

United Purpose

(A company limited by guarantee)

Report and Financial Statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2024

COMPANY NUMBER: 1278887

CHARITY NUMBER: 272465

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

CONTENTS	PAGES
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION	3
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES	4 – 26
TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT	27
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT	28 – 31
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	32
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET	33
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS	34
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	35 – 53

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

LEGAL AND ADMISTRATIVE INFORMATION

TRUSTEES	Mary Robinson (Chair) Dervla Owens Hadi Husani Geoff Meagher Catherine Cottrell (resigned 24 July 2024)
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Feargal O'Connell (resigned 25 July 2025) Eoin Wrenn (acting CEO from 25 July 2025)
SECRETARY	Melissa Thomas (resigned 16 May 2024) Augustine Emmanuel Akpan (appointed 16 May 2024)
REGISTERED OFFICE	Office 124 W2 1st Floor Wellington House, Wellington Road Cardiff, CF11 9BE United Kingdom
COMPANY NUMBER	1278887
CHARITY NUMBER	272465
AUDITORS	RBK Audit UK Limited RBK House Irishtown Athlone Co. Westmeath N37 XP52 Ireland
BANKERS	Royal Bank of Scotland 94 High Street Maidstone ME14 1SA United Kingdom
SOLICITORS	Withers LLP 16 Old Bailey London EC4M 7EG United Kingdom

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director's Report)

The trustees (who are also directors of United Purpose for Company Law purposes) present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2024. The legal and administrative information set out on page 3 form part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association, and the Statement of Recommended Practice—Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2019).

ABOUT UNITED PURPOSE

United Purpose is a UK-based international development charity with a goal to end poverty, inequality and to move people beyond aid. United Purpose was founded in 1976 and was formerly known as Concern Universal.

In 2014, United Purpose merged with the Bakewell-based charity, Village Aid, allowing both organisations to come together and work in partnership to secure long-term positive change for people in Africa.

For more details see www.united-purpose.org

In 2021, United Purpose merged with the Gorta Group which trades as Self Help Africa (see below). As a result of this merger, a number of United Purpose programmes have been moved (and will continue to move) under the direct management of Self Help Africa.

In 2024, CUMO Microfinance Malawi which was part of the United Purpose group, moved under the control of Self Help Africa.

ABOUT SELF HELP AFRICA

Self Help Africa is an international development organisation headquartered in Ireland. The organisation came about as a result of a merger in 2008 between two like-minded organisations, Self Help Development International from Ireland and the UK's Harvest Help. Both organisations were initially founded in the mid-1980s in response to food security crises in sub-Saharan Africa. In July 2014, Self Help Africa merged with Gorta, Ireland's oldest established NGO and as noted above, in 2021 it merged with United Purpose. All entities operate under the umbrella of the Gorta Group which trades as Self Help Africa.

VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

This mission of United Purpose is to alleviate hunger, poverty, social inequality and the impact of climate change through community-led, market-based and enterprise-focused approaches, so that people have access to nutritious food, clean water, decent employment and incomes, while sustaining natural resources.

Our vision is for sustainable livelihoods and healthy lives for all in a changing climate.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director’s Report)

VISION, MISSION AND VALUES (continued)

Our values are:

- Impact - We are accountable, ambitious and committed to systemic change.
- Innovation - We are agile, creative and enterprising in an ever-changing world.
- Community - We are inclusive, honest and have integrity in our relationships.

Our aim is to transition communities out of long-term poverty through work that gives them greater control over their futures and provides a better quality of life. The main focus of our work is in sub-Saharan Africa, where global hunger and poverty is most acute and we also work in Bangladesh and Brazil.

We believe that equitable economic development is key to ending poverty.

Our core areas of focus are:

- Sustainable landscapes, resilient food systems and healthy communities.
- Sustainable businesses, decent employment and thriving economies.
- Crisis response and resilience.
- System strengthening and an enabling policy environment.

OUR WORK IN 2024 - STRATEGIC REPORT

To achieve its mission and fulfil its charitable purpose, United Purpose supports the international programmes of Self Help Africa. It implements its own international programmes in 5 countries and also supports the strategic objectives of the group through its fundraising, programme funding and programme support work.

In 2024, Self Help Africa (including United Purpose) worked in 16 countries and implemented 96 projects.

Zambia	Mozambique	Ethiopia
Uganda	Malawi	The Gambia
Senegal	Kenya	Brazil
Nigeria	Eritrea	DRC
Bangladesh	Burkina Faso	Burundi
Rwanda		

The countries where United Purpose implemented programmes directly were as follows:

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| - Mozambique | - Brazil |
| - Senegal | - Bangladesh |
| - The Gambia | |

In 2023, the trustees of United Purpose adopted the global 5 year strategy of Self Help Africa, which outlines 4 key objectives. Outlined below is our progress, in 2024, towards delivering on them across the Gorta Group.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director’s Report)

OUR WORK IN 2024 - STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

Strategic objective 1: Sustainable landscapes, resilient food systems and healthy communities:
Contribute to the equitable stewardship of ecosystems for well-functioning food and water systems, ecosystem services, human well-being and quality of life.

Strategic objective 1: Progress in 2024

In 2024, Self Help Africa had 62 projects under Strategic Objective 1. Of those, 25 projects across 12 countries focused on agriculture; 17 projects across six countries focused on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); 10 projects across 7 countries focused on natural resource management; and 4 projects in 4 countries on nutrition. Key achievements in each of these thematic areas are outlined below.

a. Sustainable landscapes and natural resource management

Burkina Faso: With support from Irish Aid and Enabel, farmers restoring 500 hectares of degraded land attended a series of training courses and demonstrations on improved farming techniques. In addition, 200 households were trained to make and use improved cookstoves to reduce wood and charcoal consumption. Self Help Africa also provided 5,000 seedlings for fruit, nitrogen fixing, animal fodder and firewood tree species to farmers to plant on the degraded land and intercrop with their food crops (agroforestry).

The Gambia: The Irish Aid-funded *Integrated Climate Adaptation and Community Resilience Building (ICCR) project*, which focuses on mangrove restoration, developed community adaptation plans in 2024. These plans included key action points in the areas of agriculture, water management, natural resource management, agroforestry, energy and waste management. As part of these plans, 18 communities received training and startup capital for diversified livelihoods, including soap making. The project also restored 36 hectares of mangroves, which were included in the plans.

Senegal: In the *Management of Mangrove Forests from Senegal to Benin* project, funded by the International Union for Conservation of Nature, in collaboration with the Directorate of Marine Protected Areas and the Directorate of National Parks, Self Help Africa conducted a feasibility study for the creation of a biosphere reserve for the Casamance estuaries, which would ensure the estuaries would form part of a protected area recognised by UNESCO under its Man and the Biosphere Programme. The study analysed the criteria for the UNESCO application and issued recommendations for next steps. Additionally, 24 people were trained as ecotourism guides, including in birdwatching and mangrove ecology.

Zambia: As part of the Irish Aid-funded *Drought Resilience to Overcome Poverty* project, 356 farmers joined community meetings to learn about the negative effects of deforestation. They also learned about alternative livelihoods for farmers, such as beekeeping. The project piloted this income-generating scheme with 24 farmers. Unfortunately, severe drought and wildfire affected vegetation and tree flowering, lead to setbacks in bee colonisation. Despite these challenges, the project made significant strides in environmental restoration. Twenty-four farmers were trained in tree seedling production, successfully growing 26,000 seedlings out of a 30,000 target. While drought prevented the goal being met in 2024, the initiative sparked strong community interest in tree planting, with farmers recognising the income potential from selling seeds.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director's Report)

OUR WORK IN 2024 - STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

Strategic objective 1: Progress in 2024 (continued)

b. Agriculture, Climate Adaptation

Ethiopia: The Irish Aid-funded *Food System Transformation* project distributed a diverse range of seeds that boost food security, totalling 25,000kg (39,750 cuttings) to 2,665 households, covering 516 hectares of land. As a result, 91 per cent of sampled households reported having access to sufficient food for 12 months. In addition, 21 model farmers were selected and supported with the resources they needed to establish their own vermicomposting production systems. This led to an average compost production of 300kg per household, which has been applied to 5.5 hectares of maize, vegetable and keyhole garden farms.

Kenya: The European Union-funded BARINGO (*Baringo Resilience Initiative: Nurturing Greater Opportunity*) project promoted climate-smart agriculture in farming value chains. The project supported the commercial production of Nyota beans, green grams and groundnuts by 500 smallholder farmers. Livestock farmers' groups were supplied with 40 sahiwal bulls, 120 galla bucks and 120 dorper rams. The project also promoted pasture production and preservation efforts, with more than 1,500 farmers growing pasture and 200 farmers producing pasture seeds. The project also constructed 13 hay storage sheds managed by the farmer groups.

Zambia: As most of Southern Africa is expected to get hotter, with areas in Southern Zambia exceeding the threshold for maize, the priority is to help farmers reduce their reliance on maize by growing more heat- and drought-tolerant crops, such as sorghum, pearl millet, cowpeas and cassava. In 2024, the maize harvest failed across most of Self Help Africa's project areas in the Southern Province. However, farmers who planted sorghum, pearl millet, quick-maturing groundnuts and cowpeas on the advice of Self Help Africa, and our public and private sector partners, achieved reasonable harvests.

c. Livelihoods (farm-based)

Burkina Faso: An Irish Aid-funded project to reinforce resilience for vulnerable households equipped three market gardens with solar-powered water pump systems, benefiting 150 people – 132 of whom were women. To support diversified livelihoods, training sessions were held in various livestock value chains, such as poultry farming for 200 people, including 78 women; small ruminants farming for 105 people, including 62 women; rabbit farming for 26 people, including 20 women; pig farming for 18 people, including 17 women; and beekeeping for 75 people, including 55 women.

Kenya: The Global Evergreening Alliance-funded GenZero project supported eight community-based organisations, comprising 539 farmers (341 women, 198 men) in Baringo with storage facilities to consolidate the fodder seeds produced by the members. The project distributed 48 kilos of Nyota beans, along with 48 kilos of groundnut seeds and 130 kilos of grass seeds. The Nyota beans yielded 624 kilos, though lower harvests were recorded in Sabor due to insufficient rainfall. Meanwhile, groundnuts produced 248 kilos but were affected by pests. Grass seeds were planted for reseeding and farmer-managed natural regeneration, with crops expected to be harvested by February 2025.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director's Report)

OUR WORK IN 2024 - STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

Strategic objective 1: Progress in 2024 (continued)

c. *Livelihoods (farm-based) (continued)*

Zambia: The Irish Aid-funded PRESERVE Kafue project worked with 180 farmer producer groups and 4,520 households (3,101 women, 1,419 men) in 2024. Of these targeted households, 2,160 project participants (1,250 women, 910 men) were supported with high-quality seeds; livestock and irrigation technologies used to store and apply water to grow crops and rear livestock for household food and income security. With our support, 18 livestock production centres served as breeding centres, to provide improved livestock breeds to project communities.

d. *Nutrition*

Self Help Africa's policy is to integrate nutrition into all projects, with a focus on nutrition sensitive and nutrition specific agriculture. This includes increasing the diversity of crops grown by households; promoting the production of crops with enhanced nutritional value, such as beans with high iron levels, sweet potatoes and maize with high vitamin A precursor levels; providing community-based nutrition training and support; crop processing to increase the shelf life; and ensuring that food is safe from microbial and chemical contamination along the supply chain. The 2024 nutrition results were good, despite the impact of the drought in Southern Africa – some examples of this are outlined below:

Kenya: The EU-funded *Baringo Resilience* project in Kenya has been a nutrition flagship project for Self Help Africa, achieving impressive results. The Minimum Dietary Diversity score for women increased from 10 per cent to 77 per cent, and for children from 16 per cent to 54 per cent. There was an increase in breastfeeding rates and high levels (89 per cent) of knowledge and application of good hygiene and sanitation practices, which contributed to an overall reduction in malnutrition rates.

Bangladesh: The European Union-funded LEAN (Leadership to Ensure Adequate Nutrition) project made significant strides in promoting nutrition-sensitive inter-sectoral programming, community health awareness and economic empowerment through a multi-sectoral approach in Bangladesh's Chittagong Hill Tracts. Endline survey findings in February 2024 demonstrated a notable reduction in moderate and severe stunting rates, from 24.9 per cent reported in the 2022 Demographic and Health Survey to 19.2 per cent, indicating a 5.7 per cent decrease in child stunting.

Malawi: Self Help Africa closed its *Global Programme Food and Nutrition Security, Enhanced Resilience* project in 2024, having developed an impressive body of knowledge and practices in areas of food diversification for nutritional growth. After a decade of implementation in the Dedza district, the programme, which was funded by GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) has helped to reduce cases of stunting from 52 per cent in 2014 to 42.3 per cent when the programme ended. Communities were inspired to practice conservation agriculture as well as adopt good sanitation and hygiene practices, enabling the project to achieve its overall nutritional objectives.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director’s Report)

OUR WORK IN 2024 - STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

Strategic objective 1: Progress in 2024 (continued)

e. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene and access to safe drinking water

With Self Help Africa’s support, 1.48 million people in 250,000 households benefited from access to safe drinking water and improved hygiene practices in 2024.

Malawi: Phase six of the charity: water-funded *Dowa Integrated DI-WASH* project has reached more than 52,000 people with access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene. In addition, seven masons and shop owners gained greater marketing skills and six teachers and local coaches learned about the ‘SHASHA approach’, which fosters sustainable, accountable and gender-responsive sanitation, hygiene and menstrual hygiene services – important to establishing a healthy learning environment for adolescents. The project has also drilled 63 new boreholes and rehabilitated 66.

Nigeria: In 2024, as part of the Vitol-funded *Sustainable Rural Drinking Water Initiative*, an initial capital expenditure investment was made to assess and rehabilitate 104 dysfunctional boreholes in Cross River State, providing clean water access to 30,960 people in 6,115 households across 51 communities. Water quality testing and chlorination treatment were also carried out at the water sources. Furthermore, the Foreign Commonwealth Development Office-funded ‘WASH Systems for Health’ project secured a government commitment for WASH financing across Kano and Cross River states, as well as the drafting of the Open Defecation Free (ODF) Prohibition Bill in Cross River State.

Mozambique: The MEDICOR Foundation-funded *Strengthening WASH Services in Schools* project saw 12 schools gain access to safe drinking water in 2024, benefiting 9,844 school-aged children and 144 teachers. Another five schools gained access to improved and inclusive sanitation, benefiting 4,049 children and 60 teachers, while 12 schools took part in hygiene behaviour change communication activities, which involved a customised approach combining Hygiene Heroes, which uses interactive activities, games or characters to make learning about hygiene fun and engaging for children.

***Strategic objective 2: Sustainable businesses, decent employment and thriving Economies:
Support the growth of inclusive, profitable and sustainable businesses that provide services and decent employment for communities.***

Strategic objective 2: Progress in 2024

Self Help Africa implemented 19 enterprise-focused projects across seven countries in 2024. Our work focused on supporting the growth of inclusive, profitable and sustainable businesses that provide services and decent employment for communities. Key achievements in 2024 are outlined below.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director's Report)

OUR WORK IN 2024 - STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

Strategic objective 2: Progress in 2024 (continued)

a. Access to finance, rural finance

The financial landscape in Africa is quickly changing as the use of fintech alternatives to traditional financial services becomes more widespread. Self Help Africa continued to support traditional microfinance approaches such as village savings and loans associations (VSLAs), which are also referred to as savings and internal lending communities (SILCs) and accumulating savings and credit associations (ASCAs) across most projects. To address the 'digital divide', Self Help Africa worked with traditional microfinance institutions to digitise their records, creating savings and credit records for members that they can use to access larger loans.

Burkina Faso: The Irish Aid-funded resilience project established 20 village savings and loan associations (VSLAs), each comprised of between 20 and 25 women, who received training and kits to get their VSLA up and running. In total, 95 women members were able to access loans to meet various needs, such as school fees, purchasing food, developing income-generating activities, and meeting other household needs, such as the purchase of hygiene products and clothing. The main objective of VSLAs is to provide a safe space for savings, easy local access to credit and support in case of personal emergencies – all while simultaneously strengthening social solidarity networks.

Ethiopia: The *Integrated Community Development* project in Oda Bultum, funded by Glimmer of Hope, extended the Village Economic and Savings Associations (VESA) network to 2,008 groups across 16 project woredas. Active VESA membership increased to 52,223, with 44 per cent female members.

Nigeria: The *Rural Women Entrepreneurs* project plays a significant role in enhancing financial inclusion by ensuring women entrepreneurs have the necessary financial tools to sustain and scale their businesses, such as mentoring and advisory services. Training was provided to 120 women on digital trading and online sales performance, enhancing their sales activities by increasing their online presence. Sixteen events were also held to help women sell their products more effectively. To strengthen financial access and enable women business centres to open and operate bank accounts, the project developed partnerships with financial institutions and 100 women were supported to open bank accounts. Additionally, the project laid the groundwork for the introduction of VSLAs to enhance long-term financial resilience.

Uganda: The *Growing Resilience and Eco-Enterprises* project, funded by The Community Foundation Ireland, organised training sessions with three banks to improve the financial literacy and capability of 88 smallholder farmer groups. As a result, these farmers enhanced their financial management skills, 80 business groups were linked with banks, and 55 successfully opened bank accounts. Traditional models for Village Savings and Loan Groups (VSLAs, ASCAs, SILCS) only provide short term loans (1 month), which are appropriate for petty trading but are not appropriate for longer term investments in agriculture. To overcome this problem SHA developed the Saving with a Productive Purpose (SWAPP) model, which creates a source of funds for longer term investments in crops, livestock and equipment. At the end of 2024, 46 VSLA groups were using the SWAPP approach.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director's Report)

OUR WORK IN 2024 - STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

Strategic objective 2: Progress in 2024 (continued)

a. Access to finance, rural finance (continued)

CUMO: Despite a challenging economic environment, CUMO Microfinance Limited continued to grow its reach in 2024, expanding its presence to 26 districts across Malawi. By year-end, its client base had surpassed 95,000 people – a significant increase from 85,000 in 2023. 79% of its clients were women, a third of its clients were aged below 35 years and less than 1% were living with a disability. CUMO's commitment to serving the most vulnerable communities was evidenced by the fact that 96% of its clients were living below the international poverty line. In 2024, loan repayments remained strong, rising slightly to 98.7 per cent, up from 98.24 per cent in 2023.

b. SMEs, enterprise and access to markets

Kenya: The *Kenyan Initiative for Long-term Integration of Market Operators in Value Chains (AgriFI Kenya)*, was completed in 2024. Over five years, 2018-24, AgriFI Kenya provided €18 million in grants to 50 agro enterprises, which were able to access €35.5 million in match funding. The project created 10,000 jobs and worked with 100,000 smallholder farmers.

Ethiopia: The *Dairy Value Chain System Project*, funded by Irish Aid, helped establish five new dairy cooperatives, revitalised one existing cooperative, and constructing two milk processing units, which were 65 per cent completed by year-end) to enhance their operations. Cooperatives were linked to the Woreda Cooperative Union to secure access to quality feed at a time of shortages.

Malawi: The *Action on Poverty-funded* regional project on strengthening orange-fleshed sweet potato supports 12 Balaka community bakery groups. These groups had 136 members in 2024, most of whom were women (118 women). The groups produced and sold orange-fleshed sweet potato blended baked products. Most bakery members used their income primarily to support their children's education and buy food, following poor harvests from the previous growing season.

Partner Africa: Partner Africa: In 2024, Partner Africa reinforced its commitment to responsible business practices across the continent, expanding its operational reach. Its advisory team worked closely with 23 clients on 33 distinct projects, amplifying the voices of thousands of rightsholders through in-depth assessments and targeted interventions. By year-end, it had conducted more than 890 social audits and completed 33 responsible business advisory projects for clients in 24 industries worldwide, most of which were linked to agriculture (70 per cent). The Partner Africa 2024 Impact Report is available at: <https://www.partnerafrica.org/partner-africa-annual-reports/>

c. Green economy, green enterprises

With the ever-increasing impact of climate change, promotion of a green economy and green enterprises remains key to ensuring the negative impacts of climate change are mitigated. Self Help Africa is committed to assisting small enterprises to invest in the Green Economy as it is an economic and environmental imperative that has the potential to create jobs and spur innovation.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director’s Report)

OUR WORK IN 2024 - STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

c. *Green economy, green enterprises (continued)*

Zambia: In 2024, Self Help Africa launched the Green Recycling Enterprises Engaging New Technology for a Circular Economy in Zambia (GREEN Tech4CE) project. It is aimed at promoting sustainable practices by supporting the development of start-ups and micro, small and medium-sized enterprises within the green circular economy and digital sectors. In a bid to facilitate access to finance, a call for proposals was issued and five projects valued at €2 million were shortlisted for funding.

Kenya: The *Dairy Kenya* project, funded by the Irish Embassy Kenya via Teagasc (the Irish Agricultural and Food Development Authority), promoted climate-smart dairy practices to encourage the growth of green enterprises in the dairy sector. Farmers were trained on sustainable forage production and conservation techniques, and the project also expanded the use of renewable energy sources, such as solar-powered water pumps and biogas systems, to support eco-friendly dairy farming.

Nigeria: The UNEP-funded *Abatement of Short Lived Climate Pollutants in the Nigerian Agricultural Sector* project engaged 325 farmers in adopting no-burn alternatives and climate-smart farming practices to promote a green economy and improve air quality in Benue state. This supports Nigeria’s 2019 National Action Plan to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants, which aims for an 83 per cent reduction in black carbon emissions and a 61 per cent reduction in methane emissions by 2030.

Malawi. The *EASE (Rural Energy Access through Social Enterprise and Decentralisation)* project, led by the University of Strathclyde and funded by the Scottish Government, is bringing electrification to remote parts of Malawi. These microgrids can generate electricity, are cheap to run and offer a secure supply – an important factor in the wake of increasing climate shocks. It supports small businesses, incomes and livelihoods. In 2024, Self Help Africa continued to provide electricity for lighting and small businesses to more than 100 customers, both at Mthembanji and Kudembe sites.

In addition, the GIZ-funded *Increasing Access to Improved Energy Technologies through Demand Side Subsidies* project is designed to align with multiple UN sustainable development goals and make a significant impact on their achievement by 2030. The programme is contributing to a reduction in household expenditures on cooking fuels and other non-renewable energy sources used for electricity and lighting services. The initiative has stimulated job creation for 375 people (163 women, 212 men), including young people, through the production and sale of improved cookstoves and market growth in the solar home system sector.

<i>Strategic objective 3: Crisis response and resilience</i>

Strategic objective 3: Progress in 2024

In 2024, Self Help Africa delivered five projects across six countries focused on crisis response and resilience. This included anticipatory action ahead of climate shocks in Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Zambia, and resilience-building and response activities in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Malawi and Mozambique.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director's Report)

OUR WORK IN 2024 - STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

Strategic objective 3: Progress in 2024 (continued)

a. Anticipatory action and disaster risk management

El Niño risks were accurately forecasted during the last quarter of 2023, so countries in Eastern and Southern Africa were able to plan anticipatory actions to mitigate against the worst of its impacts in 2024. The agricultural enterprises supported by Enterprise Zambia adapted their business models by, for example, increasing stocks of irrigation equipment and quick-maturing groundnut varieties, and increasing the production of day-old chicks. Demand for day-old chicks rose as maize farmers diversified into poultry to cover the risk of crop failure.

Bangladesh: The European Commission Humanitarian Aid-funded *STEP (Strengthening Forecast-based Early Actions in Cyclone-Prone Coastal Region in Bangladesh)* project has made significant progress in enhancing disaster risk reduction and community resilience in Bangladesh, particularly in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. A key achievement was building local government capacity to act on early warnings by institutionalising forecast-based financing and actions. This involved supporting 21 disaster management committees in planning for risks, early warning assessments, and resource mobilisation for cyclone shelters.

Ethiopia: To mitigate climate shocks, such as drought, flood and frost, the Resilience Initiative project, in collaboration with the donor, the World Food Programme, and other partners, implemented an input voucher system (IVS)-based crop insurance scheme to provide a critical safety net. Crop insurance was provided for 52,494 households (16,245 women) in 16 woredas. This will reduce the vulnerability of farming households to climate shocks, promoting financial stability in the face of potential crop losses.

Zambia: To mitigate the effects of severe drought, the *Drought Resilience to Overcome Poverty* Project organised a needs assessment with community members, including local leaders. The feedback led to four communities receiving irrigation systems. Water management committees were established to oversee the irrigation systems' daily maintenance and management. The aim is for each irrigation station to support crop production on at least five hectares of land. Once operational, these irrigation systems will enable farmers to produce crops consistently, facilitating regular supply to off-takers and generating income that will enhance their livelihoods.

b. Resilience and crisis response

Burkina Faso: Both the Enabel-funded and Irish Aid-funded resilience and social integration projects include a focus on internally displaced people (IDPs). In total, 376 IDPs (Enabel 105; Irish Aid 271) were better able to improve their livelihoods with the projects' support. Nearly a third of project participants (271 IDPs, including 239 women and 32 men) were trained in soap making, sewing, weaving, small ruminant breeding, and agri-food processing, while 189 IDP households were better able to protect their health and prevent disease after receiving hygiene kits.

Ethiopia: The *Rapid Emergency Multi-Sector* project, funded by United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), provided WASH items and multi-purpose cash assistance to 54,274 IDPs in Enebsie and Goncha Siso Enebsie Woreda.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director's Report)

OUR WORK IN 2024 - STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

Strategic objective 3: Progress in 2024 (continued)

b. Resilience and crisis response (continued)

Malawi: The *Nutrition Emergency Response Lean Season El Niño Response* project in Dedza, supported by GIZ, provided unconditional cash transfers to 1,661 vulnerable families across three traditional authorities. These transfers enabled families to secure essential food supplies, bolstering their resilience to food insecurity. This formed part of a broader effort to enhance crisis response and build long-term resilience in communities facing recurring hunger challenges.

Mozambique: As part of the Emergency Intervention to *Provide Food Assistance to the Population Affected by the Cabo Delgado Humanitarian Crisis, displaced in Niassa Province, Mozambique* project, funded by Farmamundi, 399 IDP families across five districts in Niassa (2,652 people, including 602 men, 637 women, 618 boys and 795 girls) received food products, agricultural inputs – including tools and seeds, as well as hygiene materials. This helped improve their well-being, reduced their reliance on food donations and initiated a process of dignified social reintegration.

Strategic objective 4: System strengthening and an enabling policy environment: Embed our approach in policy influencing, system strengthening, social accountability and the localisation agenda.

Strategic objective 4: Progress in 2024

In 2024, Self Help Africa delivered 13 projects across eight countries supporting system strengthening and an enabling policy environment.

a. Legal, policy and institutional engagement

Self Help Africa worked with other Irish NGOs to produce a report, entitled *The Best Ireland Can Do for Food and Nutrition Security* on the work of NGOs, researchers and the private sector. The report provided evidence to support Ireland's €250 million annual funding pledge at the *Nutrition for Growth* summit and the draft of a joint EU Declaration on '*climate, food systems and healthy food for all*' during Ireland's upcoming EU presidency.

Burkina Faso: Self Help Africa is a member of several national and local networks, including national clusters (WASH, food security, gender-based violence) and local clusters (WASH Centre-Nord), the Social Platform of NGOs and participated in 13 consultation frameworks organised by various clusters, State technical services, partner NGOs and administrative authorities.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director's Report)

OUR WORK IN 2024 - STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

Strategic objective 4: Progress in 2024 (continued)

a. *Legal, policy and institutional engagement (continued)*

Ethiopia: The Irish Aid-funded *Dairy Value Chain System* project team participated in a task force to develop a national policy for pluralistic agricultural extension, which was led by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ethiopian Agricultural Transformation Institute. The Bill was subsequently approved by the Ethiopian parliament, marking a significant achievement in embedding project objectives within national policy. Self Help Africa was an active member of the National Consortium led by the *International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)*, developing and testing a soil fertility smartphone app to help farmers manage soil nutrients to maximise crop production. Self Help Africa is testing the app in 10 pilot woredas with 150 farmers

The Gambia: The *Integrated Climate Adaptation and Community Resilience-Building* project team held talks with the Department of Parks and Wildlife Management and the Department of Forestry to strengthen collaboration on mangrove restoration. The project team discussed synergies with a similar initiative, which is conducting significant mangrove restoration on the south bank of the River Gambia before signing an agreement with partners to formalise responsibilities.

Mozambique: Five projects promoted the capacity strengthening of decentralised governance bodies and central government agencies, with a focus on promoting inclusive, equitable and sustainable social development in subnational governance. The projects – namely SDG Localisation, Provincial Decentralization in Niassa and Nampula, Gotas, Social Accountability in Niassa and WASH in Schools in Lichinga – have, among others, supported the implementation of provincial development observatories (236 participants) and organised a workshop for the socialisation and consolidation of the Territorial Strategy of the Province of Maputo.

b. *Social accountability*

Mozambique: In the Swiss Embassy-funded Gotas project, communities played an active role in shaping water and sanitation services by participating in national-level discussions and helping to influence policy change. Local Councils held 66 sessions, engaging 2,300 people, including 1,057 women.

Nigeria: In the *Sustainable Rural Drinking Water Initiative*, social accountability was embedded in the relationships between user communities, service providers, and service authorities: all assigned defined roles under Service Contracts. User communities were responsible for proper borehole use, maintaining cleanliness around facilities, making timely payments, and reporting faults promptly. Service providers conducted quarterly and emergency maintenance to ensure functionality and quality, while service authorities provided oversight and coordination. Quarterly review meetings were established to be a structured forum for all stakeholders to assess progress, address challenges, and evaluate performance through scorecard assessments, reinforcing transparency and efficiency in service delivery.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director's Report)

OUR WORK IN 2024 - STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

Strategic objective 4: Progress in 2024 (continued)

b. *Social accountability (continued)*

Uganda: The Community Foundation Ireland and Irish Aid-funded projects on sustainable landscapes and eco-enterprise development enabled two key multi-stakeholder platform meetings to be convened to enhance sustainable landscape management in the Kigezi region. At these meetings, collaborative work plans, resource mobilisation and budgets were developed and then reviewed to secure government and private-sector partnerships. Discussions focused on natural resource management and governance, technology transfer and waste management around Lake Bunyonyi. Key recommendations included strengthening monitoring, securing financial support and involving religious leaders in environmental advocacy.

c. *Community-led programming, partnerships and capacity building*

In 2024, Self Help Africa made significant progress towards reviewing and strengthening its approach to community-led programming, locally-led partnership and system strengthening. This included the publication of the [Community-led Programming Position Paper](#) and a review of Self Help Africa's partnership and programmes approach. This culminated in the drafting of a localisation policy and the revision of Self Help Africa's Partnership Guide, which was due to be published in 2025.

Burkina Faso: Self Help Africa continued to work with two local partners to implement project activities in Burkina Faso during 2024, with regular annual and quarterly planning and review workshops held. For the Irish Aid-funded project, a technical monitoring committee comprised regional, provincial and municipal authorities, as well as representatives of technical services in charge of agriculture, water, humanitarian action, economy and planning.

Kenya: The Cassava Market Access Project strengthened community-led programming by equipping small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), seed merchants, and processing units with skills in cassava seed propagation, financial management and agro-processing. Partnerships with county departments facilitated gender and nutrition training, which was cascaded to 1,072 smallholder farmers through trained champions.

Nigeria: In the Rural Women Entrepreneurs project, community members played a direct role in identifying business opportunities, designing interventions and managing women business centres. Partnerships with microfinance institutions and vocational training centres facilitated women's access to finance and business skills. Women entrepreneurs received training in leadership, financial literacy, bookkeeping, digital marketing and value addition, while male community leaders were engaged to challenge gender norms and support women's economic participation.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director's Report)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

a. Legal Structure

United Purpose is a charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, with registration number 1278887 and charity number 272465, renamed from Concern Universal in November 2016. It was incorporated on 27 September 1976 and established under a memorandum and articles of association (subsequently updated by special resolution in November 2003, October 2019 and August 2021), which set out the objects and powers of the charitable company.

On 5 August 2021, United Purpose merged with Gorta, a like-minded organisation head-quartered in Ireland that trades as Self Help Africa. Gorta is registered in Ireland; its company registration number is 28228, its charity number is 20008895 and its registered address is 4th floor, Joyce's Court, 38 Talbot street, Dublin 1, DO1 C861.

United Purpose is a wholly owned subsidiary of Gorta (t/a Self Help Africa).

b. Subsidiaries and related organisations

Village Aid, charity number 1067322, is a subsidiary of United Purpose. The primary objective of Village Aid is the relief of poverty among persons in African rural communities. This objective is primarily achieved by supporting sustainable livelihoods for rural farmers and improving their resilience to the impact of erratic weather caused by climate change. The main activity of the charity is to raise funds in support of the shared mission of Village Aid Ltd, United Purpose and Self Help Africa. It is intended that Village Aid will move under the direct control of Self Help Africa UK in 2025.

Country offices - In 2024, United Purpose operated country offices in Bangladesh, Brazil, Mozambique, Senegal and The Gambia.

During 2024, United Purpose Malawi and United Purpose Nigeria ceased to exist, and all current projects were transferred to Self Help Africa Malawi and Nigeria respectively. During 2024, the localisation of the country programmes in Bangladesh and Brazil commenced – this process will conclude in 2025.

CUMO Microfinance - from the 1st of November 2024, CUMO Microfinance a subsidiary of United Purpose, moved under the control of the Gorta Group. The company's registered address is Plot No 278/6, Area 6, P.O Box X99, Lilongwe, Malawi.

c. Governance

United Purpose is governed by a Board of Trustees, who are responsible for setting the strategy of the organisation and its governance.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director’s Report)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

c. Governance (continued)

The trustees delegate responsibility for the day-to-day running of the charity to the CEO of Self Help Africa, who reports directly to the trustees and manages the execution of the strategy as directed by the trustees. The CEO is assisted by a Senior Leadership Team of Self Help Africa, comprising of those who have responsibility for programmes, external affairs, governance, strategy, finance and operations across the group. All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. The minimum number of trustees is 3.

A conflict-of-interest policy is in place that requires trustees to disclose and manage actual or potential conflicts of interests and/or or relationships that may give rise to a perception of a conflict of interest.

As previously noted, United Purpose is part of the wider Self Help Africa global organisation. The activities of United Purpose are carried out in association with Self Help Africa. Both companies have aligned their objectives under a consolidated strategic plan and management team. The trustees of United Purpose subscribe and contribute to the group strategic plan. The strategic plan for the overall group is approved both by the Group Board and by the United Purpose Board of Trustees.

New trustees are appointed by ordinary resolution of its sole member, Self Help Africa, in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Training is given to new trustees in relation to their role and responsibilities as a director and in relation to the strategy and objectives of United Purpose and the broader group.

The trustees met on 5 occasions in 2024. The record of attendance by each trustee is as follows:

Trustee	Attendance
Mary Robinson	5/5
Catherine Cottrell	2/3
Derval Owens	3/5
Hadi Husani	5/5
Geoff Meagher	4/5

In support of governing matters relevant to the Board, the Group Board has established the following committees. Trustees from United Purpose sit on each of these committees.

- Audit, Finance and Risk Committee (Dervla Owens)
- Programmes Review Committee (Catherine Fitzgibbon)
- Governance and Nominations Committee (Geoff Meagher)
- People and Culture Committee (Mary Robinson)
- Fundraising Committee (Hadi Husani)

Remuneration of key management personnel is delegated to the People and Culture Committee of Self Help Africa.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director's Report)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

c. Governance (continued)

United Purposes books of account are located at Office 124 W2, 1st Floor Wellington House, Wellington Road, Cardiff, CF11 9BE, United Kingdom.

d. Fundraising declarations

United Purpose complies with the regulatory standards for fundraising in the UK, including guidance published by the Charity Commission. United Purpose is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and is committed to the Fundraising Promise, compliance with the Fundraising Preference Service and adherence to the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Practice. United Purpose is not aware of any instances of non-compliance with the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Practice in 2024.

e. Staff and Volunteers

The organisation acknowledges with gratitude the work of its staff and that of its volunteers in 2024. The major achievements during the year are due to the dedication of all of these people.

United Purpose is an equal opportunities employer. The aim of its equal opportunities policy is to ensure that all people receive equality of opportunity regardless of gender, race, religion, disability, nationality, marital/family status or sexual orientation.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT

The main purpose of the organisation, as set out in its vision statement, is for sustainable livelihoods and healthy lives for all in a changing climate. United Purpose fulfils its charitable duties through a focus on the following core activities:

1. Contributing to sustainable landscapes, resilient food systems and healthy communities. This work includes supporting families and communities to sustainably increase and diversify food production on their smallholding and ensuring they have the means for a nutritious diet.
2. Supporting the growth of inclusive, profitable and sustainable businesses that can provide services and decent employment for communities. This work includes linking small scale farmers, cooperatives and producer groups to the market.
3. Preparing for and responding to both long-term and sudden onset crises in communities where we have a presence and seeking to improve resilience.
4. Strengthening systems and cultivating an enabling policy environment, to maximize the potential success of these focus areas.

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

The benefits of these activities are monitored through the implementation and evaluation of all programmes, which can include surveys and interviews with programme participants. All programmes have baseline data and output/outcome indicators against which results are measured.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director's Report)

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT (continued)

As a recognised development and humanitarian organisation, United Purpose and Self Help Africa work with other non-governmental organisations (NGOs), donors, governments and stakeholders across the countries we work in, as well as globally. We are an active member of the UN cluster system as well as other global groups, including the ECHO Humanitarian Watch Group, the Dóchas Humanitarian Working Group, the Irish Emergency Alliance and the Core Humanitarian Standard Alliance.

Programme participants are primarily people living in extreme poverty in Africa. There can be a risk of harm to staff, partners and programme participants in some of the countries where United Purpose and Self Help Africa delivers programmes, in particular areas impacted by conflict or natural disasters. Trustees are satisfied that United Purpose and Self Help Africa have the appropriate policies and procedures in place to minimize, manage and mitigate risks to ensure that programme benefits outweigh any potential risks related to those involved with our work. There is no private benefit flowing from any of the charity's purposes.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

To achieve its mission and fulfil its charitable purpose, United Purpose implements programmes in 5 countries and also supports the international programmes of the Self Help Africa.

Overview of operating context for 2024:

During 2024, our programme countries faced several challenges, including complex humanitarian crises, insecurity and conflict, socioeconomic instability and inflationary pressures, as well as climate volatility. Food and agricultural input prices remained high across Africa in 2024 due to tight global supplies of grains and vegetable oil arising from the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict. Eastern and Southern Africa were affected by an El Niño event, resulting in more than 61 million people in southern Africa impacted by drought and 5 million people in Eastern Africa impacted by flooding. The El Niño risks were accurately forecast during the last quarter of 2023, so countries that were likely to be affected were able to take anticipatory actions aimed at mitigating the worst impacts.

Programme highlights in 2024

The key achievements and performance of United Purpose, during 2024, are included in the section on *Our Work in 2023- Strategic Report*. Some key points of note relating to United Purpose programmes include:

- **Mozambique:** Key programme highlights include the *Strengthening Food Systems to Promote Increased Value Chain Employment* Project. The project seeks to strengthen the current private and public partnerships to scale out economically viable business models that will stimulate last-mile access to inputs/services (including micro-finance, agro-processing, extension), private sector development (structured market access), farmer organisations and young rural entrepreneurs, financial inclusion and promotion of financial literacy and business solutions for rural entrepreneurs.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director's Report)

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

Programme highlights in 2024 (continued)

- **Senegal:** Key programme highlights include the continuation of the *Gestion des forêts de mangrove du Sénégal* project funded by the European Union and led by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) which focuses on the integrated protection of mangroves, through strengthening communities to restore and manage them.
- **The Gambia:** Key programme highlights include the *Integrated Climate Adaptation and Community Resilience Building* project, funded by Irish Aid via Self Help Africa. In 2024, the project supported 18 communities on diversified livelihood alternatives as part of the adaptation plans through training and provision of startup capital in soap making. In addition, the project has restored 36 hectares of mangroves which were successfully covered by the adaptation plans.
- **Brazil:** A key programme activity in Brazil in 2024 was the *Urban Agriculture and Food Security in João Pessoa* project which is a small-scale urban agriculture project being implemented in the greater João Pessoa region. In 2024, the project reached 196 people directly and 784 indirectly.
- **Bangladesh:** A key programme highlight in Bangladesh in 2024 was the EU-funded *Leadership to Ensure Adequate Nutrition (LEAN)* project, which concluded in 2024. The LEAN project's multi-sectoral approach has played a pivotal role in improving nutrition, health awareness, and economic opportunities within the Chittagong Hill Tracts. The reduction in child stunting, increased capacity of government stakeholders, and sustainable business operations through Women Business Centres (WBCs) highlight the project's long-term impact.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The financial review for the year is set out in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities on page 32.

In 2024, income decreased by 62% to £4.9m (2023: £12.7m), expenditure decreased by 42% to £8.4m (2023: £14.4m) resulting in a net expenditure for the year of £3.5m (2023: £1.7m).

The results of CUMO have been included on a 10 month basis, as control of this subsidiary passed to Self Help Africa from the 1st of November.

Income

Overall income in 2024 decreased to £4.9m (2023: £12.7m). Donations and legacy income fell to £0.13m (2023: £0.15m) while income from charitable activities fell to £4.7m (2023: £12.1m). The fall in income is primarily due to the closure of country programmes during the year and the move of other programmes to Self Help Africa. Income from our carbon sales (in other income) decreased significantly in 2024 as a result of this activity moving directly under Self Help Africa.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director's Report)

FINANCIAL REVIEW (continued)

Expenditure

Overall expenditure in 2024 decreased to £8.4m (2023: £14.4m). Expenditure on raising funds decreased by £20k because of certain costs being moved to Self Help Africa. Similar to the fall in income, the fall in expenditure on charitable activities of £8.1m is primarily due to the closure of country programmes during the year and the move of other programmes to Self Help Africa. The decrease in expenditure in CUMO is largely due the devaluation of the Malawi Kwacha during 2023.

Other expenditure represents the transfer of the net assets of UP Malawi and UP Nigeria to Self Help Africa at the start of 2024, and the transfer of the net assets of CUMO to Self Help Africa as at the 31st of October 2024.

Net movement in funds

At the end of 2024, the net movement in funds was a deficit of £3.5m. A transfer of funds of £1.9m from unrestricted to restricted took place during 2024 to align restricted funds to the amounts due to donors as shown in page 50. This movement has increased the deficit in unrestricted funds for the year by £2.3m and moved our restricted funds to a positive position by £68k.

Reserves

The trustees have established a policy whereby unrestricted funds not committed nor invested in tangible fixed assets ('the free reserves') should be kept to a minimum for operational purposes, so that excess funds can be made available to fund the wider work of the Self Help Africa Group.

The Reserves Policy will be implemented alongside other governance and financial policies of United Purpose and is intended to support the goals and strategies contained in these related policies and in strategic and operational plans.

The target amount of unrestricted reserves (excluding designated reserves) is £10k. At the end of 2024, the restricted reserves of the organisation were £0.6m (2023: £0.5m), unrestricted reserves were -£2.1m (2023: £0.2m). The restructuring plan referenced in *Future Plans* will address this issue.

Going concern

As outlined in the *Future Plans* section, United Purpose is undergoing a major restructure in 2025. Head office costs are being reduced and streamlined, and all country programmes will either close or move under Self Help Africa by the end of 2025.

The trustees fully recognise their responsibility to assess the going concern basis of the charity and based on these restructuring plans, have a reasonable expectation that United Purpose will be able to operate within the level of its resources for a period of at least 12 months.

The deficit in unrestricted reserves is not funded by restricted reserves, rather it is funded by the Gorta Group not calling in the amounts owed to it. The Gorta Group will not request repayment of amounts owed to it unless there are sufficient funds in place to meet the company liabilities as they fall due.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director's Report)

FINANCIAL REVIEW (continued)

Going concern (continued)

The Board of Gorta t/a Self Help Africa has confirmed this in writing to United Purpose and outlined that it is prepared to support United Purpose and to make funds available for a period of not less than 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements to enable it to meet debts as they fall due.

Therefore, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual financial statements. The trustees believe that there is no material uncertainty about United Purpose's ability to continue as a going concern.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

Risk Management

United Purpose operates in an ever-changing context, both in the UK charity sector and in fragile geographies with local communities.

Managing risks effectively is central to the achievement of our strategic goals and is overseen by the global board and the board of United Purpose.

A formal risk management process and internal control framework is in place to ensure the proactive and consistent management of risks, both to reduce the negative impact of risk and maximise strategic opportunities.

An overall risk register for the group is approved by the group board and then adopted by the trustees of UP.

The top 6 principal risks and uncertainties for 2024 are as follows:

1. **Sustainable Finance:** This is the risk that we fail to manage and secure the financial position of UP and Self Help Africa in a sustainable way. Given the volatility of income streams, the growth in institutional funding, increased inflation globally and external shocks.

The main controls in place to manage this risk are finance systems, professionally qualified finance staff in HQ and in country offices, finance staff involved in donor proposals, and the management of funds and budget approval at Board level.

2. **Staff, Recruitment & Retention:** This is the risk that a highly competitive employment market, uncompetitive reward framework, lack of succession planning or insufficient staff development and retention strategies could leave the organisation with a loss of institutional knowledge, insufficient skills and experience to deliver the strategic plan.

The main controls in place to manage this risk are a people and culture committee of the Board being established, competitive and wide-ranging benefits packages, training and talent investment.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director's Report)

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES (continued)

Risk Management (continued)

3. **Fraud & Corruption:** This is the risk that a material fraud perpetrated by employees, partners or others may result in a financial loss and adversely affect our relationship with donors and other external stakeholders.

The main controls in place to manage this risk are an Anti-Fraud and Anti-Corruption Policy, a whistleblowing line, an investigation committee procedure for all complaints received, and an internal audit function at headquarters and in some country programmes offices.

4. **Global Staff Wellbeing:** This is the risk that staff experience excessive and unsustainable workloads, which leads to risk of burnout, health issues for staff and poor performance against organisational objectives.

The main controls in place to manage this risk are an Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) and wellbeing seminars for all staff which are held on a regular basis.

5. **Attract, Retain & Manage Funding:** Attracting institutional funding is key if we are to reach as many programme participants as possible through our work. However, there is a risk that the organisation fails to attract, retain and manage increased levels of institutional funding from diverse sources due to government policies, the competitive funding environment, the global economic situation, compliance failures and an inability to demonstrate impact.

This risk is managed by having technical support teams in place – programme support, finance, monitoring and evaluation and technical assistance.

6. **Staff Safety & Security:** This is the risk that external events or inadequate internal processes could lead to death, injury, illness, kidnap or trauma of staff members or others to whom we have a duty of care.

To manage this risk a safety and security policy is in place and security briefings are provided to staff upon arrival at a country programme.

Internal Audit Function

The groups internal audit function has developed an Internal Audit Framework with a standardised approach to audit, along with standard reporting tools and programmes. The internal audits focus on the organisations internal control environment and incorporate a risk-based approach to internal audit planning.

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director's Report)

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES (continued)

Safeguarding

During 2024, the organisation continued to implement its Safeguarding, and Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse policies which are aligned with international best practice. A Global Safeguarding Lead was appointed in 2024, and mandatory safeguarding training was rolled out across the global organisation.

To promote a culture of safeguarding, it was embedded as a regular agenda item into board, leadership, and staff meetings, with senior leaders actively advocating through video messaging. A digital Community of Practice was launched to foster learning and information sharing. Case management systems were strengthened with new templates, tools, and guidance, while building up of a roster of trained investigators commenced to enhance response capacity.

Overall, the organisation upheld a survivor centred and zero-tolerance approach, ensuring funder and stakeholder transparency while continuously improving safeguarding mechanisms based on learnings from cases.

FUTURE PLANS

Due to significant changes and challenges to the global funding environment, during 2025, the global organisation will be undergoing a major restructuring which will involve reducing the number of programme countries to seven by the end of 2025. For United Purpose, this will mean that the country programmes in the Gambia and Senegal will close in 2025. In addition, United Purpose Mozambique is expected to move under the direct control of Self Help Africa at the start of 2026.

As noted previously, plans to localise our country programmes in Bangladesh and Brazil are due to implemented in full by the end of 2025 and Village Aid is expected to move under the direct control of Self Help Africa (UK).

In line with these decisions, the number of employees, across the global support offices, is also being reduced. This will all result in a significant reduction in the income and expenditure of United Purpose in future years.

This difficult restructure was required to reduce the global organisations cost base, thereby securing its future financial sustainability.

While this restructure is happening our country programmes remain focused on the implementation of the strategic plan. The plan outlines a commitment to localisation, and community led and market based approaches which we will continue to support and develop during 2025.

United Purpose remains committed to continue its work in collaboration with the Self Help Africa group.

OTHER

Political donations

No political donations were made during the year (2023 – £nil).

UNITED PURPOSE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

(Incorporating a Strategic Report and Director's Report)

OTHER (continued)

Health and safety

United Purpose is committed to managing and conducting its work activities in such a way as to ensure - so far as is reasonably practicable - the safety, health and welfare at work of its employees and volunteers. United Purpose management continuously monitors compliance in line with legislative requirements.

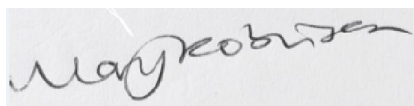
Post balance sheet events

As outlined in Future Plans, the United Purpose Senegal, the Gambia and Mozambique will cease at the end of 2025, with United Purpose Mozambique moving to Self Help Africa.

Auditors

The auditors, RBK Audit UK Limited, have indicated their willingness to continue in office.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees



Mary Robinson

Chair

Date: 18 September 2025

UNITED PURPOSE

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

The trustees (who are also directors of United Purpose for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

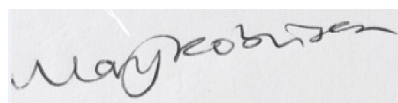
Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law, the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". Under company law, the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the net income or expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Charitable Company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees



Mary Robinson
Chair

Date: 18 September 2025

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF UNITED PURPOSE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

Opinion

We have audited the Financial Statements of United Purpose (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries ('the group') for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the group and parent charitable company Balance Sheets, the consolidated Statement of Cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). In applying that framework the trustees have elected to have regard to the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities (SORP).

In our opinion the Financial Statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Statements section of our report.

We are independent of the group and parent charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the Financial Statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's (the 'FRC') Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on United Purpose's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF UNITED PURPOSE (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Annual Report, including the Strategic Report other than the group Financial Statements and our auditors' report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the group Financial Statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the group Financial Statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the group Financial Statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the Financial Statements are prepared is consistent with the Financial Statements; and
- the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the Financial Statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibility statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the Financial Statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of Financial Statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF UNITED PURPOSE (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Responsibilities of trustees (continued)

In preparing the Financial Statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group's and the parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the group or the parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Financial Statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these Financial Statements financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We considered the nature of the group's and the parent charitable company's industry and its control environment, and reviewed the group and the parent charitable company's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to fraud and compliance with laws and regulations. We also enquired of management, internal audit and directors about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including those that are specific to the group and the parent charitable company's business sector.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the group operates in, and identified the key laws and regulations that:

- had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. These included UK Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, pensions legislation and tax legislation; and
- do not have a direct effect on the financial statements compliance with which may be fundamental to the group's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. These included UK employment law and the Data Protection Act 2018.

We discussed among the audit engagement team regarding the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF UNITED PURPOSE (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud (continued)

As a result of performing the above, we identified the greatest potential for fraud in the following areas, and our specific procedures performed to address it are described below:

Completeness, accuracy and occurrence of income:

- we assessed the design and determined the implementation of the key controls over income recognition process; and
- performed substantive procedures on a sample basis to assess appropriateness of income recognition.

In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override. In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluated the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

In addition to the above, our procedures to respond to the risks identified included the following:

- reviewing financial statement disclosures by testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatements due to fraud;
- enquiring of management and the group audit finance & risk committee concerning actual and potential litigation and claims, and instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations in this charitable company; and
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and reviewing internal audit reports.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Michelle O'Donoghue (Senior Statutory Auditor)

RBK Audit UK Limited

Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditor

RBK House

Irishtown

Athlone

Co. Westmeath

Date: 19 September 2025

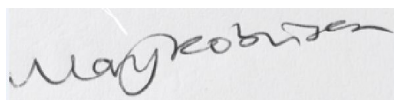
UNITED PURPOSE

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 Restricted Funds £	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 CUMO £	2024 Total £	2023 Restricted Funds £	2023 Unrestricted Funds £	2023 CUMO £	2023 Total £
INCOME FROM:									
Donations and legacies	2	-	130,014	-	130,014	-	152,284	-	152,284
Charitable activities	3	3,052,987	328,208	1,352,919	4,734,114	9,544,475	636,852	1,927,402	12,108,729
Other income	4	10,702	9,620	-	20,322	427,196	37,180	-	464,376
Total		3,063,689	467,842	1,352,919	4,884,450	9,971,671	826,316	1,927,402	12,725,389
EXPENDITURE ON:									
Raising funds	5a	-	15,447	-	15,447	-	35,171	-	35,171
Charitable activities	5a	4,093,968	1,173,762	1,047,179	6,314,909	10,176,251	1,931,309	2,305,767	14,413,327
Other - transfer of net assets	6	791,502	(358,824)	1,663,802	2,096,480	-	-	-	-
Total		4,885,470	830,385	2,710,981	8,426,836	10,176,251	1,966,480	2,305,767	14,448,498
Net outgoing resources before transfers		(1,821,782)	(362,543)	(1,358,062)	(3,542,386)	(204,580)	(1,140,163)	(378,365)	(1,723,109)
Transfers between funds		1,889,641	(1,889,641)	-	-	(1,194,789)	1,194,789	-	-
Net movement in funds	17	67,860	(2,252,184)	(1,358,062)	(3,542,386)	(1,399,369)	54,625	(378,365)	(1,723,109)
Funds at the start of the period		519,980	174,928	1,358,062	2,052,970	1,919,349	120,303	1,736,427	3,776,079
Funds at the end of the period	17	587,840	(2,077,256)	-	(1,489,416)	519,980	174,928	1,358,062	2,052,970

There are no other recognised gains or losses other than those listed above and the net movement in funds for the financial year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

On behalf of the Board:



Mary Robinson
Chair

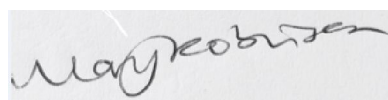
Date: 18 September 2025

UNITED PURPOSE

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	GROUP 2024 £	2023 £	CHARITY 2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	11	73,233	376,528	73,235	91,524
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors & prepayments	12	129,836	3,624,795	129,354	1,574,576
Cash at bank and in hand	13	962,510	2,979,388	869,819	2,525,381
Total current assets		1,092,346	6,604,183	999,173	4,099,957
LIABILITIES					
Creditors: Amounts due within one year	14	(2,654,995)	(4,012,866)	(2,573,776)	(3,515,722)
Net current assets		(1,562,649)	2,591,317	(1,574,603)	584,235
Total assets less current liabilities		(1,489,416)	2,967,845	(1,501,368)	675,759
Creditors: amounts due greater than one year	15	-	(914,875)	-	(26,420)
NET ASSETS	18	(1,489,416)	2,052,970	(1,501,368)	649,339
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Restricted funds		587,840	519,980	587,840	519,980
Unrestricted funds		(2,077,256)	1,532,990	(2,089,208)	129,360
CHARITY FUNDS	17	(1,489,416)	2,052,970	(1,501,368)	649,340

On behalf of Board:



Mary Robinson
Chair

Date: 18 September 2025

UNITED PURPOSE

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
Net outgoing resources	(3,542,386)		(1,723,109)	
Depreciation	81,688		136,519	
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	374		20,497	
FX on fixed assets	344,417		206,518	
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	3,494,959		(832,979)	
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(2,272,746)		1,167,377	
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities		(1,893,694)		(1,025,177)
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Purchase of fixed assets	(123,184)		(156,685)	
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		(123,184)		(156,685)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the period		(2,016,878)		(1,181,862)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		2,979,388		4,161,250
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period		962,510		2,979,388

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the group financial statements of United Purpose ('the Charity') and its subsidiaries (collectively 'the Group').

a) Statutory information

United Purpose is a charitable Company Limited by Guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The registered office address is Office 124 (Lewis Street), W2 1st Floor, Wellington House, Wellington Road, Cardiff, CF11 9BEJ.

On 5 August 2021, United Purpose merged with Gorta, a like-minded organisation head-quartered in Ireland that trades as Self Help Africa. Gorta is registered in Ireland; its company registration number is 28228, its charity number is 20008895 and its registered address is 4th floor, Joyce's Court, 38 Talbot street, Dublin 1, DO1 C861.

b) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), the Charities Act 2011, and the Companies Act 2006.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charitable company and its wholly owned subsidiaries on a line-by-line basis. During 2024, its subsidiaries were CUMO Microfinance Ltd (to the 31st of October 2024) and Village Aid Ltd (of which United Purpose is a controlling member). Transactions and balances between the charitable company and its subsidiaries have been eliminated from the consolidated financial statements. Balances between the companies are disclosed in the notes of the charitable company's balance sheet. A separate Statement of Financial Activities, or Income and Expenditure Account, for the charitable company itself is not presented because the charitable company has taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption available to it under paragraph 1.12(b) of FRS 102 not to present its own cash flows statement.

c) Public benefit entity

The Charity and its subsidiaries meet the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

d) Going concern

The trustees have prepared the accounts on a going concern basis. In reaching the decision the trustees have undertaken an assessment of the financial risks that United Purpose faces. This assessment has included a review of financial forecasts for the current financial year.

The Gorta Group t/a Self Help Africa (Self Help Africa) will make funds available to United Purpose for a period of not less than twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements to enable it to meet debts as they fall due.

Self Help Africa is prepared to support United Purpose to this level and beyond should the need arise. The financial statements do not contain any adjustments which may be necessary if the going concern basis is no longer appropriate.

e) Income

Income in the statement of financial activities is recognised only when the Group is legally entitled to the income, the amounts involved can be measured with sufficient reliability and it is probable that the income will be received by the Group.

Donations and legacies

This income (which consists of monetary donations from the public, legacies and events together with related Gift Aid income) is recognised in the period in which the Group is entitled to the resource, when receipt is probable and when the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. In the case of monetary donations from the public this income is recognised when the donations are received, with legacies it is when it is probable that it will be received (i.e. where there is a grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached are within the control of the entity), whereas with Gift Aid income it is when all legislative requirements have been met and the amounts can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Government and other grants

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

e) Income (continued)

Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the Group has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the Group of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the Group which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Other income

Other income includes bank interest and sale of carbon credits. Interest income is recognised in the period in which it becomes receivable. The sale of carbon credits continues to contribute to the ongoing costs of the carbon projects. If excess funds are available, they are reinvested into the projects and general funds of the charity.

f) Fund accounting

United Purpose maintains various types of funds as follows:

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or funds which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. Such purposes are within the overall aims of the organisation.

Unrestricted Funds represent amounts which are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the overall objectives of the Group. The trustees have established policy whereby unrestricted funds not committed nor invested in tangible fixed assets ('the free reserves') should be kept to a minimum for operational purposes, so that excess funds can be made available to fund the wider work of the Gorta Group t/a Self Help Africa.

g) Expenditure

Resources expended are analysed between costs of charitable activities and costs of raising funds. The costs of each activity are separately accumulated, disclosed and analysed according to their major components. Expenditure is recognised when a legal or constructive obligation exists as a result of a past event, a transfer of economic benefit is required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred. Grants to partner organisations are included in the Statement of Financial Activities based on the expenditure incurred by partners during the year.

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

g) Expenditure (continued)

Charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the cost of livelihoods, health & wellbeing, exploitation and conflict and environmental work undertaken to further the purposes of the Group and their associated support costs. All costs of charitable activities are recognised on an accruals basis.

Raising funds

Costs of raising funds comprise of fundraising costs that include the costs of advertising, producing publications, printing and mailing fundraising material and staff costs. All costs of raising funds are recognised on an accruals basis.

Other

Other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds nor part of expenditure on charitable activities. The transfer of the net assets is comprised of the value of the net assets of the subsidiary and branches transferred to Self Help Africa, at the date of their transfer.

Support and governance costs

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the Group. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

Support costs comprise of costs incurred to support the Group's activities which cannot be attributed directly to one activity.

Support and governance costs are re-allocated to each of the activities on the following basis, which is an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity.

- Livelihoods: 54%
- Health and Wellbeing: 23%
- Exploitation and Conflict: 7%
- Environment: 16%

h) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

i) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Assets which cost less than £2,000 are not capitalised. Items procured under project funding are expensed in the statement of financial activities in the year of purchase.

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

i) Tangible fixed assets (continued)

Depreciation is calculated to write off the original cost of the tangible fixed assets, less estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives, on a straight line basis at the following annual rates:

United Purpose

- Office furniture and equipment - 20%
- ICT Equipment - 33.3%
- Vehicles - 33.3%
- Drilling rig – 33%
- Land & Building - 5%
- Capitalised development costs - 33%

CUMO

- Office furniture and equipment - 25%
- ICT Equipment - 33.3%
- Vehicles - 20%

Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

j) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

k) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank in hand is comprised of cash on deposit at banks requiring less than 3 months' notice of withdrawal.

l) Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

m) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

n) Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable under the scheme by the charity to the fund. The charity has no liability under the scheme other than for the payment of those contributions.

o) Transactions in foreign currencies

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate ruling on the date of the transaction. Exchange gains and losses are recognised in the statement of financial activities.

p) Taxation

The charity is granted exemption from corporation tax as all its income arises from or is applied for charitable purposes. Its subsidiary CUMO is a controlled foreign company, however trading profits of CUMO arise from and are applied to the charitable purpose of providing microfinance loans to clients in rural areas within Malawi living in extreme poverty, to enable them to improve their livelihoods.

q) Contingent assets

Carbon units, known as Verified Emission Reduction Units (VERs), represent an asset of value to United Purpose and are tradeable. The value of these units is subject to market volatility which is outside of the organisation's control. United Purpose recognises the value of verified but unsold carbon units as a contingent asset.

Sale of VERs which are contracted are recorded as assets directly in the balance sheet. Income received from the sale of carbon units is used to contribute to the charity's work.

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024 Restricted £	2024 Unrestricted £	Total 2024 £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Unrestricted £	Total 2023 £
Regular Giving	-	130,014	130,014	-	152,284	152,284
Total	-	130,014	130,014	-	152,284	152,284

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024 Restricted £	2024 Unrestricted £	Total 2024 £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Unrestricted £	Total 2023 £
Global Affairs Canada	512,964	-	512,964	531,867	-	531,867
Embassy of Sweden	505,390	-	505,390	-	-	-
European Commission	499,127	-	499,127	2,320,804	-	2,320,804
UNDP	280,668	-	280,668	572,948	-	572,948
Coca Cola	269,188	-	269,188	266,122	-	266,122
UNCDF	220,556	-	220,556	261,521	-	261,521
IOM	216,465	-	216,465	139,635	-	139,635
Irish Aid	194,312	-	194,312	323,928	-	323,928
Indirect cost recovery	-	194,443	194,443	-	628,577	628,577
IUCN	156,716	-	156,716	159,088	-	159,088
Waitrose Foundation	147,642	-	147,642	138,762	-	138,762
The One Foundation	-	-	-	1,054,965	-	1,054,965
GIZ	-	-	-	906,377	-	906,377
Penny Appeal	-	-	-	696,232	-	696,232
UNICEF	-	-	-	495,469	-	495,469
Other	49,959	133,765	183,724	1,676,757	8,275	1,685,032
Subtotal	3,052,987	328,208	3,381,195	9,544,475	636,852	10,181,327
CUMO	-	1,352,919	1,352,919	-	1,927,402	1,927,402
Total	3,052,987	1,681,127	4,734,114	9,544,475	2,564,254	12,108,729

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

4. OTHER INCOME

	2024 Restricted £	2024 Unrestricted £	Total 2024 £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Unrestricted £	Total 2023 £
Carbon credits	10,702	-	10,702	427,196	37,180	464,376
Others	-	9,620	9,620	-	-	-
Total	10,702	9,620	20,322	427,196	37,180	464,376

5. EXPENDITURE

5(a). TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES							Total Costs of Raising Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	Livelihoods £	Health and Wellbeing £	Exploitation and Conflict £	Environment £	Support £	Governance £	Total Charitable Activities £	£	£	£
Staff costs (Note 8)	775,291	322,410	98,048	234,427	468,395	21,734	1,920,305	11,991	1,932,296	3,297,329
Office costs	262,229	109,049	33,163	79,291	155,935	166	639,833	3,456	643,289	3,943,763
Transport	93,873	39,038	11,872	28,385	-	-	173,168	-	173,168	191,525
Equipment (not capitalised)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,832
Grants payable to partners (Note 5b)	178,741	229,970	-	-	-	-	408,711	-	408,711	1,592,940
Other project activities	1,762,827	577,444	245,542	587,079	-	-	3,172,892	-	3,172,892	5,419,109
Total resources expended	3,072,961	1,277,911	388,625	929,182	624,330	21,900	6,314,909	15,447	6,330,356	14,448,498
Support costs	338,446	140,745	42,802	102,337	(624,330)	-	-	-	-	-
Governance costs	11,872	4,937	1,501	3,590	-	(21,900)	-	-	-	-
Total 2024	3,423,279	1,423,593	432,928	1,035,109	-	-	6,314,909	15,447	6,330,356	
Total 2023	9,445,504	3,346,372	864,499	756,953	-	-	14,413,327	35,171		14,448,498

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

5(b). GRANTS PAYABLE TO PARTNERS

	Livelihoods £	Health and Wellbeing £	Exploitation and Conflict £	Environment £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Bangladesh	65,788	229,970	-	-	295,758	1,115,139
Gambia	112,953	-	-	-	112,953	477,801
Total 2024	178,741	229,970	-	-	408,711	
Total 2023	553,423	979,797	-	59,720		1,592,940

5(c). ANALYSIS OF GRANTS PAID IN EXCESS OF £50,000

	2024 £	2023 £
GAIN - Bangladesh	-	59,833
Green Hill - Bangladesh	-	57,771
IDF – Bangladesh	-	101,294
Humane Society International- Bangladesh	162,442	784,403
WACOMP - Gambia	-	145,226
Waitrose Foundation - Gambia	-	91,824
ICCR - Climate Adaptation - Gambia	-	59,832
IUCN Livelihoods & Mangroves Eco-systems - Gambia	-	144,008
Grants under £50,000	246,269	148,749
Total	408,711	1,592,940

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

6. OTHER – TRANSFER OF NET ASSETS

	2024 Restricted £	2024 Unrestricted £	Total 2024 £
Malawi	635,743	(143,719)	492,024
Nigeria	155,759	(215,105)	(59,346)
CUMO	-	1,663,802	1,663,802
Total	791,502	1,304,978	2,096,480

On 1 January 2024, UP Nigeria and UP Malawi ceased to exist and the net assets of the two entities were transferred to Self Help Africa Ireland. There was no consideration exchanged between the Charity and Self Help Africa Ireland for the value of these net assets.

On the 31 October 2024, CUMO's transferred to Self Help Africa Ireland. CUMO's income and expenditure for 10 months are recognised in the financial statements of the Charity. On 1 November 2024, CUMO's net assets as at 1 January 2024, along with the surplus generated for the 10 months, were transferred to Self Help Africa Ireland. No consideration was exchanged between the Charity and Self Help Africa Ireland for the transfer of these net assets.

7. NET OUTGOING RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	81,688	136,519
Trustees' indemnity insurance	6,586	12,534
Trustees' expenses	-	128
Loss on disposal	374	20,497
Auditors' remuneration:		
• UK group accounts audit fee	41,343	42,000
Operating lease rentals:		
• Property	183,193	246,815

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

8. STAFF COSTS

	UK and International £	Overseas £	2024 £	2023 £
Salaries and wages	465,532	1,430,176	1,895,708	3,195,350
Social security costs	23,564	-	23,564	74,986
Pension contributions	13,024	-	13,024	26,993
Total 2024	502,120	1,430,176	1,932,296	
Total 2023	653,583	2,643,746		3,297,329

No employees received emoluments, as defined for taxation purposes greater than £60,000 in the current or prior year.

United Purpose is managed by the same senior management team as Gorta t/a Self Help Africa. The total remuneration for key management personnel has been borne by the Group.

During the financial year, no trustees received any remuneration or benefit in kind (2023: £Nil). During the financial year, no trustees were reimbursed for travel expenses during the period (2023: £128).

9. STAFF NUMBERS

	UK and International No.	Overseas No.	2024 No.	2023 No.
Charity				
Operations	4	91	95	209
Subsidiary (CUMO)				
Operations	-	215	215	192
Total Group Employees	4	306	310	401

10. TAXATION

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

GROUP:	Land & Buildings £	Drilling Rig £	Office furniture & equipment £	Vehicles £	Total £
COST					
At 1 January 2024	218,094	34,767	358,402	806,792	1,418,055
Additions in year	-	-	3,255	119,929	123,184
Disposals in year	-	-	(1,123)	(502)	(1,625)
FX on consolidation	(91,568)	(34,767)	(122,331)	(519,723)	(768,389)
At 31 December 2024	126,526	-	238,203	406,496	771,225
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 January 2024	98,043	32,476	295,399	615,609	1,041,527
Charge for the year	5,791	-	22,992	52,905	81,688
Elimination on disposal	-	-	(1,251)	-	(1,251)
FX on consolidation	(4,689)	(32,476)	(105,210)	(281,597)	(423,972)
At 31 December 2024	99,145	-	211,930	386,917	697,992
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 December 2024	27,381	-	26,273	19,579	73,233
At 31 December 2023	120,051	2,291	63,003	191,183	376,528

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (continued)

	Land & Buildings £	Drilling Rig £	Office furniture & equipment £	Vehicles £	Total £
CHARITY:					
COST					
At 1 January 2024	126,526	35,225	267,169	551,931	980,851
Additions in year	-	-	-	-	
Disposals in year	-	-	(1,123)	-	(1,123)
FX on consolidation	-	(35,225)	(27,843)	(145,433)	(208,501)
At 31 December 2024	126,526	-	238,203	406,498	771,227
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 January 2024	94,733	32,476	248,410	513,708	889,327
Charge for the year	4,412	-	8,090	8,053	20,555
Elimination on disposal	-	-	(799)	-	(799)
FX on consolidation	-	(32,476)	(43,771)	(134,844)	(211,091)
At 31 December 2024	99,145	-	211,930	386,917	697,992
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 December 2024	27,381	-	26,273	19,581	73,235
At 31 December 2023	31,793	2,749	18,759	38,223	91,524

All tangible fixed assets are used for direct charitable purposes.

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

12. DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS

	Group		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	3,895	581,359	3,415	579,446
CUMO outstanding client loans	-	1,922,612	-	-
Amounts due from donors	75,099	941,186	75,099	941,186
Prepayments	9,845	23,932	9,845	23,932
Other debtors	40,997	155,706	40,995	30,012
Total	129,836	3,624,795	129,354	1,574,576

13. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	Group		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
General accounts in the UK	147,798	723,829	55,107	723,829
Countries of operation	814,712	2,255,559	814,712	1,801,552
Total	962,510	2,979,388	869,819	2,525,381

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Group		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Taxation and social security costs	-	1,640	-	1,640
Trade creditors	160,513	824,085	160,513	775,189
Accruals	97,367	195,399	97,367	147,285
CUMO loan collateral fund	-	232,293	-	-
Amounts due to Self Help Africa	2,268,225	2,396,703	2,269,673	2,396,703
Sundry creditors	128,890	362,746	46,223	194,905
Total	2,654,995	4,012,866	2,573,776	3,515,722

Accruals include insurance premiums that were previously included in the creditors as a single line item. Amounts due to Self Help Africa will be written off over a period of 6 years.

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE GREATER THAN ONE YEAR

	Group		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Amounts payable in 1-2 years	-	26,420	-	26,420
CUMO - amounts due to funders	-	888,455	-	-
Total	-	914,875	-	26,420

16. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The charitable company had total commitments under operating leases expiring as follows:

Property:

	Group		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
0 - 1 year	69,641	140,649	64,789	134,477
1 - 2 years	16,024	29,539	16,024	26,453
2 - 5 years	-	-	-	3,896
Total	85,665	170,188	80,813	164,826

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

17. MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS

Group and charity

	At 1 January 2024 £	Income and gains £	Expenditure and losses £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2024 £	At 31 December 2023 £
<u>Restricted funds:</u>						
Total restricted funds	519,980	3,063,689	(4,885,470)	1,889,641	587,840	519,980
<u>Unrestricted funds:</u>						
General funds:						
Charity	129,360	418,765	(1,106,518)	-	(558,393)	129,360
Village Aid	45,568	49,077	(82,691)	-	11,954	45,568
Gifts in kind	-	-	358,824	-	358,824	-
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	(1,889,641)	(1,889,641)	-
Subtotal	174,928	467,842	(830,385)	(1,889,641)	(2,077,257)	174,928
Designated funds:						
General Funds held by CUMO	1,358,062	1,352,919	(2,710,981)	-	-	1,358,062
Total unrestricted funds	1,532,990	1,820,761	(3,541,366)	(1,889,641)	(2,077,256)	1,532,990
Total funds	2,052,970	4,884,450	(8,426,836)	-	(1,489,416)	2,052,970

The funds carried forward at 31st of December are:

a. Restricted funds

These are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or funds which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. Such purposes are within the overall aims of the organisation.

b. Unrestricted Funds

- i. General funds – these funds represent amounts which are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the overall objectives of the Group.
- ii. Designated funds – these are funds held by CUMO.

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

17. MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS (continued)

In 2024, a transfer of funds of £1.9m from unrestricted to restricted took place during 2024 to align restricted funds to the amounts due to donors

18. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

GROUP:	Restricted funds £	CUMO £	General funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	73,233	73,233	376,529
Current assets	587,843	-	504,503	1,092,346	6,602,965
Current liabilities	-	-	(2,654,995)	(2,654,995)	(4,900,084)
Long term liabilities	-	-	-	-	(26,440)
Net assets at 31 December 2024	587,843	-	(2,077,259)	(1,489,416)	
Net assets at 31 December 2023	519,980	1,309,190	223,800		2,052,970

19. SUBSIDIARY UNDERTAKINGS

Village Aid

The charity is the controlling member of Village Aid, a UK charitable company limited by guarantee (company no. 03446625, charity no. 1067322). The summarised statement of financial activities for the period ended 31 December 2024 and assets and liabilities as at 31 December 2024 are shown in the next table. Full accounts are filed with the Companies House.

CUMO

Up until the 31st of October 2024, the charity controlled CUMO Microfinance Ltd, a company limited by guarantee and incorporated in Malawi.

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

19. SUBSIDIARY UNDERTAKINGS (continued)

Village Aid income and expenditure summary

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2024 Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2023 Total £
Income	-	49,077	49,077	-	56,875	56,875
Expenditure	(82,691)	-	(82,691)	(48,894)	(11,307)	(60,201)
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year	(82,691)	49,077	(33,614)	(48,894)	45,568	(3,326)
Funds at the start of the year	-	45,568	45,568	-	48,894	48,894
Subtotal	(82,691)	94,645	11,954	(48,894)	94,462	45,568
Transfers between funds	82,691	(82,691)	-	48,894	(48,894)	-
Funds at the end of the period/year	-	11,954	11,954	-	45,568	45,568

Village Aid balance sheet

	2024 £	2023 £
Assets	94,620	95,679
Liabilities	(82,666)	(50,111)
Net Assets	11,954	45,568
Restricted funds	-	-
Unrestricted funds	11,954	45,568
Total Funds	11,954	45,568

20. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

At 31 December 2024, there were no capital commitments (31 December 2023: Nil).

21. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

In order to achieve its mission, United Purpose supports the international programmes of the Gorta Group (t/a Self Help Africa). Self Help Africa is a charitable company registered in the Republic of Ireland and the results of United Purpose are consolidated into the financial statements of Self Help Africa. Copies of the group financial statements may be obtained from the charity's website www.selfhelpafrica.org

At the end of 2024, the intercompany balance between United Purpose and Self Help Africa was £2,268,225 (2023: £2,396,703), see Note 14.

UNITED PURPOSE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

22. CONTINGENT ASSETS

The unsold carbon credit units held at 31 December 2024 are 30,038 related to UP Gambia. Units sold after December 2024 are 2,108 with a price range per unit of €9. The sale of carbon credits continues to contribute to the ongoing costs of the carbon projects and to the general funds of the charity where there are excess funds available.

23. LEGAL STATUS OF THE CHARITY

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

24. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

United Purpose Senegal, the Gambia and Mozambique will cease at the end of 2025, with United Purpose Mozambique moving to Self Help Africa.

25. APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS

The financial statements were approved by the board on the 18 September 2025.