projects.

Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM)

21 – 26 October 2024 - Apia, Samoa

- The role of government in its position of trust, transparency and delivery was discussed.
- What is the role of the judiciary? UNEP – local law courts, define obligations like UNCLOS and UNEP, ecocide as a war crime, make the state accountable.
- What of future generations? Children's rights – school educations kits.
- Time to audit Commonwealth charter? Evolving beyond colonial roots as Francophonie countries join CHOGM and change the culture. All members need to meet 6 objectives.

The Mangrove Marine Sanctuary at Nono'a Saleimooa

CHEC teamed up with Rotary International and other partners to establish a mangrove marine sanctuary at Nono'a Saleimooa. The sanctuary will be preserved in perpetuity, dedicating the site for the education and sustainable livelihoods of the Samoan people. A formal reception dinner was followed by daytime planting with prayers, cultural performers and lunch in the mangrove swamp and clean estuary.



Dancers entertained participants ahead of the mangrove tree planting ceremony



Donnell attending the mangrove tree planting

Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM)

21 – 26 October 2024 - Apia, Samoa



Rotary's Judith Diment, Donnell Davis, and Professor Chris Puttock



Signing agreement with the Samoa Department of Environment for maintenance of the Mangrove program and Education site

Health Justice

This topic was so broad and invited frank discussion on dementia, disability and healthy aging. Mental health was discussed in all forums with special attention for Commonwealth peoples and youth forums. The matters most pertinent was lack of access to primary care, no records for some villages and whole countries of CW, no pathways to testing, early intervention or specialist referrals for surgery. In Samoa some of the 300 villages have no records for the past 11 years despite efforts during covid. Children died with measles at that time, but data is unreliable.

One of the projects we launched with Soroptimist International is for a mobile medical clinic for Sawaii for primary care by (1) registering children and villagers (2) assessing risks of the big 5 medical items (3) basic testing and early intervention for non-communicable diseases (5) referral to urgent specialist attention (6) community education on self-care, diet, exercise, menstrual care, pregnancy, maternal and child health, ageing, dementia. Another is for telehealth and leapfrogging technology with the elders of the villages.

Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM)

21 – 26 October 2024 - Apia, Samoa

Freedom of Expression

There were several panel sessions of Freedom of expression. 1602 journalists were killed throughout the Commonwealth during a set period, and daily abuse online is an industrial hazard. Apart for silencing, there is fake news and manipulations associated with physical harm, reputation harm, and widespread coercion for families of journalists and social media influencers. Chair from Bangladesh, photojournalist Shahidul Alam says that freedom of expression is precursor for freedom of critical thought necessary for effective democracy. If voices of the people are quashed, then corruption is likely to thrive.

Dr. Donnell Davis

HEF Trustee

Former CHEC Governing Board Member

Australia

Events

UNFCCC 29th Conference of Parties (COP29)

11 – 22 November 2024 - Baku, Azerbaijan

Representing the Commonwealth Human Ecology Council (CHEC) in Baku at COP29 was a unique and rewarding experience. Arriving in Baku, Azerbaijan a few days prior to the start of COP29 provided an excellent opportunity to immerse myself in the local culture and and explore the sites.



CHEC Honorary Secretary Emily Robinson at COP29 in Baku

I experienced the rich culinary heritage with several walking tours in Baku as well as wine and food tastings, which showcased the region's unique flavours. On a local street food tour I was able to try several types of kebabs, crispy qutabs, shah plov, as well as baklava and shekerbura a wonderful desert!



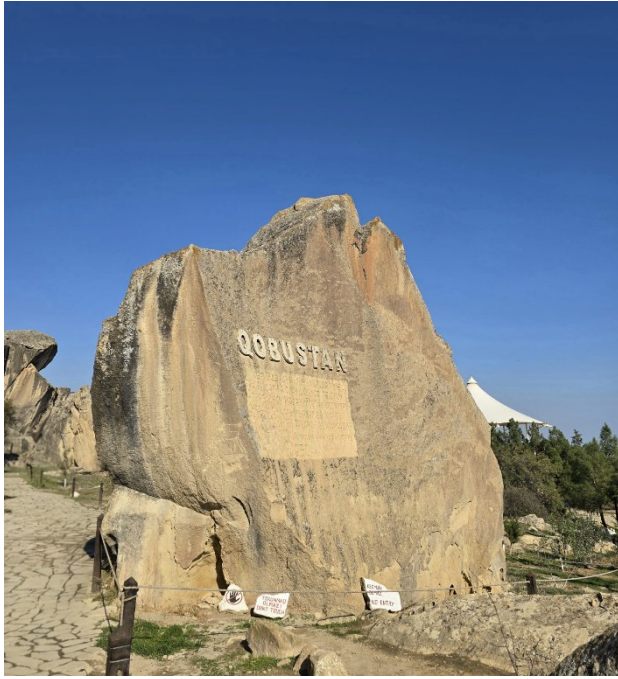
Sampling Azerbaijan's wine and local fruits, cheeses, and hummus



Delicious qutabs with a spicy pomegranate sauce and local ayran

A visit to the UNESCO World Heritage site Gobustan (Qobustan) National Park allowed me to explore ancient petroglyphs, carvings, and relics, offering profound insight into the area's prehistoric past. The park has hundreds of petroglyphs dating from 10,000 to over 40,000 years ago. The views offered wide rocky areas with ancient rock carvings, the distant mud volcanoes, and great views of the Caspian Sea. The park's mix of nature and history makes it a great place for photos, hiking, and exploring, perfect for nature and history fans.

UNFCCC 29th Conference of Parties (COP29)
11 – 22 November 2024 - Baku, Azerbaijan



UNESCO World Heritage Gobustan (Qobustan) National Park



The ancient petroglyphs of Gobustan date from 10,000 - 40,000 years ago

I also had the chance to walk around the nearby mud volcanoes, an extraordinary natural phenomenon and a distinctive feature of the Azerbaijani landscape. Consisting of mud, petroleum, water, and minerals, Azerbaijan has the most mud volcanoes of any country in the world. Overall, my time in Baku was marked by a blend of cultural appreciation and engagement with impressive natural and historical landmarks.



Azerbaijan boasts the most mud volcanoes of any country



The volcanoes consist of mud, petroleum, water, and minerals

UNFCCC 29th Conference of Parties (COP29)

11 – 22 November 2024 - Baku, Azerbaijan

At the conference, I had discussions with other delegates on the important projects CHEC has been working on, particularly in the Pacific Region. I was also able to promote our latest journal [*Surviving a World on Fire: The Need for Action*](#). For the second year in a row, CHEC partnered with **Climate Outreach** and the Commonwealth Sustainable Energy Transition Youth Group (**CSET Youth**). We were joined by youth climate activists Tafadzwa Kurotwi from **She Changes Climate** and Pooja Tivawala from the **Youth Climate Collaborative** for another Blue Zone official COP Side Event. ‘*Holistic Climate Action: Integrating Community Capacity Building & Engagement for Sustainable Futures*’ was a panel presenting comprehensive strategies and case studies for climate action focusing on the crucial role of community empowerment and involvement. Speakers focused on building awareness and capacity within communities to mobilise and engage effectively in climate action, to lead to sustainable and resilient futures.



COP29
Baku
Azerbaijan

COP29 Baku Official Side Event

The Commonwealth Human Ecology Council (CHEC), Climate Outreach, and the Commonwealth Sustainable Energy Transition Youth Action Group (CSET Youth)

Holistic Climate Action

Integrating Community Capacity Building & Engagement for Sustainable Futures



Emily Robinson
CHEC



Noora Firaq
Climate Outreach



Angelos Pastras
CSET Youth



Tafadzwa Kurotwi
She Changes Climate



Pooja Tilwala
Youth Climate Collaborative

Thursday, 21st November 2024 - 13:15-14:45 AZT
(09:15 – 10:45 GMT)

Blue Zone, Room: Side Event 3

Find out more at [CHEC Online](#), [CSET Youth](#), and [Climate Outreach](#)

Attendees remained highly engaged throughout the session, actively contributing thoughtful and insightful questions that helped stimulate meaningful and in-depth discussions on the vital role of capacity building in effective climate action. We were able to foster a collaborative and inclusive environment, highlighting the critical importance of community involvement and empowerment in driving and sustaining a long-term sustainable future.

UNFCCC 29th Conference of Parties (COP29) 11 – 22 November 2024 - Baku, Azerbaijan

Another event highlight included ‘*Raising Climate Ambition*’ hosted by the **Climate Reality Project** provided a valuable opportunity to engage with critical discussions on advancing global climate action. The keynote address by former US Vice President Al Gore highlighted the urgency of enhancing national action plans to meet escalating climate challenges. The event focused on strategies to accelerate the phase-out of fossil fuels and ensure that future Conferences of the Parties (COP) are more effective and aligned with the climate crisis’s demands. As a Climate Reality Leader, it was wonderful to see how the participation in this event was able to reinforce the necessity of coordinated efforts to increase ambition and deliver meaningful progress in addressing climate change. The event also provided a chance to catch up with Cara Cook, Director of Programs for the **Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments (ANHE)**, a friend of CHEC we first met at [COP 26 in Glasgow](#).



Keynote address by former US Vice President Al Gore at the ‘Raising Climate Ambition’ event in Baku



Emily catching up with Cara Cook, the Director of Programs for the Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments (ANHE)

As my experience of COP29 was already extensively covered on our COP29 Hub on CHEC’s webpage, I have focused here on CHEC’s own Official Side Event at COP and the event hosted by the Climate Reality Project. Additionally, I took the opportunity to explore the rich cultural heritage and diverse culinary traditions of Azerbaijan, which greatly added a unique dimension to my visit. I feel this made the experience all the more memorable and significantly broadened my understanding of the region, extending well beyond the scope of the conference itself and allowing me to appreciate its wider social and cultural context. I hope to visit again one day.

UNFCCC 29th Conference of Parties (COP29) 11 – 22 November 2024 - Baku, Azerbaijan

To read more about COP29, my daily reviews are available on CHEC's [COP29 Hub](#) on our website and my article *The Commonwealth at COP29 and the Road to COP30* was published for the **Commonwealth Journal of International Affairs** which can be accessed [here](#).



CHEC Governance

Members of the CHEC Governing Board Nov 2024

Honorary President:	Hon. Levi Oguike, CHEC Nigeria
Patrons:	Mr Norman Stannard, New Zealand Ms Eva Ekehorn, Sweden
Chair:	Mark Robinson, CHEC UK
Honorary Treasurer:	John Bonham, CHEC UK
Company Secretary:	Emily Robinson, CHEC UK

Other Members of the Board:

Isaac Aboah, Melo, Ghana
 Rhonda Cox, Trinidad & Tobago High Commission, UK
 Dr Saadyah Chishti, CHEC Pakistan
 Hon. Sannusi Daggash, CHEC Nigeria
 Emeritus Prof Ian Douglas, School of Environment, Education and Development, University of Manchester, UK
 Hayden Greenfield, FCDO, UK
 Simon Gusah, FutureBenue Project, Australia
 Charles Day, The New Forum, UK
 Patricia Kabatabazi, CIANEA, Uganda
 Ripin Kalra, University of Westminster, UK
 Dr T I Khan, Indira Gandhi's Centre for Human Ecology, Univ. of Rajasthan, Jaipur, India
 Subbu Loganathan, Pico Analytics UK
 John McDonnell, University of London, UK
 Philipp Mitterbauer, Ruffer, UK
 Jennifer Nickel, Waikato Regional Council, New Zealand
 Fogamomi Nicollo Moeono-Alaiasa, CHEC Oceania/Samoa
 Michael Mutter OBE (formerly DFID UK)
 Esther Pang, CHEC UN Representative in New York, USA
 Trevor Peel, National Liberal Club, UK
 Dr Janine Pierce, University of South Australia, Australia
 James Ross, Conductor and Music Director, UK
 Norbert Sangura, CHEC Kenya
 Bharati Sadasivam, International Development, India
 Jane Samuels, Tools of Change, UK

Youth Advisor to the Board:

Abhiir Bhalla, Youth Environmentalist, India

Zena Daysh and Donald Denman Human Ecology Foundation (HEF)

CHEC is supported by its subsidiary charity, the Human Ecology Foundation (HEF). This can provide support to small projects either solely or in joint funding, either financial or in kind, with other partners in Commonwealth developing countries.

Financial Statement

	31.12.24 £	31.12.23 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies	2,500	-
Grants	441	2,650
Subscriptions & donations	-	-
Exceptional items	2,941	2,650
Investment income	32,857	27,301
Investment income received	164	95
Deposit account interest	33,021	37,396
Total incoming resources	35,962	30,046
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities	18,000	17,045
Project expenditure		
Support costs		
Management	1,411	4,317
Trustees' expenses	-	-
Rent, rates & insurance	-	-
Repairs & renewals	-	-
Light and heat	135	118
Postage, telephone & fax	-	-
Printing & publications	1,179	808
Sundry expenses	1,775	5,220
Travel, conferences & admin	-	-
Administration costs	2,441	606
IT consultancy	-	-
Total	11,069	11,069
Finance	159	108
Bank charges		
Governance costs	-	-
Wages	1,920	1,776
Accountancy and legal fees	27,020	29,998
Total resources expended	27,020	29,998
Net income/expenditure	8,942	48

Support CHEC

Support our Projects

CHEC has successfully implemented projects and programmes in the following Commonwealth countries: Kenya, Uganda, The Gambia, Bangladesh, Hong Kong, Malta, New Zealand, India, Canada, Guyana, Barbados, Sierra Leone, Samoa, Fiji, Pakistan, Nigeria, Australia, and Sri Lanka. The work of CHEC is supported by many foundations and trusts, particularly the [Commonwealth Foundation](#) and the [Commonwealth Secretariat](#), but with help from UN agencies like [UNESCO](#), [UN Habitat](#), [UNEP](#), the UK and other governments and by the voluntary efforts of both members and non-member friends and colleagues.

There are several ways you can support the Commonwealth Human Ecology Council:

Become a member [here](#)

Donate [here](#)

Subscribe to our Monthly Newsletter [here](#)

and don't forget to

CHEC us out on our social media pages on Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, and YouTube!



Photo: Trelawny Parish, Jamaica (Photo by: Emily Robinson)

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 00966772 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 272018

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024
for
COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

Brown McLeod Limited
Chartered Accountants
The Old Workshop
1 Ecclesall Road South
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
S11 9PA

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

Contents of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

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Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	14

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and Aims

The aim of the Commonwealth Human Ecology Council (CHEC), an educational charity, is to further the importance of a holistic and sustainable view of the world and a continuing emphasis on development through the implementation of human ecology. CHEC's programmes strive to awaken the Commonwealth to the need for deeper human and ecological philosophies to achieve a wider coalition between all levels of society and the natural world on which they depend.

Mission Statement

Human ecology embraces the principles of natural and moral philosophy. It draws on knowledge and understanding from the sciences and humanities to develop and promote holistic and sustainable initiatives, ideas, and development projects with the aim of enhancing and strengthening people's relationships with each other and with their natural environments. Human ecology, from this standpoint, works to create sustainable, lasting improvements in people's lives by fostering projects that engage and enhance the skills of local communities, involve all sectors of society, improve livelihoods, and maintain environmental benefits. It is a philosophy and a process and is constantly learning and adapting, just as it is educating, encouraging, and stimulating others. It has become an academic field of enquiry, a developmental philosophy, an approach to sustainability and a new means of unifying political, economic, and social endeavours to provide a meaningful future for rural and urban people in the Commonwealth and elsewhere.

Significant Activities

During 2024, as CHEC entered its 54th year, the organisation has continued to focus on areas of great international concern such as climate change, food and water security, pollution in the air and in the oceans, urban resilience as well as the role of education in seeking improvements in all such matters where CHEC believes human ecological thinking can help towards programmes that are aimed at achieving sustainability. CHEC's efforts in this regard support the principles outlined by Heads of Government in the Commonwealth Blue Charter and, more recently at the 2022 Rwanda CHOGM, the Commonwealth Living Lands Charter. In this regard CHEC's work has continued to focus on the importance of restoring mangroves which help protect coastlines and this has been highlighted by the concern of the 32 small Commonwealth member states about the impact of rising sea levels, tropical storms, protection of coastal fishing grounds, corals, and reefs.

CHEC UK works with other CHEC Chapters and contacts around the Commonwealth, and in partnership with civil society organisations globally. CHEC is a member of the Informal Forum of Commonwealth Organisations (IFCO) which brings Commonwealth Accredited Organisations together to discuss where they can work in greater harmony and partnership. CHEC is also in Special Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and has updated its status and revitalised its role within ECOSOC. CHEC is a member of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Commonwealth Consortium for Education (CCfE) and the International Development Organisation (BOND).

As human ecology is a global subject, CHEC also works in partnership with ecological organisations, including the Society for Human Ecology (SHE) supporting conferences on sustainability, human ecology as well as other relevant activities. It is also seeking to broaden contacts within universities. CHEC works in concert with both the Commonwealth Secretariat, to which it is accredited, and the Commonwealth Foundation. In October 2024, CHEC attended the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Samoa and was led by a former Governing Board Member Donnell Davis from Australia, who has attended such meetings in the past and who did so on this occasion with distinction. Details are available on CHEC's website (www.checinternational.org).

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant Activities

CHEC, which is a member UNFCCC, attended COP-29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, towards the end of 2024. Attended by CHEC's Secretary, details are available in CHEC's 2024 Annual Report, which can be accessed on CHEC's website (www.checinternational.org). CHEC, which has been a virtual organisation since 2022, has had high attendances at Governing Board meetings with members tuning in from all regions of the Commonwealth. This works well and continues to greatly improve CHEC's international reach. This is also being achieved through CHEC's website and judicious use of channels provided by social media, as explained below.

Current Projects

With the support of its subsidiary charity, the Human Ecology Foundation (HEF), CHEC has both completed on-going projects and embarked on new ones. These are located in a number of Commonwealth Member Countries, and it is hoped that very soon every region of the Commonwealth will be represented. Details of all can be found on CHEC's website at www.checinternational.org which include those done in Fiji and Samoa to coincide with CHOGM.

Publications and Website

During 2024, CHEC's website has continued to develop and has been praised by many who have seen it. CHEC Annual Reports are published, as are CHEC Points, newsletters, and all recent journals. It keeps friends of human ecology alert, updated on discussions around the Commonwealth on climate change adaptation and mitigation, the state of the soil, rivers, lakes, and oceans. It looks at how our consumption affects the environment and what we can do about it. Our reach to civil society has improved through CHEC's continuing attempts to build up our followers on social media. Newsletters have been published, it is hoped CHEC Points may be further expanded in 2025.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal Funding Sources

The finances of CHEC are monitored by its Finance Committee, whose membership is reviewed following the Annual General Meeting, usually held in November. CHEC's banking arrangements remain with Barclays and have been satisfactory since their review in 2022. Financial support for projects is also received from the income of the Human Ecology Foundation (HEF), a subsidiary trust of CHEC but is serviced by its own trustees. HEF incorporates the legacy of CHEC's Founder, Zena Daysh, and protects its capital value. Income from its investments fund CHEC's projects and has helped with the development of CHEC's website, as well as other areas of CHEC's work in need of support. It also contains a capital element, which is not part of the legacy, specifically reserved for CHEC in case a situation arises requiring additional support.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

An active year ahead is underway in 2025 as CHEC and new projects will be undertaken which will further enhance its aims and objectives. We look forward to the Society for Human Ecology Meeting in June 2025 in Mons, Belgium and to COP-30 in Brazil. The latter will be a particular challenge due to the withdrawal of support for the COP process by the USA.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The charity is controlled by its deed of trust and governance documents, and constitutes a company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. Its Articles of Association were updated to accommodate current legal requirements, approved at an EGM in February 2015. It is run by CHEC's Governing Board, some of whose UK members are trustees.

Work continues to be dependent on its global membership and supporters, as well as on its Governing Board members and volunteers. Board composition is mindful of diversity and gender. A membership and fundraising committee set up in 2022 has continued its work throughout 2024. Gratitude is due to all involved in our work. Details of the Trustees are attached to this report. CHEC's Finance Committee meets regularly and reports to the Governing Board, which has set its terms of reference. Its composition is reviewed annually at the Annual General Meeting.

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk Management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. Safeguarding is reviewed, as appropriate.

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing aims and objectives and in planning future activities. The Charity's purpose focuses on raising global public awareness and providing education on all aspects of human ecology.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

00966772 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

272018

Registered office

The Old Workshop
1 Ecclesall Road South
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
S11 9PA

Trustees

Mr J Bonham
Mr M Robinson
Prof. I Douglas
Mr M Mutter
Dr R Kalra
Ms J Samuels
Ms R Cox
Mr S Loganathan
Mr T Peel
Ms E Robinson
Dr J Ross
Mr P Mitterbauer
Mr H Greenfield
Mr J McDonnell
Mr C C A Day (appointed 20.11.24)

Honorary Patrons

Mr N Stannard
Mrs E Ekehorn

Honorary President

Mr Levi Oguike

Company Secretary

Ms E Robinson

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent Examiner

M E B Giles FCA
Brown McLeod Limited
Chartered Accountants
The Old Workshop
1 Ecclesall Road South
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
S11 9PA

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 24 May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Robinson', with a small dot at the end.

Mr M Robinson - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Commonwealth Human Ecology Council Ltd**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Commonwealth Human Ecology Council Ltd ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

M E B Giles FCA

Brown McLeod Limited
Chartered Accountants
The Old Workshop
1 Ecclesall Road South
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
S11 9PA

Date:

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	31.12.24 Total funds £	31.12.23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		441	2,500	2,941	2,650
Investment income	2	33,021	-	33,021	27,396
Total		33,462	2,500	35,962	30,046
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		8,560	-	8,560	12,953
Charitable activities					
Project expenditure		15,500	2,500	18,000	17,045
Other		460	-	460	-
Total		24,520	2,500	27,020	29,998
NET INCOME		8,942	-	8,942	48
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		6,920	3,327	10,247	10,199
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		15,862	3,327	19,189	10,247

The notes form part of these financial statements

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

**Balance Sheet
31 December 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	31.12.24 Total funds £	31.12.23 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank		17,782	3,327	21,109	12,546
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	5	(1,920)	-	(1,920)	(2,299)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>15,862</u>	<u>3,327</u>	<u>19,189</u>	<u>10,247</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		15,862	3,327	19,189	10,247
NET ASSETS		<u>15,862</u>	<u>3,327</u>	<u>19,189</u>	<u>10,247</u>
FUNDS	6				
Unrestricted funds				15,862	6,920
Restricted funds				<u>3,327</u>	<u>3,327</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>19,189</u>	<u>10,247</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

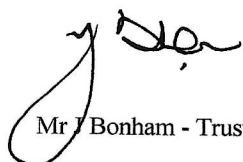
The notes form part of these financial statements

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

Balance Sheet - continued
31 December 2024

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 24 May 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



Mr J Bonham - Trustee



Mr M Robinson - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
Investment income received	32,857	27,301
Deposit account interest	164	95
	<u>33,021</u>	<u>27,396</u>

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Trustees' expenses

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
Trustees' expenses	<u>1,411</u>	<u>4,317</u>

4. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	2,650	-	2,650
Investment income	<u>27,396</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,396</u>
Total	<u>30,046</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,046</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	12,953	-	12,953
Charitable activities			
Project expenditure	<u>17,045</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,045</u>
Total	<u>29,998</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,998</u>
NET INCOME	48	-	48
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	6,872	3,327	10,199
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>6,920</u></u>	<u><u>3,327</u></u>	<u><u>10,247</u></u>

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

5. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	523
Accrued expenses	1,920	1,776
	<u>1,920</u>	<u>2,299</u>

6. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.24	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.24
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	6,920	8,942	15,862
Restricted funds			
Project fund	3,327	-	3,327
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>10,247</u>	<u>8,942</u>	<u>19,189</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	33,462	(24,520)	8,942
Restricted funds			
Project fund	2,500	(2,500)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>35,962</u>	<u>(27,020)</u>	<u>8,942</u>

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

6. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	6,872	48	6,920
Restricted funds			
Project fund	3,327	-	3,327
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>10,199</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>10,247</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	30,046	(29,998)	48
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>30,046</u>	<u>(29,998)</u>	<u>48</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	6,872	8,990	15,862
Restricted funds			
Project fund	3,327	-	3,327
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>10,199</u>	<u>8,990</u>	<u>19,189</u>

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

6. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	63,508	(54,518)	8,990
Restricted funds			
Project fund	2,500	(2,500)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>66,008</u>	<u>(57,018)</u>	<u>8,990</u>

7. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2024.

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

	31.12.24 £	31.12.23 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Grants	2,500	-
Subscriptions & donations	441	2,650
	<hr/> 2,941	<hr/> 2,650
Investment income		
Investment income received	32,857	27,301
Deposit account interest	164	95
	<hr/> 33,021	<hr/> 27,396
Total incoming resources	<hr/> 35,962	<hr/> 30,046
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Project expenditure	18,000	17,045
Support costs		
Management		
Trustees' expenses	1,411	4,317
Postage, telephone & fax	135	118
Sundry expenses	1,179	808
Travel, conferences & admin	1,775	5,220
IT consultancy	2,441	606
	<hr/> 6,941	<hr/> 11,069
Finance		
Bank charges	159	108
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	1,920	1,776
	<hr/> 27,020	<hr/> 29,998
Total resources expended	<hr/> 27,020	<hr/> 29,998
Net income	<hr/> <hr/> 8,942	<hr/> <hr/> 48

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 00966772 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 272018

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024
for
COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

Brown McLeod Limited
Chartered Accountants
The Old Workshop
1 Ecclesall Road South
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
S11 9PA

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

Contents of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

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COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and Aims

The aim of the Commonwealth Human Ecology Council (CHEC), an educational charity, is to further the importance of a holistic and sustainable view of the world and a continuing emphasis on development through the implementation of human ecology. CHEC's programmes strive to awaken the Commonwealth to the need for deeper human and ecological philosophies to achieve a wider coalition between all levels of society and the natural world on which they depend.

Mission Statement

Human ecology embraces the principles of natural and moral philosophy. It draws on knowledge and understanding from the sciences and humanities to develop and promote holistic and sustainable initiatives, ideas, and development projects with the aim of enhancing and strengthening people's relationships with each other and with their natural environments. Human ecology, from this standpoint, works to create sustainable, lasting improvements in people's lives by fostering projects that engage and enhance the skills of local communities, involve all sectors of society, improve livelihoods, and maintain environmental benefits. It is a philosophy and a process and is constantly learning and adapting, just as it is educating, encouraging, and stimulating others. It has become an academic field of enquiry, a developmental philosophy, an approach to sustainability and a new means of unifying political, economic, and social endeavours to provide a meaningful future for rural and urban people in the Commonwealth and elsewhere.

Significant Activities

During 2024, as CHEC entered its 54th year, the organisation has continued to focus on areas of great international concern such as climate change, food and water security, pollution in the air and in the oceans, urban resilience as well as the role of education in seeking improvements in all such matters where CHEC believes human ecological thinking can help towards programmes that are aimed at achieving sustainability. CHEC's efforts in this regard support the principles outlined by Heads of Government in the Commonwealth Blue Charter and, more recently at the 2022 Rwanda CHOGM, the Commonwealth Living Lands Charter. In this regard CHEC's work has continued to focus on the importance of restoring mangroves which help protect coastlines and this has been highlighted by the concern of the 32 small Commonwealth member states about the impact of rising sea levels, tropical storms, protection of coastal fishing grounds, corals, and reefs.

CHEC UK works with other CHEC Chapters and contacts around the Commonwealth, and in partnership with civil society organisations globally. CHEC is a member of the Informal Forum of Commonwealth Organisations (IFCO) which brings Commonwealth Accredited Organisations together to discuss where they can work in greater harmony and partnership. CHEC is also in Special Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and has updated its status and revitalised its role within ECOSOC. CHEC is a member of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Commonwealth Consortium for Education (CCfE) and the International Development Organisation (BOND).

As human ecology is a global subject, CHEC also works in partnership with ecological organisations, including the Society for Human Ecology (SHE) supporting conferences on sustainability, human ecology as well as other relevant activities. It is also seeking to broaden contacts within universities. CHEC works in concert with both the Commonwealth Secretariat, to which it is accredited, and the Commonwealth Foundation. In October 2024, CHEC attended the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Samoa and was led by a former Governing Board Member Donnell Davis from Australia, who has attended such meetings in the past and who did so on this occasion with distinction. Details are available on CHEC's website (www.checinternational.org).

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant Activities

CHEC, which is a member UNFCCC, attended COP-29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, towards the end of 2024. Attended by CHEC's Secretary, details are available in CHEC's 2024 Annual Report, which can be accessed on CHEC's website (www.checinternational.org). CHEC, which has been a virtual organisation since 2022, has had high attendances at Governing Board meetings with members tuning in from all regions of the Commonwealth. This works well and continues to greatly improve CHEC's international reach. This is also being achieved through CHEC's website and judicious use of channels provided by social media, as explained below.

Current Projects

With the support of its subsidiary charity, the Human Ecology Foundation (HEF), CHEC has both completed on-going projects and embarked on new ones. These are located in a number of Commonwealth Member Countries, and it is hoped that very soon every region of the Commonwealth will be represented. Details of all can be found on CHEC's website at www.checinternational.org which include those done in Fiji and Samoa to coincide with CHOGM.

Publications and Website

During 2024, CHEC's website has continued to develop and has been praised by many who have seen it. CHEC Annual Reports are published, as are CHEC Points, newsletters, and all recent journals. It keeps friends of human ecology alert, updated on discussions around the Commonwealth on climate change adaptation and mitigation, the state of the soil, rivers, lakes, and oceans. It looks at how our consumption affects the environment and what we can do about it. Our reach to civil society has improved through CHEC's continuing attempts to build up our followers on social media. Newsletters have been published, it is hoped CHEC Points may be further expanded in 2025.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal Funding Sources

The finances of CHEC are monitored by its Finance Committee, whose membership is reviewed following the Annual General Meeting, usually held in November. CHEC's banking arrangements remain with Barclays and have been satisfactory since their review in 2022. Financial support for projects is also received from the income of the Human Ecology Foundation (HEF), a subsidiary trust of CHEC but is serviced by its own trustees. HEF incorporates the legacy of CHEC's Founder, Zena Daysh, and protects its capital value. Income from its investments fund CHEC's projects and has helped with the development of CHEC's website, as well as other areas of CHEC's work in need of support. It also contains a capital element, which is not part of the legacy, specifically reserved for CHEC in case a situation arises requiring additional support.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

An active year ahead is underway in 2025 as CHEC and new projects will be undertaken which will further enhance its aims and objectives. We look forward to the Society for Human Ecology Meeting in June 2025 in Mons, Belgium and to COP-30 in Brazil. The latter will be a particular challenge due to the withdrawal of support for the COP process by the USA.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The charity is controlled by its deed of trust and governance documents, and constitutes a company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. Its Articles of Association were updated to accommodate current legal requirements, approved at an EGM in February 2015. It is run by CHEC's Governing Board, some of whose UK members are trustees.

Work continues to be dependent on its global membership and supporters, as well as on its Governing Board members and volunteers. Board composition is mindful of diversity and gender. A membership and fundraising committee set up in 2022 has continued its work throughout 2024. Gratitude is due to all involved in our work. Details of the Trustees are attached to this report. CHEC's Finance Committee meets regularly and reports to the Governing Board, which has set its terms of reference. Its composition is reviewed annually at the Annual General Meeting.

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk Management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. Safeguarding is reviewed, as appropriate.

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing aims and objectives and in planning future activities. The Charity's purpose focuses on raising global public awareness and providing education on all aspects of human ecology.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

00966772 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

272018

Registered office

The Old Workshop
1 Ecclesall Road South
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
S11 9PA

Trustees

Mr J Bonham
Mr M Robinson
Prof. I Douglas
Mr M Mutter
Dr R Kalra
Ms J Samuels
Ms R Cox
Mr S Loganathan
Mr T Peel
Ms E Robinson
Dr J Ross
Mr P Mitterbauer
Mr H Greenfield
Mr J McDonnell
Mr C C A Day (appointed 20.11.24)

Honorary Patrons

Mr N Stannard
Mrs E Ekehorn

Honorary President

Mr Levi Oguike

Company Secretary

Ms E Robinson

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent Examiner

M E B Giles FCA
Brown McLeod Limited
Chartered Accountants
The Old Workshop
1 Ecclesall Road South
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
S11 9PA

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 24 May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Robinson', followed by a small horizontal line.

Mr M Robinson - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Commonwealth Human Ecology Council Ltd**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Commonwealth Human Ecology Council Ltd ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

M E B Giles FCA

Brown McLeod Limited
Chartered Accountants
The Old Workshop
1 Ecclesall Road South
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
S11 9PA

Date:

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	31.12.24 Total funds £	31.12.23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		441	2,500	2,941	2,650
Investment income	2	33,021	-	33,021	27,396
Total		33,462	2,500	35,962	30,046
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		8,560	-	8,560	12,953
Charitable activities					
Project expenditure		15,500	2,500	18,000	17,045
Other		460	-	460	-
Total		24,520	2,500	27,020	29,998
NET INCOME		8,942	-	8,942	48
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		6,920	3,327	10,247	10,199
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		15,862	3,327	19,189	10,247

The notes form part of these financial statements

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

**Balance Sheet
31 December 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	31.12.24 Total funds £	31.12.23 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank		17,782	3,327	21,109	12,546
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	5	(1,920)	-	(1,920)	(2,299)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>15,862</u>	<u>3,327</u>	<u>19,189</u>	<u>10,247</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		15,862	3,327	19,189	10,247
NET ASSETS		<u>15,862</u>	<u>3,327</u>	<u>19,189</u>	<u>10,247</u>
FUNDS	6				
Unrestricted funds				15,862	6,920
Restricted funds				<u>3,327</u>	<u>3,327</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>19,189</u>	<u>10,247</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

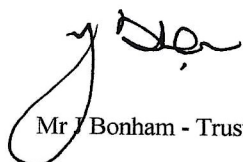
COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

Balance Sheet - continued

31 December 2024

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 24 May 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Bonham', written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

Mr J Bonham - Trustee

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Robinson', written in a cursive style.

Mr M Robinson - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
Investment income received	32,857	27,301
Deposit account interest	164	95
	<u>33,021</u>	<u>27,396</u>

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Trustees' expenses

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
Trustees' expenses	<u>1,411</u>	<u>4,317</u>

4. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	2,650	-	2,650
Investment income	<u>27,396</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,396</u>
Total	<u>30,046</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,046</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	12,953	-	12,953
Charitable activities			
Project expenditure	<u>17,045</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,045</u>
Total	<u>29,998</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,998</u>
NET INCOME	48	-	48
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	6,872	3,327	10,199
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>6,920</u></u>	<u><u>3,327</u></u>	<u><u>10,247</u></u>

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

5. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	523
Accrued expenses	1,920	1,776
	<u>1,920</u>	<u>2,299</u>

6. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.24	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.24
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	6,920	8,942	15,862
Restricted funds			
Project fund	3,327	-	3,327
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>10,247</u>	<u>8,942</u>	<u>19,189</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	33,462	(24,520)	8,942
Restricted funds			
Project fund	2,500	(2,500)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>35,962</u>	<u>(27,020)</u>	<u>8,942</u>

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

6. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	6,872	48	6,920
Restricted funds			
Project fund	3,327	-	3,327
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>10,199</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>10,247</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	30,046	(29,998)	48
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>30,046</u>	<u>(29,998)</u>	<u>48</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	6,872	8,990	15,862
Restricted funds			
Project fund	3,327	-	3,327
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>10,199</u>	<u>8,990</u>	<u>19,189</u>

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

6. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	63,508	(54,518)	8,990
Restricted funds			
Project fund	2,500	(2,500)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>66,008</u>	<u>(57,018)</u>	<u>8,990</u>

7. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2024.

COMMONWEALTH HUMAN ECOLOGY COUNCIL LTD

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

	31.12.24 £	31.12.23 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Grants	2,500	-
Subscriptions & donations	441	2,650
	<hr/> 2,941	<hr/> 2,650
Investment income		
Investment income received	32,857	27,301
Deposit account interest	164	95
	<hr/> 33,021	<hr/> 27,396
Total incoming resources	<hr/> 35,962	<hr/> 30,046
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Project expenditure	18,000	17,045
Support costs		
Management		
Trustees' expenses	1,411	4,317
Postage, telephone & fax	135	118
Sundry expenses	1,179	808
Travel, conferences & admin	1,775	5,220
IT consultancy	2,441	606
	<hr/> 6,941	<hr/> 11,069
Finance		
Bank charges	159	108
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	1,920	1,776
	<hr/> 27,020	<hr/> 29,998
Total resources expended	<hr/> 27,020	<hr/> 29,998
Net income	<hr/> <hr/> 8,942	<hr/> <hr/> 48

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements