

APT ACTION ON POVERTY

England & Wales · Charity number 290836

Details

Other names	APT ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	01872538
Registered	1985-01-23
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	111 Gloucester Road Bishopston Bristol BS7 8AT
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Activities

Objects: THE COMPANY IS ESTABLISHED TO RELIEVE POVERTY AND IN PARTICULAR TO RELIEVE POVERTY AMONGST PEOPLE LIVING IN THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES WHO ARE POOR BY REASON OF BEING UNABLE TO EARN THEIR LIVING, THROUGH THE PROVISION OF GENERAL AND TECHNICAL ADVICE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT (INCLUDING THE OPERATION) OF BUSINESS AND NON-PROFIT ENTERPRISES, THE PROVISION OF EDUCATION, TRAINING AND RE-TRAINING IN THE SKILLS REQUIRED FOR EMPLOYMENT AND SELF EMPLOYMENT , THE PROVISION OF RAW MATERIALS AND OTHER GOODS, AND THROUGH THE DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT APPROPRIATE FOR USE IN AREAS OF NEED, AND THE PROMOTION OF SUCH DESIGNS, BY ALL SUITABLE MEANS.

Activities: Action on Poverty's vision is a world where everyone can work with pride for a better future. We work in partnership with people in East and West Africa to build livelihoods and transform lives; addressing barriers to safe and lasting work, hunger and injustice. These changemakers access vital skills and resources needed to earn a living and address the root causes of poverty.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NOT DEFINED. IN PRACTICE NATIONAL AND OVERSEAS
- Kenya
- Sierra Leone
- Tanzania
- Uganda

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£304,160	£597,269	-	-
2023-12-31	£936,287	£811,523	£552,492	7
2022-12-31	£807,767	£950,099	£427,728	6
2021-12-31	£940,854	£783,772	£570,060	6
2020-12-31	£841,270	£806,858	£412,978	5

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
JAKE BHARIER	Chair	2019-12-08
Abidemi Yvonne Sanni		2025-01-01
Amber Beth Honey		2021-03-24
Benjamin Cumming		2022-11-01
Carol Jane Sherman		2024-05-23
David Andrew Elliott		2019-12-11
Dr Brian Stephen Capper		
Enitan Anuoluwapo Olowookere		2024-05-23
Helen Jane Altshul		2018-12-11

Accounts



Report and Audited Financial Statements

31 December 2024



Company no. 01872538

Charity no. 290836

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Board of Trustees	Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows: Helen Altshul BSc MSc Jake Bharier Brian Capper BSc MA PhD Solicitor Benjamin Cumming David Elliot BSc MSc Amber Honey Yvonne Sanni (appointed 28 November 2024) Enitan Sawyer (appointed 23 May 2024) Carol Sherman (appointed 23 May 2024)
Chief Executive	Alex Daniels BSc MSc
Company reg. no.	01872538
Charity reg. no.	290836
Registered Office	111 Gloucester Road Bishopston Bristol BS7 8AT
Auditor	Knox Cropper LLP 65 Leadenhall Street London EC3A 2AD
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc 128 High Street Cheltenham GL50 1EL CAF Bank Limited 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Maling Kent ME19 4JQ Virgin Money plc Jubilee House Gosforth NE3 4PL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2024

The trustees are pleased to present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes. The accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Structure, governance and management

The company is limited by guarantee, was registered as a charity in 1985 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The trustees confirm that they have considered the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the company's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and are therefore confident that APT Action on Poverty ('Action on Poverty') meets the public benefit requirements.

When considering the appointment of trustees the board advertises openly for vacancies, and gives regard to the skills audit of existing trustees, the requirement for any specialist skills and an ability to contribute to the charity's governance and objectives. The key element of the trustee's induction is to ensure sound understanding of the charity's mission, principles and strategy as well as the legal obligations of trustees. The induction process for new trustees involves a combination of provision of key documents plus communications and discussions with the Chair of the trustees and the Chief Executive. New trustees are required to comply with company law requirements and declare any interests.

The Chief Executive of Action on Poverty, Alex Daniels, is appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity and ensure the overall implementation of the organisational strategy as agreed by the trustees. The Chief Executive and the Chair of the trustees communicate on a regular basis. The team has continued to work remotely during 2024, meeting up one day a month as a team with some interim meetings between different staff members, which minimises overhead costs and enables work flexibility.

Objectives and activities for the public benefit

Our Vision:

A world where everyone can work with pride for a better future.

Our Mission:

To work with people in East and West Africa to address barriers to safe and lasting work, hunger and injustice.

We work to link, engage and strengthen actors in different programmes which deliver results on decent, inclusive work. This enables people to address their poverty and exclusion, sustainably. We build understanding and knowledge amongst stakeholders so that people who are poor and marginalised are effectively included and our work is driven by those it impacts.

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We target specific sectors, communities and/or marginalised people, with a livelihood focus on matters such as accessing employment, incomes through enterprise and/or increased food production.

Key to our approach is that we are led by partners and communities to embed sustainable and transformational change, addressing inequalities and promoting local leadership. Through accessing the vital skills and resources people need to earn a living and address the root causes of their poverty, they can act as changemakers in their communities and countries to achieve equality for all.

Our key strengths are our experience with:

- Promoting livelihoods, including enterprise, decent work and food security; strengthening the connections between formal and informal networks and systems;
- Reaching people who are marginalised by society (such as women, young people, people with disabilities (PWD), and those in a fragile environment); and embedding their rights for sustainable impact
- Strengthening organisations and businesses to work sustainably and more ethically—including our partners, community groups, and service providers and other businesses, and a range of other stakeholders.

Achievements and performance

The global development context for 2024 has not improved from 2023. According to the Sustainable Development Goals Report 2024 “the COVID-19 pandemic, escalating conflicts, geopolitical tensions, and growing climate chaos have severely hindered SDG progress”. This includes more people being pushed into extreme poverty, 7 in 10 children worldwide still lacking social protection coverage (SDG1) and 1 in 10 people globally facing hunger (SDG 2). Positive progress includes 134 countries have met their targets of reducing Under 5 mortality (59 will need faster progress), stunting of young children has slightly reduced, and girls are achieving parity with boys in school completion in most regions. In the some of the poorest communities where we work, inflation has soared – in Sierra Leone for example reports vary from 40% at the beginning of the year dropping to 16% at the end. This hits vulnerable and marginalised people the hardest. Meanwhile, a number of governments have made significant cuts to their development assistance funding.

Whilst in recent years we have diversified our funding to a great extent – with new large Trusts and Foundations funding our programmes in addition to the European Union, and a corporate partnership addressing child labour. At the end of this year and into the beginning of 2025 we recognise the challenging context with respect to grant funding, with the greatest impact on those with whom we work – poor and marginalised people. Funding sources for civil society have been drastically cut. Supporter fundraising remains a critical component to unlock and leverage funding across all sectors and we are extremely grateful to all who support us – individuals, trusts, foundations, corporates and institutions.

Despite this, Action on Poverty has had some really positive achievements in 2024.

The three new projects started during the previous year have made good progress:

- Working with PLA (Platform for Labour Action) on child labour in sugarcane and rice value chains in Uganda, building on lessons from previous work and extending to a new area.

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- Working with communities to strengthen livelihoods and inclusive governance in Sierra Leone. This is led by our partner MAPCO (Movement for Assistance and Promotion of Rural Communities) while Action on Poverty provides technical, monitoring and reporting support.
- Working with VEDCO (Volunteer Efforts for Development Concerns) on climate sensitive livelihoods with vegetable growing with refugee and host communities in Northern Uganda

The work on child labour in different value chains in Sierra Leone and Uganda has enabled us to build deeper understanding of, and make more impact on, the complex issue of child labour, together with our partners and private sector stakeholders. The project in Uganda builds on the completed project there on child labour, funded by NORAD, which received a very complimentary external evaluation.

We are also proud of the impact we and our partners have achieved in the projects – Women Changemakers in Sierra Leone, a phase of the Camel Milk Project in Kenya, and the project with women market Vendors in Uganda – which were successfully completed and evaluated during 2024.

In total, with our partners we have worked with around 31,000 beneficiaries directly during 2024 and more than 10,800 have obtained the skills for sustainable livelihoods to secure enough food, medicines and education for themselves and their children, and a life with more respect and dignity. Over 80% of these were women. Over 120,000 people have been supported through being better informed, empowered and or as dependants of the direct beneficiaries. To extend the impact and to build for the future our work has also strengthened 68 grassroots organisations to become more effective in helping their members collaborate for increased incomes, obtain better services and/or to influence other stakeholders to ensure their needs are not excluded in the future.

As can be seen in the programme information below we also continue to target inequalities inextricably linked with poverty – including those relating to gender, disability and young people.

Performance of Programmes:

SIERRA LEONE

Building Resilient Community Ecosystems in the Fight Against Child Labour (January 2022- February 2025)

Action on Poverty continues to work in close partnership with MAPCO, Planting Naturals and Goldtree (a sustainable palm oil company) to combat child labour among smallholder palm oil farmers in Kailahun District, Sierra Leone. Funded by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency through the Child Labour Fund, the project has achieved notable progress in building community resilience and reducing child labour, taking a holistic approach to addressing child labour, with poverty a key driving factor. The second full year of implementation saw intensified efforts to create sustainable, community-led solutions that ensure children remain in school and out of exploitative labour. Awareness campaigns, livelihood support, food production initiatives, and a well-managed revolving loan fund all contributed to meaningful change.

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For the year ended 31 December 2024

1. Raising Awareness and Reducing Child Labour: In 2024, child labour reduced by over 70% across 40 target communities. Community awareness efforts reached 1,873 people across 40 villages, significantly improving understanding of child rights and eliminating child labour gangs entirely, reducing children's household labour. Local volunteers helped enforce bylaws, leading to a rise in school attendance from 67% to 93%. Monitoring systems have improved across all 32 schools, and only 2% of children now miss school due to farm work.

2. Improving Food Security: Green gardening initiatives now involve 2,944 women improving family income and nutrition. Food insecurity dropped from 97% to 36%, with no families reporting eating fewer than two meals a day. These gains, achieved despite inflation, have improved household nutrition and freed up more time for children to attend school.

3. Boosting Economic Empowerment: A total of 10,365 loans were issued to 3,156 CBO members with a 100% repayment rate, and the loan fund grew by 73%. This financial support helped families develop alternative economic activities, pay school fees, pay for healthcare, and hire adult labour, reducing child labour dependency. Additionally, 875 smallholder farmers received business skills training, and 1,050 adults enrolled in literacy and numeracy programmes. Women-led enterprises flourished - 40 women launched bread-making businesses, while 40 continued expanding soap-making, significantly raising their household incomes (e.g., soap-making incomes rose from 37.6 Le to 1305 Le/month). The palm oil company reported stronger collaboration and productivity among project farmers, noting better conditions for auditing, better communication, and improved business outcomes.

Comments from participants:

Yebeh Vendi Story



Yebeh Vendi – Local Rights Volunteer, Koranko Community

Local rights volunteers have been instrumental in advocating for child rights since the project's inception. Their role includes ensuring children attend school and upholding community bylaws. Yebeh shared his experience:

"I remind people of the importance of sending their children to school. With my megaphone, I travel across the village every morning to spread the message. I have seen remarkable changes—children no longer miss school, and we don't see them working on palm plantations or carrying heavy loads. Families can now afford uniforms and school supplies."

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Shekou Bockarie Story

Loan Officer, Babahun

Shekou manages loan records, collects applications, and ensures timely repayment. He shared his experience:

“With the committee, we review and approve loans during our monthly sittings on the 27th. I have also benefited from the loans, which have greatly helped me. I can now pay for my children’s school uniforms and supplies, hire workers for my plantation, and avoid using child labour. I repay the loan after harvest.”



Strengthening CSOs as inclusive actors of good governance and development in Sierra Leone

(February 2023 – January 2026)

This second year of the project marks a significant step forward in strengthening civil society structures across Pujehun and Kenema Districts. The initiative, which targets 30 Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) including 20 Community Based Organisations (CBOs) and 10 larger CSOs, is successfully enhancing their capacities in governance, service delivery, and policy advocacy. Despite economic challenges, the project is firmly on track to meet its final objectives by January 2026.

1. Strengthening Organisational Capacity and Service Delivery: The project has significantly improved the governance, financial management, and operational capabilities of 30 CSOs. All organisations now operate with clear bylaws, elected leadership, and renewed legal registration. A CSO capacity assessment found that 100% of CBOs and 50% of larger CSOs demonstrate strong capacity in governance, with inclusive leadership involving women, youth, and PWDs.

This year, CSOs delivered critical services to 3,480 households (approximately 20,532 people), achieving 87% of the overall project target. Services included cash and seed loans, vocational training, and literacy support. Notably, 707 new members accessed cash loans, while 576 received seed loans. A revolving loan scheme with a 100% repayment rate and capital increased by 20 - 25% has enhanced financial sustainability. Household incomes rose by 70% on average (from NLe 379.30 to NLe 644.31/month), and food security significantly improved: 95% of households now eat two or more meals per day, compared to just 32% before the project.

2. Promoting Inclusive Participation and Gender Equality: CSOs have actively promoted leadership among marginalised groups. Women now hold 60% of governance roles in CBOs, and 80% of leadership roles in Women’s Rights Organisations. Youth and PWD participation has also increased, supported by targeted mentorship and inclusion training. Over 16,000 people were reached with messages on gender, disability, and civic rights. Eight Chiefdom Gender Committees were established and are now operational, resolving over 90 cases of rights abuses and engaging in proactive community sensitisation. CSOs were supported with advocacy and negotiation skills training (143 women, 47 men trained), enabling successful lobbying for

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services, such as soap-making training for disabled parents and office equipment for women's groups.

3. Enhancing Governance and Policy Dialogue: The project facilitated four structured dialogue platforms connecting CSOs with district authorities and community leaders, resulting in 22 advocacy recommendations being submitted and acted upon. Outcomes include the establishment of Disability Desks, expansion of seed banks, and inclusion of PWDs in grassroots governance structures.

CSOs have increased engagement in local planning through 9 operational fora with Ward Development Committees and coordination with the District Development Coordination Committee (DDCC). These efforts have strengthened policy responsiveness and improved local service delivery.

4. Laying the Foundation for Long-term Policy Engagement: Year 2 focused on setting the stage for sustainable policy dialogue through monitoring and exchange mechanisms. Regular feedback sessions, exchange visits, and stakeholder engagement have deepened collaboration between CSOs, local councils, and MDAs. Documentation of best practices and lessons learned throughout the year will inform Year 3 activities and future programming. Early engagement with CDCs, clear financial planning, and efforts to challenge social norms have emerged as key enablers of success.

Comments from participants:



Djakati – Magereh Community

Djakati, a 15-year-old from Magereh community, cares for her 1-year-old daughter, Maima.

She never attended school and was previously unaware of her rights.

Through the project, she now participates in adult literacy training and EMAP (Engaging Men in Accountable Practice) sessions. She has learned to speak English, write her name, and count, and she is proud of her progress. Djakati is now more aware of her rights and feels empowered. She is also training in tailoring and is excited to acquire new skills. She shared that this kind of support was missing before, and she now feels more supported as a

mother and as a young girl under 18.

Titty Kamara – Gbanahun Community

Titty Kamara had never been to school but was eager to join the adult literacy training.

Previously, her petty trading in the village was not very profitable, but with the business training and new calculation skills she acquired, she can now make more informed decisions and has increased her profits. The project has also helped her understand her rights, enabling her to stand up for herself. As she put it, "Nobody can tell me what to do."



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She also benefits from loans provided by the CBO and uses her profits to support her children.

Titty shared that she feels happier now than ever before.

Women Changemakers (February 2022-January 2024)

Funded by private donors, trusts and the Big Give Challenge, it was implemented with our partner MAPCO, empowering women in eight communities of Pujehun District to make change and overcome poverty, including the most marginalised groups such as young women, women with disabilities and widows. Women Changemakers accessed skills and support to lead on tackling these issues in their communities. The project was completed at the end of January 2024 and an internal evaluation carried out during February/March.

The women are working well together in groups for income generating and also in managing their revolving loans. Women expressed how well they are now doing with vegetable growing and seeing this as an income generating business, as well as for improved nutrition. Group plots as well as individuals are in use. Women soap makers interviewed explained how they could now earn sufficient to support their households; they are making the soap frequently and are able to sell it all at local weekly markets.

‘One important thing is income diversification. I am a trainee in soap making, and also do vegetable gardening so can secure food. There is no food shortage at home, I sell my soap and get money, and get money from the vegetable garden. I also borrow money to do petty trading. Anywhere I go I can identify my name on paper. The other area I am proud of is my children are in Pujehun and in Sahn and I can transfer money to them and call them on the phone now.’

Hawa Foray Sahn Community

More than 700 households had improved food security and nutrition, 500 women had increased earning capacity, 568 women had access to credit, and 737 women were empowered to claim their rights and be included in household decision making. In addition, 330 women from the communities improved their literacy and numeracy through attending classes. Eighty women were trained in soap making, and this resulted in their earned income nearly trebling since the project began. These and other business skills have significantly improved their quality of life for themselves and their families and improved their social standing in the community. In terms of community decision making, by the end of the project there were 39 women leaders in the 8 communities compared with 18 at the start. It is also clear that the projects have benefited more than the original women beneficiaries: the loan groups have grown and more women are engaged in agriculture and petty trading.

When asked ‘Do you give the proceeds to your husbands, the women laughed and said ‘No, we keep it for ourselves. Before the project the only access to earned income for women in the community was joining a labour gang, they don’t do this anymore. Women also gave examples where they were able to provide funds to their husbands to meet household needs such as for paying labourers. This has also raised their status in the household and wider community. The men also expressed support, and recognised the benefits to the households and community. Signs for sustainability are good, with women having management over their funds, and the way they are adapting the project to their own need.

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KENYA

Improved Livelihoods and Resilience through Camel Milk (1 April 2021- 31 March 2024)

This is a three-year project which began in April 2021, was funded by the Medicor Foundation and other trusts including the Dulverton Trust and the Charles Hayward Foundation. It was run by SITE Enterprise Promotion (SITE) and Action on Poverty in the vast stretches of North Eastern Kenya between Garissa and Wajir: culturally a Somali part of the country that is underserved, and is still affected by the potential activity of Al Shabaab, a militant insurgent organisation based in Somalia. Being a traditionally pastoralist region, camels and other livestock – goats and a few cattle – are the backbone of the economy and livelihoods, and play a significant role in food security.

The primary aim of the project was to improve the area's camel milk value chain, including increasing the quantity and quality of camel milk produced and traded, securing markets and developing sustainable livelihoods and food security. A particular focus were the primary and secondary traders of camel milk, who are mostly women. Other actors – herders, owners, transporters, and community water committees – were also reached with trainings and service provision. SITE chose 16 activity nodes to focus on: six in Wajir South, seven in Garissa County, and three in Tana River area. These are nodes of pastoralist activity which contain more than 12,000 client group households, camel milking areas, watering sources, and milk markets.

2024 saw the final three months of the project. APT's programme manager made a visit to the project in March 2024; he was able to visit communities on the Garissa milk route including Dujis, Ohio, and Kasha. The regional climate situation had improved significantly and milk production was at the highest levels it had ever been. Furthermore, the reservoir that the project renovated at Dujis had held its water since the October rains the previous year and was providing another water access strategy (and therefore greater water security) to the surrounding communities. Another interesting takeaway was the role of new entrants to the growing camel milk sector, most importantly transporters using motorbikes. These actors were providing a net benefit to the traditional female primary traders of camel milk, since the women often sell to them, while the money the new traders pay for the milk provides additional income for the herding communities.

A final evaluation was carried out by an external consultant in March 2024. He found that people involved in the camel milk industry, from owners to transporters, had seen significant income increases over the years of the project, with key beneficiaries experiencing a 900% rise in their average monthly income during the wet season. Additionally, households reported eating a wider variety of foods compared to before the project began: 29,869 people across 4267 households were impacted with quantitative and qualitative improvements to their diets. 61% of camel herders and owners reported improved veterinary services, which led to a decrease in common camel diseases while 12 community water points were renovated, which contributed to improved camel health and led to more efficient water use. Working conditions for women camel milk traders, especially in Garissa market, improved significantly. Importantly, the volume of camel milk being handled across both counties increased dramatically, with dry season increases of 295% in Garissa and 1906% in Wajir. New jobs were also created, with 862 new entrants engaged with the sector.

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The final evaluation also recommended scaling up this work to other locations in the region, as well as providing better access to water through improvements to physical infrastructure and management of water sources. Funding is now being sought to extend the work into unreached areas of Tana River and if possible Wajir.

UGANDA

Civic and Political Participation of Women Market Vendors in Kaliro and Lira Districts, Uganda

(1st February 2022 – 31st January 2024)

Working together with our partner PLA (Platform for Labour Action), and funded by the Belgian Development Cooperation, this project directly targeted 4,000 market vendors (90% women) building their civic and political participation for improved management and administration of markets. It ensured that market women are empowered through transformative leadership skills, with the agency to influence decision-making at national, district and local levels; together with gaining increased economic empowerment and resilience.

The project was successfully completed at the end of February 2024, after a short extension to allow for the production of a video showcasing its achievements which was aired on Ugandan television. The project had a transformative effect on promoting the civic and political participation of market vendors. This was seen in the increasing numbers of women elected to leadership positions, the successful lobbying of the market agencies for improvements to the working environment, and the increased incomes and security of the women who have participated in this project. The independent evaluator of the project commented 'This is one of the few projects we've come across where the desired change is actualized and visible to all stakeholders involved.'

The project succeeded in training a core group of women market vendors in leadership skills and brokered a working relationship between market vendors and local government leaders. Over the life of the project, the women saw improved conditions in their markets due to their lobbying and advocacy work (for example better toilets, sun shelters and security). In addition, women in all markets worked together to empower themselves with practical skills to diversify their income and learn new business skills to improve the efficiency of their ventures. The peer to peer support encouraged by the project led to increased access to capital for business development and improved incomes for 70% of market vendors.

Business and Community Actions to Eliminate Child Labour in the Sugar and Rice Supply Chains in Uganda

(October 2023 - March 2026)

This project is funded by the EU and implemented in cooperation with Platform for Labour Action (PLA). The overall objective of the project is to reduce child labour in Eastern Uganda through strengthened civil society action. PLA is working with grassroots CSOs to build their capacity to hold businesses and duty bearers accountable in the sugar and rice supply chains. The project is strengthening the capacity of government officials and supporting them to develop ordinances at district level and to build constructive partnerships with businesses enabling them to adopt

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child rights principles. The project is also working with vulnerable families to raise awareness of the dangers of child labour and develop alternative livelihoods strategies.

The project has made excellent progress since its inception in October 2023, meeting the majority of targets for Year 1. It has been successful in changing attitudes to child labour and building the capacity of government duty bearers, private sector actors and CSOs to take action to prevent the exploitation of children. In 2024, the PLA team focused on the training and mentoring of key actors in the area of child labour, including community champions, Secretaries of Children's Affairs, government officials and private sector employers; these trainings have been essential for building a consensus around the unacceptability of employing children. Over 720 key actors have been trained in child rights, labour laws and their role in child labour prevention: the impact of the capacity building of these actors has been observed with clear examples of different duty bearers now actively working towards the elimination of child labour. Awareness raising in the community by the different actors has reached over a thousand people through face to face dialogues, and over 8,000 people through television and radio broadcasts. The capacity building of 3 district CBOs has allowed them to take the lead in awareness raising and dealing with child labour cases, and to be in a position to work sustainably post project.

Actions to improve the legal framework around child labour are also well underway. Following a consultation exercise with private sector actors to establish current attitudes and practices, 88 key business representatives have worked together to develop self-regulation business guidelines which were launched in November. The guidelines are being translated into the local language, posters will be developed for local mills and plantations and selected business representatives will be trained to share the information with other employers. In addition, the child protection ordinance for Iganga district has now been passed, with the support of the project, and PLA continue to work with Bugiri and Kaliro districts to develop similar by-laws. District government actors have been helped to develop action plans which are now being implemented including stricter penalties for parents removing their children from school.

Actions focused on of improving the resilience of vulnerable families through livelihood development and schooling support/ skills training are underway. The mapping and identification of 600 young people trapped in child labour has been undertaken, and plans made for these children to either return to school or be supported to obtain vocational skills.

151 community champions were trained on entrepreneurship and livelihood skills including liquid soap making, bar soap making, confectionery, book making, candle making, and chalk making. The trained community champions have so far been able to conduct 30 livelihood peer to peer skilling sessions, reaching 479 vulnerable household heads with skills training.



Picture shows chalk making session in Bugiri

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Improved livelihoods, climate resilience and natural resource protection for refugee and host farming communities, Northern Uganda

(September 2023 – December 2025)

This project is being funded by Stiftung Drittes Millennium (Foundation for the Third Millennium), Guernsey OADC, EA Foundation, Peter Stebbings Memorial Charity, and other trusts. It is being implemented in cooperation with Volunteer Efforts for Development Concerns (VEDCO), a Ugandan NGO with specialist environmental and agricultural knowledge. The project has the overall objective of improved livelihoods and climate resilience for refugee and host community farmers in Palabek Refugee Settlement through sustainable vegetable production and natural resource protection. It is doing this by supporting farmer groups (70% women, 70% refugees, 5% people with disabilities) to set up sustainable and climate-resilient vegetable farming businesses.

The project has made great progress over this year, reaching or exceeding our impact targets for this point in time. The farmers groups we are working with are active in both collective and individual vegetable growing ventures, and this has led to increases in income, reduction in malnutrition and the growth of savings and loans associations which are providing start-up capital for other small businesses. The two seed producer groups have been particularly successful, providing a source of quality and drought resistant seed to the wider community: lack of access to seed for vegetable farming was a major concern for communities prior to this project, and the increase in availability of good quality seed has been greatly appreciated by both hosts and refugees. Work to combat environmental degradation has started well with ecological agriculture techniques being taken up by most farmers. Advocacy initiatives to discourage deforestation and charcoal burning, together with training in fuel efficient stove production is also leading to reductions in tree cutting in the refugee settlement and host community.

During the year, 40 marketing officers were trained so as to link farmer groups to the best buyers. Most of the harvested crops were sold within the project area during daily and weekly markets, but the seed was also sold to the regional markets in Lira, Kitgum and Gulu. One example of success was that the marketing officers, through different linkages, ensured sales of 18,359 kgs of cow peas seed worth approximately £18,000. The profit was mainly saved in the VSLAs, providing start-up capital for various individual enterprises.



Refugee farmers' group harvesting cow peas

The 40 farmers' groups (1200 beneficiaries) were also trained in post-harvest handling for indigenous vegetables. This ensured quality management and control of both leaves and seed and greatly reduced post-harvest losses from 82% to 30%. Solar drying facilities were constructed using affordable local materials. Farmers are using this technology to preserve local vegetables for sale and consumption during the dry season. Groups reported being very satisfied

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with the solar driers as they protect crops from birds and wind and because the dried vegetables are gaining up to three times the price of fresh vegetables in local markets.

Plans for the future

The global context continues to both add additional layers of challenges especially in terms of access to grant funding and also increase the need for our work; to deliver sustainable, cost effective and transformative impact on livelihoods targeting people in East and West Africa who are marginalised through inequality.

We will continue to catalyse change by proactively pushing a cross-cutting agenda of inclusive decent work amongst different stakeholders. We also continue to further develop our approaches to support the leadership and development of our partners. Action on Poverty has been working with a community and partner-led approach for most of its existence, providing or sourcing skills which our partners seek, supporting our partners as they take on the lead partner roles with large institutional donors, and reaching out to our partners to feed into our strategy.

We will use the coming year to develop wider partnerships to meet our goals and to further diversify our range of income sources whilst being led by our values. We will also sustain and build on our success with Trusts and Foundations and matched appeals; and aim to steadily grow our supporter fundraising, deepening relationships with individuals and seeking to enable supporters to fundraise for us through unique challenges, so that Action on Poverty not only covers its costs but can invest in strategic areas and programmes

Specific Objectives

In line with our vision and mission we will achieve impact through:

- i. Delivering sustainable, cost effective and transformative economic and social impact with marginalised groups
- ii. Supporting the development and leadership of local organisations.
- iii. Catalysing change in behaviour of private sector (including micro to formal) for better development impact; to be a 'mighty atom' in our work¹

To do this, we will maintain a sound financial platform by:

- i. Securing funding from institutions and trusts to follow up earlier success and
- ii. Building our supporter fundraising by strengthening individual relationships, building on matched appeals and developing unique challenges.

We will also increase awareness of our approach and lessons learnt. Specific targets and activities set for the above are monitored on a quarterly basis.

Financial Review

As always the vast majority of our total expenditure of £597,269 (2023: £811,523) has been on charitable activities in the year and sent out to our local project partner organisations who lead

¹ including systemic change, attitude change, influencing supply chains/key players, private sector etc

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2024

our projects with the communities they are designed to help. Similarly, of the costs incurred in the UK, the vast majority was spent on programme management, with our staff overseeing and adding value to the projects and reporting back to our UK donors.

During 2024 our unrestricted activities resulted in a small deficit of £38,600, attributed to exchange rate losses and reduced new project income. We have designated £70,000 to forward fund programmes when donor funding is paid in arrears. This leaves free reserves of £184,944 at the year-end which were in excess of our 6-12 month target range for free reserves. This will ensure we are able to continue operating as a going concern throughout 2025. Restricted reserves at the end of 2024 were £3,552.

Reserves policy

Action on Poverty's stated policy is to maintain a level of unrestricted reserves equivalent to 6-12 months' running costs. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. In addition to this, due consideration needs to be given to the need for forward funding as indicated above.

Investment policy

The trustees have the power to invest in such assets as they see fit but to date surplus unrestricted funds are held on low risk deposit to ensure ready availability.

Risk management

Action on Poverty takes very seriously the management of risk to which the charity is exposed particularly cash flow, recruitment, safeguarding and safety and security of staff travelling overseas. The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to those risks. The risk register is an agenda item at each trustees' meeting and policies and practices are reviewed on a regular basis to manage the safety and security of staff, develop best practice in safeguarding (including continuing to work with partners to improve policies and procedures), financial management and other management risks.

Our approach to fundraising

Our supporters are key to everything we do. We are fully committed to being transparent and accountable about how our supporters' donations are used. At Action on Poverty we are hugely grateful to all our donors and focus on building long-lasting relationships based on trust and respect. We follow the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice.

During the financial period ending December 2024 we did not use any professional fundraising organisations. Our fundraising is carried out by one person having fundraising and communications as their main role, supervised by the Chief Executive, and the support of an additional person on an under-graduate internship from Bristol University during 3 months of 2024. This has meant we have full control of and confidence in our fundraising practices. We did not receive any complaints about our fundraising activities during the 2024 financial year. We keep up to date with changes to regulation, respond to consultations on this and update

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2024

processes and practice as necessary to comply. We welcome feedback from supporters and proactively use it to improve and enhance our fundraising campaigns.

Asset cover for funds

The trustees are satisfied that the charitable company's assets and cash balances attributable to each of its individual funds are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in relation to those funds.

Trustees' consideration of going concern basis of accounting

The trustees have considered the impact of global events and consequently the economy and sources of funding on the charity's current and future financial position. We continue to be concerned about the impact not only on our beneficiaries, but on all Sustainable Development Goals in both the short and the long term in all the countries in which we work. The greatest impact is likely to be on those who are already vulnerable and in the depth of poverty. However, we have considerable experience in working on issues on rights of workers, especially children, which are increasingly being incorporated into the goals and contractual requirements of a wide range of stakeholders, including the private sector which we plan to build on in the coming year. We will also continue to leverage grants from other governments and from Trusts and Foundation.

No material uncertainties, apart from those mentioned above, that may cast significant doubt about the current ability of the company to continue as a going concern have been identified by the trustees. The trustees consider that the charity has sufficient unrestricted reserves and cash flow to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved for the following reasons:

- The charity holds unrestricted reserves of £255,831
- The charity's current funders are continuing to fund the programmes in hand.

The trustees therefore consider it appropriate to adopt the going concern basis for the preparation of the accounts as detailed in note 1(b) to the financial statements.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of company law are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with 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). Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2024

- state whether applicable UK accounting standards and statements of recommended practice 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 charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

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.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditors

For the second year Knox Cropper were appointed to audit these accounts for 2025.

Approved by the trustees on 07 May 2025 and signed on their behalf by



... Jake Bharier (May 13, 2025, 9:47am)

Jake Bharier

Chair of Trustees

07 May 2025

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF APT ACTION ON POVERTY
For the year ended 31 December 2024

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of APT Action on Poverty (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, cash flow and notes to the financial statements, 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 our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- 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 Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's 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 the charitable company'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.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF APT ACTION ON POVERTY
For the year ended 31 December 2024

Our opinion on the 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in 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 there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Opinions 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, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the 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; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF APT ACTION ON POVERTY
For the year ended 31 December 2024

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities 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.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the 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 company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's 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 auditor's 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.

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:

- The Charitable Company is required to comply with both company law and charity law and, based on our knowledge of its activities, we identified that the legal requirement to accurately account for restricted funds was of key significance.
- We gained an understanding of how the charitable company complied with its legal and regulatory framework, including the requirement to properly account for restricted funds, through discussions with management and a review of the documented policies, procedures and controls.
- The audit team, which is experienced in the audit of charities, considered the charitable company's susceptibility to material misstatement and how fraud may occur. Our considerations included the risk of management override.
- Our approach was to check that all restricted income was properly identified and separately accounted for and to ensure that only valid and appropriate expenditure was charged to restricted funds. This included reviewing journal adjustments and unusual transactions.

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF APT ACTION ON POVERTY
For the year ended 31 December 2024

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 auditor's 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 the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report or for the opinions we have formed.

Knox Cropper LLP

Simon Goodridge (May 13, 2025,
12:36pm)

Simon Goodridge (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of:

Knox Cropper LLP

Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors

65 Leadenhall Street

London

EC3A 2AD

Date: 13 May 2025

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
INCOME FROM:					
Donations and legacies	2	26,294	31,737	58,031	114,557
Charitable activities	3	243,962	-	243,962	816,411
Investments		-	708	708	1,655
Other Income		-	1,459	1,459	3,664
TOTAL		<u>270,256</u>	<u>33,904</u>	<u>304,160</u>	<u>936,287</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Raising funds		-	66,334	66,334	74,400
Charitable activities		501,125	29,810	530,935	737,123
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	5	<u>501,125</u>	<u>96,144</u>	<u>597,269</u>	<u>811,523</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		(230,869)	(62,240)	(293,109)	124,764
Transfer between funds	15	(23,640)	23,640	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>(254,509)</u>	<u>(38,600)</u>	<u>(293,109)</u>	<u>124,764</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1 JANUARY 2024		258,061	294,431	552,492	427,728
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024		<u><u>3,552</u></u>	<u><u>255,831</u></u>	<u><u>259,383</u></u>	<u><u>552,492</u></u>

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

Pages 24 to 36 include the Notes to these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	10	887	547
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	11	16,626	4,423
Current asset investments	12	65,268	64,886
Cash at bank and in hand		197,337	497,905
		<u>279,231</u>	<u>567,214</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	13	(20,735)	(15,269)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>258,496</u>	<u>551,945</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>259,383</u>	<u>552,492</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds:			
Designated funds	15	70,000	70,000
General fund	15	185,831	224,431
Restricted funds	15	<u>3,552</u>	<u>258,061</u>
		<u>259,383</u>	<u>552,492</u>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and the Financial Reporting Standard 102.

Pages 24 to 36 include the Notes to these accounts.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf of:



Jake Bharier (May 13, 2025, 9:47am)

Chair of Trustees

Date 07 May 2025

Registered Company Number: 04046959

CASHFLOW STATEMENT

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Surplus/(deficit) for the financial year	(293,109)	124,764
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charge	259	242
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(708)	(1,655)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(12,203)	114,921
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	5,466	(135)
	<u>(300,295)</u>	<u>238,137</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	708	1,655
Purchase of fixed assets	(599)	(579)
	<u>109</u>	<u>1,076</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	<u>(300,186)</u>	<u>239,213</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January 2024	A 562,791	323,578
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December 2024	A <u>262,605</u>	<u>562,791</u>

A) Components of cash and cash equivalents

Current asset investments	65,268	64,886
Cash at bank and in hand	197,337	497,905
	<u>262,605</u>	<u>562,791</u>

B) Analysis of changes in net debt

The charity has not provided an analysis of changes in net debt as it does not have any long-term financing arrangements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention. They have been prepared in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards, the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP FRS 102 second edition), in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Going concern

The trustees have considered the impact of global events and consequently the economy and sources of funding on the charity's current and future financial position. They have concluded that there are no material uncertainties about the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern and consider that the charity has sufficient unrestricted reserves and cash flow to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved.

Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from the 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.

Interest Receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity: this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Funds accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Allocation of support and governance costs

Support and governance costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity, including the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements and any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on the following basis, which is an estimate of staff time spent on each activity:

	2024	2023
Raising funds	27.1%	28.0%
Charitable activities	72.9%	72.0%

Fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight-line basis over their expected economic life as follows:

- Plant and machinery – 5 years
- Fixtures, fittings and equipment – 2 - 5 years

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.

Current asset investments

Current asset investments consist of cash held on short term deposit.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors

Creditors and provisions 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 and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

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 recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. There are no further liabilities other than that already recognised in the statement of financial activities.

Foreign currency transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at rates prevailing at the date of the transaction. Balances denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange prevailing at the year end.

Accounting estimates and key judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

There are no sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

2. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Trusts and foundations	11,680	6,885	18,565	30,940
Donations and other fundraising	14,614	23,168	37,782	80,672
Gift aid	-	1,684	1,684	2,945
Total 2024	<u>26,294</u>	<u>31,737</u>	<u>58,031</u>	<u>114,557</u>
Total 2023	<u>55,734</u>	<u>58,823</u>	<u>114,557</u>	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

3. Income from charitable activities

	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
<i>Project grants from institutional donors</i>				
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation	-	-	-	191,584
Netherlands Enterprise Agency / Planting Naturals BV	70,997	-	70,997	117,865
Belgian Government	-	-	-	86,322
Medicor Foundation	58,960	-	58,960	131,986
European Commission	12,060	-	12,060	204,044
Dulverton Trust	-	-	-	35,000
States of Guernsey	46,197	-	46,197	23,028
EA Foundation	10,000	-	10,000	-
Sense Foundation	21,392	-	21,392	-
The Allen and Overy Foundation	24,356	-	24,356	-
<i>Consultancy fees</i>	-	-	-	26,582
Total 2024	<u>243,962</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>243,962</u>	<u>816,411</u>
Total 2023	<u>789,829</u>	<u>26,582</u>	<u>816,411</u>	

4. Government grants

The charitable company receives government grants, defined as funding from the, European Commission, the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, Netherlands Enterprise Agency, States of Guernsey and the Belgian Government to fund charitable activities. The total value of such grants in the period ending 31 December 2024 was £129,254 (2023: £622,843). There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attaching to these grants. There was a payment of 303,534 EUR (approx. £261,040) received from the EU in February 2025, which should have been received in the year but was delayed.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

5. Total expenditure

	Raising funds	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	Total 2024 £
Staff costs (note 8)	46,067	124,273	19,999	190,339
Other costs	-	1,269	34,459	35,728
Audit and accountancy fees	-	-	16,914	16,914
Depreciation	-	-	259	259
Grants payable to partners (note 7)	-	353,134	-	353,134
Publicity and fundraising costs	895	-	-	895
Sub-total	46,962	478,676	71,631	597,269
Allocation of support and governance costs	19,372	52,259	(71,631)	-
Total Expenditure 2024	66,334	530,935	-	597,269

Total governance costs were £10,524 (2023: £7,191).

Total expenditure – comparative

	Raising funds	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs (note 8)	57,925	148,742	14,177	220,844
Other costs	-	40,174	26,574	66,748
Audit and accountancy fees	-	-	7,191	7,191
Depreciation	-	-	241	241
Grants payable to partners (note 7)	-	513,528	-	513,528
Publicity and fundraising costs	2,971	-	-	2,971
Sub-total	60,895	702,445	48,183	811,523
Allocation of support and governance costs	13,505	34,678	(48,183)	-
Total Expenditure 2023	74,400	737,123	-	811,523

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

6. Net movement in funds

This is stated after charging:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation	259	242
Trustees' remuneration	-	-
Trustees' reimbursed expenses	-	-
Trustees' donations	1,030	1,010
Auditors' remuneration		
Statutory audit (including VAT)	7,764	6,780
Other services (grant audits)	2,760	411

7. Grants payable

	2024	2023
	£	£
<i>Grants paid to partner organisations</i>		
Platform for Labour Action	173,593	249,826
SITE Enterprise Promotion	29,461	88,328
Movement for Assistance and Promotion of Rural Communities	121,101	147,237
Volunteers' Effort for Development Concern	28,979	22,921
Other	-	5,216
	<u>353,134</u>	<u>513,528</u>

Grants payable are to institutions in Sierra Leone, Uganda and Kenya. All grants are paid to fund charitable activities, including funding to support strengthening of community-based organisations, livelihood development, food security and inclusion of women and people with disabilities and specific programmes in camel milk production and tackling child labour. The grants shown above do not include any contribution to core costs.

8. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	170,902	193,171
Social security costs	10,243	17,310
Pension costs	9,194	10,363
	<u>190,339</u>	<u>220,844</u>

No employee earned more than £60,000 during the year (2023: none) within the band £60,000 - £70,000.

The key management personnel of the charitable company comprise the trustees and Chief Executive. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £58,502 (2023: £56,706).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

The average weekly number of employees during the period was:

	Number 2024	Number 2023
Employees	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>

9. Taxation

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and machinery	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total 2024 £
Cost			
As at 1 st January 2024	-	2,754	2754
Additions	-	599	599
Disposals	-	-	-
As at 31 st December 2024	-	3,353	3,353
Depreciation			
As at 1 st January 2024	-	2,207	2,207
Charge for the year	-	259	259
Disposals	-	-	-
As at 31 st December 2024	-	2,466	2,466
NBV as at 31st December 2024	-	887	887
NBV as at 31 st December 2023	-	547	547

11. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments and accrued income	16,626	4,423
Other debtors	-	-
	16,626	4,423

12. Current asset investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash held on deposit	65,268	64,886
	65,268	64,886

13. Creditors: amounts due within 1 year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals	9,030	10,846
Social security and other taxes	7,868	4,912
Other creditors	3,837	(489)
	20,735	15,269

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	887	887
Net current assets	<u>3,552</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>184,944</u>	<u>258,496</u>
	<u>3,552</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>185,831</u>	<u>259,383</u>

Analysis of net assets between funds - comparative

	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	547	547
Net current assets	<u>258,061</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>223,884</u>	<u>551,945</u>
	<u>258,061</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>224,431</u>	<u>552,492</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

15. Movement in funds

	At 1 January 2024 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 December 2024 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Kenya: Camel milk project</i>	47,214	7,956	(38,152)	-	17,018
<i>Uganda: Eradication of child labour</i>	(1,996)	-	(2,975)	(1,505)	(6,476)
<i>Sierra Leone: Women make change</i>	3,467	-	(3,475)	-	(8)
<i>Uganda: Market vendors</i>	(15,755)	-	(13,593)	-	(29,348)
<i>Sierra Leone: Fight against child labour</i>	(14,220)	70,997	(117,316)	-	(60,539)
<i>Sierra Leone: CSO Capacity Building</i>	49,207	58,960	(72,888)	(11,000)	24,279
<i>Uganda: Vegetable farming</i>	26,584	64,197	(71,957)	(2,250)	16,574
<i>Uganda: Child Labour</i>	153,133	58,808	(180,769)	(2,500)	28,672
<i>Country-specific funding</i>	10,427	9,338	-	(6,385)	13,380
Total Restricted funds	258,061	270,256	501,125	(23,640)	3,552
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Forward fund</i>	70,000	-	-	-	70,000
Total Designated funds	70,000	-	-	-	70,000
<i>General Funds</i>	224,431	33,904	96,144	23,640	185,831
Total General funds	224,431	33,904	96,144	23,640	185,831
Total Unrestricted funds	294,431	33,904	96,144	23,640	255,831
Total funds	552,492	304,160	597,269	-	259,383

Purposes of restricted funds

Sierra Leone: Empowering local communities in Pujehun District Building the capacity of community structures, including 19 community-based organisations to provide livelihoods services, rights awareness and income generation and improved governance.

Kenya: Camel milk project Providing skills and hygiene training in new areas throughout the entire Camel Milk supply chain to improve productivity and produce standards.

Uganda: Eradication of child labour Enabling over 12,000 families to be more resilient to child labour, improving incomes and access to skills, and establishing a child free zone in UMA Industrial Park.

Sierra Leone: Women make change Supporting the leadership of marginalised women including training on vegetable growing, soap production, functional literacy and community seed banks.

Uganda: Market vendors Civic and political participation of Women Market Vendors in Kaliro and Lira Districts.

Sierra Leone: Fight against child labour Building resilient community ecosystems in the Fight Against Child Labour.

Sierra Leone: CSO Capacity Building Strengthening 30 CSOs as inclusive actors of good governance and poverty reduction reaching 4000 households in Sierra Leone

Uganda: Vegetable farming Improving incomes and climate resilience of 7,200 people in Lamwo District through vegetable farming businesses.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Uganda: Child Labour

Business and Community Actions to Eliminate Child Labour in the Sugar and Rice Supply Chains in Uganda, increasing understanding with 2400 households and 60 commercial actors taking action

Country-specific funding

Funds raised to provide help in Kenya, Uganda and Sierra Leone on future project opportunities.

Purpose of designated funds

Forward fund

To forward fund projects when necessary and carry expenditure in advance of receipt of donation income.

Restricted funds in deficit

Restricted funds in deficit represent on-going projects where additional funding is confirmed post year end.

Transfers between funds

Transfers between funds represent the use of general funds to complete the project at the conclusion of work.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Movement in funds - comparative

	At 1 January 2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 December 2023 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Empowering local communities in Pujehun District	10,178	-	-	(10,178)	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Kenya</i> : Camel milk project	47,528	115,000	(115,314)	-	47,214
<i>Uganda</i> : Eradication of child labour	2,519	191,584	(196,099)	-	(1,996)
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Women make change	29,724	1,833	(28,090)	-	3,467
<i>Uganda</i> : Market vendors	(3,650)	86,322	(98,427)	-	(15,755)
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Fight against child labour	43,308	121,865	(179,393)	-	(14,220)
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : CSO Capacity Building	-	72,686	(23,479)	-	49,207
<i>Uganda</i> : Vegetable farming	6,000	48,229	(27,645)	-	26,584
<i>Uganda</i> : Child Labour	-	205,044	(51,911)	-	153,133
Country-specific funding	7,427	3,000	-	-	10,427
Total Restricted funds	143,034	845,563	(720,358)	(10,178)	258,061
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds</i>					
Forward fund	70,000	-	-	-	70,000
Total Designated funds	70,000	-	-	-	70,000
<i>General Funds</i>	214,694	90,724	(91,165)	10,178	224,431
Total General funds	214,694	90,724	(91,165)	10,178	224,431
Total Unrestricted funds	284,694	90,724	(91,165)	10,178	294,431
Total funds	427,728	936,287	(811,523)	-	552,492

16. Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose in the current or previous reporting period.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

17. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	55,734	58,823	114,557
Charitable activities	789,829	26,582	816,411
Other Income	-	1,655	1,655
Investments	-	3,664	3,644
Total income	845,563	90,724	936,287
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	-	74,400	74,400
Charitable activities	720,358	16,765	737,123
Total expenditure	720,358	91,165	811,523
Net income/(expenditure)	125,205	(441)	124,764
Transfer between funds	(10,178)	10,178	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	115,027	9,737	124,764
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1 JANUARY 2023	143,034	284,694	427,728
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023	258,061	294,431	552,492



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Parties involved with this document

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Tue, 13th May 2025 12:36:07 BST	Simon Goodridge - Signer (fefdeff11f94e03633449b4defaba161)
Tue, 13th May 2025 12:36:07 BST	Alex Daniels - Copied In (2d5e79cff80374e4a9f123a1e68bedfa)
Tue, 13th May 2025 12:36:07 BST	Olivia Burrell - Copied In (ca458011becce8a9d690279b116febd3)

Audit history log

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Tue, 13th May 2025 9:44:54 BST	Document emailed to jake.bharier@poptel.org (18.135.27.56)
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Tue, 13th May 2025 9:47:07 BST	Document emailed to simon.goodridge@knoxcropper.com (18.169.244.35)
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Tue, 13th May 2025 12:36:07 BST	Simon Goodridge signed the envelope (109.151.194.20)

Tue, 13th May 2025 12:36:07 BST	Sent the envelope to Alex Daniels (alex.daniels@aptuk.org.uk) for signing (109.151.194.20)
Tue, 13th May 2025 12:36:07 BST	Sent the envelope to Olivia Burrell (olivia.burrell@knoxcropper.com) for signing (109.151.194.20)
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Accounts



Report and Audited Financial Statements

31 December 2023

Company no. 01872538

Charity no. 290836



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APT ACTION ON POVERTY

(Company limited by guarantee no. 01872538, registered charity no. 290836)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Board of Trustees	Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows: Helen Altshul BSc MSc Jake Bharier Brian Capper BSc MA PhD Solicitor Benjamin Cumming David Elliot BSc MSc Amber Honey
Chief Executive	Alex Daniels BSc MSc
Company reg. no.	01872538
Charity reg. no.	290836
Registered Office	111 Gloucester Road Bishopston Bristol BS7 8AT
Auditor	Knox Cropper LLP 65 Leadenhall Street London EC3A 2AD
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc 128 High Street Cheltenham GL50 1EL CAF Bank Limited 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Maling Kent ME19 4JQ Virgin Money plc Jubilee House Gosforth NE3 4PL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2023

The trustees are pleased to present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes. The accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Structure, governance and management

The company is limited by guarantee, was registered as a charity in 1985 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the company's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and are therefore confident that APT Action on Poverty ('Action on Poverty') meets the public benefit requirements.

When considering the appointment of trustees the board give regard to the skills audit of existing trustees, the requirement for any specialist skills and ability to contribute to the charity's governance and objectives. The key element of the trustee's induction is to ensure sound understanding of the charity's mission, principles and strategy as well as the legal obligations of trustees. The induction process for new trustees involves a combination of provision of key documents plus communications and face to face discussions with the Chair of the trustees and the Chief Executive. New trustees are required to comply with company law requirements and declare any interests.

The Chief Executive of Action on Poverty, Alex Daniels, is appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity and ensure the overall implementation of the organisational strategy as agreed by the trustees. The Chief Executive and the Chair of the trustees communicate on a regular basis. The team has continued to work remotely during 2023, meeting up one day a month as a team with some interim meetings between different staff members, which minimises overhead costs and enables work flexibility.

Objectives and activities for the public benefit

Our Vision:

A world where everyone can work with pride for a better future.

Our Mission:

To work with people in East and West Africa to address barriers to safe and lasting work, hunger and injustice.

We aim to achieve our objectives through working with local partners to deliver programmes targeting specific sectors, communities and/or marginalised people. These programmes all have a livelihood focus (such as accessing employment, incomes through enterprise and/or increased food production) together with addressing inequalities and exclusion to secure sustainable and

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2023

transformational change. Key to our approach is being led by partners and communities to design programmes and activities in the countries in which we work, supporting and promoting local leadership. Through accessing the vital skills and resources people need to earn a living and address the root causes of their poverty, they can act as changemakers in their communities and countries to achieve equality for all.

Our key strengths are our experience with:

- Promoting livelihoods, including enterprise, decent work and food security;
- Reaching people who are marginalised by society (such as women, young people, people with disabilities (PWD), and those in a fragile environment); and
- Supporting the development and leadership of organisations – including our partners, CBOs (Community based Organisations) and other stakeholders.

Achievements and performance

The impact of global events, conflicts and the cost of living has continued to be felt everywhere. In some of the poorest communities where we work, inflation has soared. Despite the increased needs, funding sources for civil society have been cut or continue in a reduced state. Economic and social impact and progress against Sustainable Development Goals has been affected including those which Action on Poverty is focused on: 1 (End Poverty), 2 (Zero Hunger), 5 (Gender Equality) and 8 (Decent work). At the UN Commission for the Status of Women (CSW68) March 2024 they concluded “Globally, 10.3 per cent of women live in extreme poverty today and progress towards ending poverty needs to be 26 times faster to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030”.

Despite the continued poor outlook and pressures on specialised INGOs (International Non-Government Organisations) Action on Poverty has had some really positive achievements. We have started three new projects during 2023:

- Working with communities to strengthen livelihoods and inclusive governance in Sierra Leone. This is led by our partner MAPCO (Movement for Assistance and Promotion of Rural Communities) while Action on Poverty provides technical, monitoring and reporting support.
- Working with VEDCO (Volunteer Efforts for Development Concerns) on climate sensitive livelihoods with vegetable growing with refugee and host communities in Northern Uganda
- Working with PLA (Platform for Labour Action) on child labour in Uganda, building on lessons from previous work and extending to a new area.

We continued to diversify funding – with new large Trusts and Foundations funding the above programmes as well as the European Union, and continued our first corporate partnership to implement a significant grant. Despite this, fundraising remains a challenge across all sectors and we are extremely grateful to all who support us – individuals, trusts, foundations, corporates and institutions.

With our partners we have worked with over 34,000 beneficiaries directly during 2023 and over 10,500 have obtained the skills for sustainable livelihoods to secure enough food, medicines and education for themselves and their children, and a life with more respect and dignity. Over 88,500 people have been supported through being better informed, empowered and or as dependants

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2023

of the direct beneficiaries. To extend the impact and to build for the future our work has also strengthened 92 grassroots organisations to become more effective in helping their members collaborate for increased incomes, obtain better services and/or to influence other stakeholders to ensure their needs are not excluded in the future. The completed project in Uganda funded by NORAD received a very complementary external evaluation.

As can be seen in the programme information below we also continue to target inequalities inextricably linked with poverty – including those relating to gender, disability and young people.

Performance of Programmes

Sierra Leone

Women Changemakers (February 2022-January 2024)

This project, funded by private donors, trusts and the Big Give Challenge, is being implemented with our partner MAPCO, and empowering women in eight communities of Pujehun District to make change and overcome poverty, including the most marginalised groups such as young women, women with disabilities and widows. Women Changemakers are accessing skills and support to lead on tackling these issues in their communities. The project was in the final stages at the end of 2023 and the impact is remarkable. Over 700 families (4200 people) are reporting improved nutrition and food security, and 580 women are reporting increased earning capacity from their involvement in vegetable growing and other skills development such as soap making. In addition, 330 women from the communities have improved their literacy and numeracy through attending classes, and 392 have a better understanding of the rights and are able to stand up for themselves and are less at risk of abuse. Eighty women have been trained in soap making, and this has resulted in their earned income nearly trebling since the project began. These and other business skills have significantly improved their quality of life for themselves and their families and improved their social standing in the community.

Building Resilient Community Ecosystems in the Fight Against Child Labour (January 2022- February 2025)

Action on Poverty is partnering with Planting Naturals of the Netherlands (the lead partner), Goldtree Ltd Sierra Leone, and MAPCO to reduce the use of child labour by smallholder farmers of palm oil plots in Kailahun District. It is funded by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency, Child Labour Fund. The second phase began in late 2022, with community-based sessions to improve understanding of child rights, the importance of keeping children in school and of the harm caused by child labour with parents, children and stakeholders. Reduction of poverty levels by strengthening livelihoods activities, particularly for women, included setting up a community based revolving loan fund to provide access to credit, green gardens to supplement food production and consumption, and business and skills training for community members are progressing well. Goldtree and Planting Naturals are working on improving their due diligence procedures for reducing child labour. The results at the end of the first year have already shown a significant change in parents and community members attitude to child labour; child labour gangs are no longer allowed in the communities, and parents are not keeping their children from school to help with farm work, children are also no longer helping by carry heavy fruit bunches from the palm plots to the road for collection. The revolving loans and income generating activities have enabled palm oil farming families to hire the labour they need without resorting to using their younger children to carry out dangerous tasks. School attendance is increasing as a result. The project is working in 40 scattered communities in two Chiefdoms, with 1440 farming families.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Strengthening CSOs as inclusive actors of good governance and development in Sierra Leone (February 2023 – January 2026)

This is a new project starting early in the year and funded by the European Union, with the Medicor Foundation and other private trusts and individuals providing critical matched funding to the EU, with a total budget of € 1,037,470 over 3 years. Our long-term partner MAPCO is the lead partner, working together with MUWODA (Muloma Women's Development Association) and Action on Poverty, in Pujehun and Kenema Districts to enable:

- 4000 households (22,800 people) to have improved livelihoods and incomes by accessing livelihood services provided by a CSO.
- 30 CSOs in eight chiefdoms to be inclusive actors of good governance and development, with improved management, technical capacity and sustainability
- Women, youth and people with disabilities to be included in decision-making and be represented in governance at community, chiefdom and district levels
- Civil society networks to be established and strengthened in eight chiefdoms for effective and inclusive policy dialogue and engagement in governance/development processes.

The project will build on the CBO model used in MAPCO's work, building their capacity to deliver services to their communities. The project has made excellent progress in its first year, meeting all targets for Year 1. It has strengthened the management, governance and technical capacities of 20 CBOs and with some inputs to ten CSOs, also helping them to be more accountable to their members delivering six different services to 2757 households, including cash and seed loans to 2197 households (led by 65% women, 55% young people and 10.6% people with disabilities (PWD)), maintaining high levels of inclusion. As a result of these services, household incomes have increased on average by 56.6% (from New Leone (N Le) 242.19 per month to N Le 379.30); before the project 32% of households ate 2 or more meals; at end of the first year 85% of households ate two or more meals. It has established apprenticeships with local artisans in each community, an example of which is given below:

GBONGAY COMMUNITY, PEJEH CHIEFDOM, PUJEHUN DISTRICT



Comments from participants:

"Gbongay community soap production and training centre is a model.... for upgrading [skills] of soap artisans in the sister chiefdoms... to meet training needs in their respective communities" said Keinie Amara (Artisan).

"Quality works attract customers and regular marketing put more money into the pockets of the artisan and trainees said Messie Kamara" (Soap trainee).

"I am now a contributor to household income though not regular and the rights I should enjoy as a woman in my marital home restored" said Betty Yajoh (Soap Trainee).

Through EMAP (Engaging Men through Accountable Practice) training, sensitisation, networking and establishing eight Gender Chiefdom Committees, gender issues – including Sexual and Gender Based Violence - are beginning to be addressed. Following training of members in local governance, accountability and advocacy skills the confidence of the CSOs has increased, engaging with governance and development processes, advocating and building agreements and long-term relationships. The beginnings of networks supported by different mechanisms - such as Whatsapp groups – are improving

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2023

connections and information flows between rights holders, duty bearers and service providers. These will be built on in Year 2.

The progress has been achieved despite very high inflation rates (noted at the end of the year as 55.8% on same month last year) and a short pause due to the election period. The latter, in addition to a period when gatherings of large numbers were not advisable, causes delays whilst councillors and state representatives are elected and/or confirmed in post.

Kenya

Improved Livelihoods and Resilience through Camel Milk (1 April 2021- 31 March 2024)

Camili III, a three-year project which began in April 2021, funded by the Medicor Foundation and other trusts including the Dulverton Trust and the Charles Hayward Foundation. It is being run by SITE Enterprise Promotion (SITE) and Action on Poverty in the vast stretches of North Eastern Kenya between Garissa and Wajir: a culturally Somali part of the country that is arid, underserved, and is still affected by the potential activity of Al Shabaab, a militant insurgent organisation based in Somalia. Being a traditionally pastoralist region, camels and other livestock – goats and a few cattle – are the backbone of the economy and livelihoods, and play a significant role in food security.

Camili III seeks to build on the achievements of earlier work which achieved an average 45% increase in incomes for 3,060 camel milk traders (94% women), and greater food and income security for 38,000 households, and to expand the activities to Wajir County, which is within the same cultural, ecological and climatic context. The primary aim of the project is to improve the area's Camel Milk value chain, including increasing the quantity and quality of camel milk, secure markets and develop sustainable livelihoods, increasing and stabilising financial incomes (particularly women's) and food security. A particular focus are the primary and secondary traders of camel milk, who are mostly women. Other actors – herders, owners, transporters, and community water committees – are also reached with trainings and service provision. SITE chose 16 activity nodes to focus on six in Wajir South, seven in Garissa County, and three in Tana River area. These are nodes of pastoralist activity which contain over 12,000 client group households, camel milking areas, watering sources, and milk markets.

2023 was a much better year climatically than 2022 and 2021, since the regional drought that started in 2020 lessened throughout the year, officially ending with the rains in October/November 2023, which were the first in years to not be classified as "depressed". This meant milk volumes in all communities strongly rebounded during 2023, peaking towards the end of the year. Apart from the ameliorating weather, the two big sectoral dynamics this year have been improvements to water access points, and the entry of new actors within the growing market.

With financial savings from the previous project year, SITE and APT renovated a rainwater reservoir at Dujis town. SITE also received separate funding from ILO to do the same at other locations (Awliya and Ohio). So far, these rainwater reservoirs are proving effective year-round water sources which complement existing borehole infrastructure and increase communities' water security. The project's final evaluation in early 2024 will assess the full extent of their usefulness and impact on communities.

As the camel milk sector has grown, new market dynamics have emerged – especially new primary traders/transporters who are using motorbikes to follow camel herds into deep interiors,

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2023

to buy milk directly from herders, and then sell the milk to secondary traders or other transporters. These actors are side-stepping the traditional role of women primary traders, and means that, overall, the primary traders are not seeing expansions of their income/businesses linearly with market growth. However, this dynamic is by no means “replacing” woman primary traders, and overall, these motorbike traders’ income still ends up in the hands of camel herding communities.

By the end of 2023, the project had increased the incomes of 2,755 primary and secondary milk traders (99.5% women), 474 milk transporters (37% women), 1801 herders (99.5% men), and 2,297 camel owners (20% women), for 7,327 people in total. A total of 12 water sources have been renovated and improved, with their committees trained on maintenance and management. 2690 milk traders report improved handling conditions. 862 people have accessed new employment in the sector, mostly being employed by secondary traders and transporters. Most critically, 4267 households improved their diet and nutrition due to increased availability of camel milk – a total of 29,869 people.

Uganda

Eradicating Child Labour in Uganda (April 2021 – December 2023)

This project was funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) and completed in December 2023. Working with our partner Platform for Labour Action (PLA), the project contributed to eradicating child labour in Uganda, focusing on two regions where child labour is very common: Busoga sub-region and Greater Kampala Metropolitan Area. According to the external final evaluation report, the project has made a strong positive impact on reducing all forms of child labour in these regions. Over 62,000 people have received direct support to combat child labour, through outreach activities by community champions, livelihood skilling and educational support. Awareness raising activities have reached over 800,000 people both within and outside the project area and there is clear evidence of changes in attitudes to child labour from all stakeholders – communities, government and the private sector. Many of the vulnerable people targeted by the project have changed the way they look at children from contributors to household income, to a population that needs protection and who ought to enjoy their childhood years.

Through the project, 209 community champions were trained to spread messages on the dangers of child labour and to support families to keep their children in school. Their work was complemented by 217 child change agents working with their peers in schools. By the end of 2023, 9,973 families had been reached by community champions and were taking positive steps to prevent the worst forms of child labour. PLA also worked closely with duty bearers to build their capacity to combat child labour. 414 duty bearers (including social workers, police, labour officers and councillors) were trained and supported to implement improved practices to protect children. This included raising awareness on child rights and the dangers of child labour, following up on cases reported and negotiating with employers of children. Labour officers were specifically trained to carry out effective inspections of local businesses and were mentored by PLA staff in the course of this work. A monitoring study in June 2023 revealed that the majority (98.5%) reported utilizing the skills and knowledge gained from the training to raise awareness about the dangers of child labour, while 65.7% successfully withdrew children from engaging in child labour. Due to strengthened understanding of the issues, officials have also made significant commitments at district level: in September 2023 the Iganga District Government

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2023

adopted a child protection ordinance aimed at promoting a culture of child protection through locally contextualised actions and a similar ordinance for Bugiri district is also underway.

The project exceeded its targets in terms of improved social protection for child labourers and their families. A total of 10,857 members of low-income families benefited from improved livelihoods such as in soapmaking, bakery and crafts. The final evaluation survey found that a total of 70.4% of those trained were currently deploying the entrepreneurship and livelihood skills acquired. Of these beneficiaries 78.7% attested to utilizing the increased income to take/keep children in school, and to provide for the family economically without requiring the children to complement family income.

A total of 1001 children and young people, including 601 girls, who were previous child labour victims or children vulnerable to child labour, were identified and enrolled in school or vocational training according to their age, needs and situation, 600 in vocational training and 401 in school. Vocational training courses were conducted over a six-month period at accredited vocational training institutes, followed by national examinations and three-month internships at local businesses to enable trainees to put their skills into practice. At project end, 68.3% of the vocational trainees were in gainful employment related to their skilling, while others continue to seek full time work. For children who were enrolled in school, the project supported them with school fees, materials and counselling – to enable them to concentrate on their studies rather



than having to find work to fund the purchase of materials outside of school. At the project end, all children that had been supported remained in school.

Nahia is from Bulamagi sub-county, Iganga district. A community champion found Nahia in Bulamagi trading centre selling vegetables and had dropped out of school. She introduced her to the project and she was enrolled at Nile vocational training

institute for a mechanics course, during which she learnt how to repair motor vehicles and assemble parts. Nahia says she chose this course because she wanted to be unique; to prove to her people that mechanics is not only for men and boys.

Nahia is undertaking her internship at Nkono Garage, Iganga, where she works alongside experienced mechanics. She says she now gains respect from the community and her communication skills have improved. The garage owner said that Nahia is always willing to learn more, tries to develop new skills every day, committed to her tasks and does them diligently. He has promised to retain Nahia after her internship. Nahia is also committed to fighting child labour, raising awareness amongst young people and other community members. She has advised her friends to stop engaging themselves in child labour but instead look at other life changing skills like hairdressing, baking, mechanics among others.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Civic and Political Participation of Women Market Vendors in Kaliro and Lira Districts, Uganda (1st February 2022 – 31st January 2024)

Working together with our partner PLA (Platform for Labour Action), and funded by the Belgian Development Cooperation, this project directly targeted 4,000 market vendors (90% women) building their civic and political participation for improved management and administration of markets. It ensured that market women are empowered through transformative leadership skills, with the agency to influence decision-making at national, district and local levels; together with gaining increased economic empowerment and resilience.

The project was near completion at the end of 2023 and has had a transformative effect on promoting the civic and political participation of market vendors. This is seen in the increasing numbers of women elected to leadership positions, the successful lobbying of the market agencies for improvements to their working environment, and the increased incomes and security of the women who have participated in this project. As stated in the final evaluation report 'This project has created a seed of female leaders who have overcome the norms and beliefs that prevented them from taking up leadership, and ... these will provide an example to other female vendors.'

The project has succeeded in training a core group of women market vendors in leadership skills and has brokered a working relationship between market vendors and local government leaders. All stakeholders involved in the final evaluation reported a positive expectation that this relationship will continue, and women leaders in Namwiwa and Kaliro reported that they have now gone through the process of building consensus around an issue and presenting it to the local government without the involvement of PLA. Over the life of the project, the women have seen improved conditions in their markets due to their lobbying and advocacy work: for example, the relocation of the abattoir in Namwiwa market which had made the market unsanitary; reduction of market dues in Kaliro Main market; in Omodo the market owner built new toilets and separated male and female facilities; while in Lira main market an outstanding electricity bill of 18 million shillings was settled by lobbying the District Woman MP who settled the bill and services were restored.

In addition, women in all markets have worked together to empower themselves with practical skills to diversify their income and with business skills to improve the efficiency of their ventures. The peer to peer support encouraged by the project has led to increased access to capital for business development and improved incomes for 70% of market vendors.

Business and Community Actions to Eliminate Child Labour in the Sugar and Rice Supply Chains in Uganda (October 2023- March 2026)

This project is funded by the EU and implemented in cooperation with Platform for Labour Action (PLA). The overall objective of the project is to reduce child labour in Eastern Uganda through strengthened civil society action. PLA will work with grassroots CSOs to build their capacity to hold businesses and duty bearers accountable in the sugar and rice supply chains. The project will strengthen the capacity of district officials and support them to develop ordinances at district level and will build constructive partnerships with businesses supporting them to adopt child rights principles. It will work with vulnerable families to raise awareness of the dangers of child labour and develop alternative livelihoods strategies. PLA will also provide direct legal aid to victims of child labour.

The project completed its first quarter at the end of 2023. In this period, inception meetings were held in each of the three districts to explain the objectives to stakeholders and to choose the sub-

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2023

counties to be targeted. A tool was developed for assessing the capacity of CSO partners and plans made for the baseline study. Community champions were identified among who already play a significant role in the community (teachers, social workers, local leaders) and legal aid was provided to the first child labour victims.

Improved livelihoods, climate resilience and natural resource protection for refugee and host farming communities, Northern Uganda (September 2023 – December 2025)

This project is being funded by Stiftung Drittes Millennium (Foundation for the Third Millennium), Guernsey OADC, EA Foundation, Peter Stebbings Memorial Charity, and other Trusts. It is being implemented in cooperation with Volunteer Efforts for Development Concerns (VEDCO), a Ugandan NGO. The project has the overall objective of improved livelihoods and climate resilience for refugee and host community farmers in Palabek Refugee Settlement through sustainable vegetable production and natural resource protection. It is doing this by supporting 40 farmer groups of 30 farmers each (1200 participants: 70% women, 70% refugees, 5% people with disabilities) to set up sustainable and climate-resilient vegetable farming businesses.

The project completed its first quarter in 2023. This setup phase included inception meetings with stakeholders: the local government, the Ugandan Office of the Prime Minister, and the communities themselves. This was followed by the identification of 1206 beneficiaries, 77% of whom are female. Alongside this, a representative baseline survey was conducted. Core training on climate-smart agricultural techniques began, and 40 Group Marketing Officers were recruited to help connect each farmer group to market actors.

Plans for the future

The global context continues to add an additional layer of challenges and increase the need for our work; to deliver sustainable, cost effective and transformative impact on livelihoods targeting people in East and West Africa who are marginalised through inequality. We continue to catalyse change by proactively pushing a cross-cutting agenda of inclusive livelihoods amongst different stakeholders.

We also continue to further develop our approaches to support the leadership and development of our partners. Action on Poverty has been working with a community and partner-led approach for most of its existence, providing or sourcing skills which our partners seek and supporting our partners as they take on the lead partner roles with large institutional donors. This year we have reached out to our partners to discuss their views and needs for 'powershifting' and to feed into our strategy. They are hugely supportive of our approach and value the relationship we have, and we will face the challenges of securing funding together.

We will continue to diversify our range of income sources, steadily growing our supporter fundraising so that Action on Poverty not only covers its costs but can invest in strategic areas and programmes, whilst being led by our values. We will now focus on sustaining our success with Trusts and Foundations and matched appeals; deepening relationships with individuals; and enabling supporters to fundraise for us through unique challenges.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Specific Objectives

In line with our vision and mission we will achieve impact through:

- i. Delivering sustainable, cost effective and transformative economic and social impact with marginalised groups
- ii. Supporting the development and leadership of local organisations.
- iii. Catalysing change in behaviour of private sector (including micro to formal) for better development impact; to be a 'mighty atom' in our work¹

Secondly we will develop a sound financial platform by:

- i. Securing funding from institutions and trusts to follow up earlier success and
- ii. Building our supporter fundraising by strengthening individual relationships, building on matched appeals and developing unique challenges.

We will also increase awareness of our approach and lessons learnt.

Specific targets and activities have been set for the above and are monitored on a quarterly basis.

Financial Review

As always the vast majority of our total expenditure of £811,523 has been on charitable activities in the year and sent out to our local project partner organisations who lead our projects with the communities they are designed to help. Similarly, of the costs incurred in the UK, the vast majority was spent on programme management, with our staff overseeing and adding value to the projects and reporting back to our UK donors.

During 2023 our unrestricted activities resulted in a small surplus of £9,737. This leaves unrestricted reserves of £294,431 (£224,431 plus £70,000) at the year-end which were in excess of our 6-12 month target range for unrestricted reserves. This will ensure we are able to continue operating as a going concern throughout 2024 and designate part of these reserves (£70,000) to forward fund programmes when donor funding is paid in arrears. Restricted reserves at the end of 2023 were £258,061.

Reserves policy

Action on Poverty's stated policy is to maintain a level of unrestricted reserves equivalent to 6-12 months' running costs. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. In addition to this, due consideration needs to be given to the need for forward funding as indicated above.

Investment policy

The trustees have the power to invest in such assets as they see fit but to date surplus unrestricted funds are held on low risk deposit to ensure ready availability.

¹ including systemic change, attitude change, influencing supply chains/key players, private sector etc

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Risk management

Action on Poverty takes very seriously the management of risk to which the charity is exposed particularly cash flow, recruitment, safeguarding and safety and security of staff travelling overseas. The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to those risks. The risk register is an agenda item at each trustees' meeting and policies and practices are reviewed on a regular basis to manage the safety and security of staff, develop best practice in safeguarding (including continuing to work with partners to improve policies and procedures), financial management and other management risks.

Our approach to fundraising

Our supporters are key to everything we do. We are fully committed to being transparent and accountable about how our supporters' donations are used. At Action on Poverty we are hugely grateful to all our donors and focus on building long-lasting relationships based on trust and respect. We follow the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice.

During the financial period ending December 2023 we did not use any professional fundraising organisations. Our fundraising is carried out by one person having fundraising and communications as their main role, supervised by the Chief Executive, and the support of an additional person on a graduate trainee programme during most of 2023. This has meant we have full control of and confidence in our fundraising practices. We did not receive any complaints about our fundraising activities during the 2023 financial year. We keep up to date with changes to regulation, respond to consultations on this and update processes and practice as necessary to comply. We welcome feedback from supporters and proactively use it to improve and enhance our fundraising campaigns.

Asset cover for funds

The trustees are satisfied that the charitable company's assets and cash balances attributable to each of its individual funds are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in relation to those funds.

Trustees' consideration of going concern basis of accounting

The trustees have considered the impact of global events and consequently the economy and sources of funding on the charity's current and future financial position. We continue to be concerned about the impact not only on livelihoods, but on all Sustainable Development Goals in both the short and the long term in all the countries in which we work. The greatest impact is likely to be on those who are already vulnerable and in the depth of poverty. However, we have been able to start new projects this year due to grants from the European Union governments and a number of Trusts and Foundations, which is very positive.

No material uncertainties, apart from those mentioned above, that may cast significant doubt about the ability of the company to continue as a going concern have been identified by the

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2023

trustees. The trustees consider that the charity has sufficient unrestricted reserves and cash flow to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved for the following reasons:

- The charity holds unrestricted, general reserves of £294,431
- The charity's current funders are continuing to fund the programmes in hand.

The trustees therefore consider it appropriate to adopt the going concern basis for the preparation of the accounts as detailed in note 1(b) to the financial statements.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of company law are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with 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). Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards and statements of recommended practice 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 charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

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.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditors

After a period of six years of auditing by Godfrey Wilson Limited it was agreed to go out to tender in the interests of good practice and reviewing value for money. After due process Knox Cropper LLP were appointed to audit these accounts for 2023.

Approved by the trustees on 23 May 2024 and signed on their behalf by


B.S. Capper (Unit 1) 2024-05-23 11:40 GMT+11.....

Brian S. Capper BSc MA PhD

Chair of Trustees

23/05/24

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF APT ACTION ON POVERTY
For the year ended 31 December 2023

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of APT Action on Poverty (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, cash flow and notes to the financial statements, 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 our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- 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 Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's 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 the charitable company'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.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF APT ACTION ON POVERTY
For the year ended 31 December 2023

Our opinion on the 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in 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 there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Opinions 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, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the 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; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Directors

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF APT ACTION ON POVERTY
For the year ended 31 December 2023

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities 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.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the 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 company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's 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 auditor's 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.

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:

- The Charitable Company is required to comply with both company law and charity law and, based on our knowledge of its activities, we identified that the legal requirement to accurately account for restricted funds was of key significance.
- We gained an understanding of how the charitable company complied with its legal and regulatory framework, including the requirement to properly account for restricted funds, through discussions with management and a review of the documented policies, procedures and controls.
- The audit team, which is experienced in the audit of charities, considered the charitable company's susceptibility to material misstatement and how fraud may occur. Our considerations included the risk of management override.
- Our approach was to check that all restricted income was properly identified and separately accounted for and to ensure that only valid and appropriate expenditure was charged to restricted funds. This included reviewing journal adjustments and unusual transactions.

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF APT ACTION ON POVERTY
For the year ended 31 December 2023

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 auditor's 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 the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report or for the opinions we have formed.

Knox Cropper LLP

Simon Goodridge (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of:

Knox Cropper LLP

Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors

65 Leadenhall Street

London

EC3A 2AD

Date: 13/06/24

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
INCOME FROM:					
Donations and legacies	2	55,734	58,823	114,557	134,261
Charitable activities	3	789,829	26,582	816,411	671,356
Other Income		-	1,655	1,655	-
Investments		-	3,664	3,664	2,150
TOTAL		845,563	90,724	936,287	807,767
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Raising Funds		-	74,400	74,400	81,244
Charitable activities		720,358	16,765	737,123	868,855
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	5	720,358	91,165	811,523	950,099
Net income/(expenditure)		125,205	(441)	124,764	(142,332)
Transfer between funds	15	(10,178)	10,178	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		115,027	9,737	124,764	(142,332)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1 JANUARY 2023		143,034	284,694	427,728	570,060
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023		258,061	294,431	552,492	427,728

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

Pages 22 to 35 include the Notes to these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Tangible Fixed Assets	10	547	210
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	11	4,423	119,344
Current Asset Investments	12	64,886	64,885
Cash at bank and in hand		497,905	258,693
		<u>567,214</u>	<u>442,922</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	13	(15,269)	(15,404)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>551,945</u>	<u>427,518</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>552,492</u>	<u>427,728</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds:			
Designated funds	15	70,000	70,000
General fund	15	224,431	214,694
Restricted funds	15	<u>258,061</u>	<u>143,034</u>
		<u>552,492</u>	<u>427,728</u>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and the Financial Reporting Standard 102.

Pages 22 to 35 include the Notes to these accounts.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:-

B S Capper

B S Capper (Jun 6, 2024 23:40 GMT+1)

Brian S. Capper BSc MA PhD

Chair of Trustees

Date 23/05/24

Registered Company Number: 04046959

CASHFLOW STATEMENT

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Surplus/(deficit) for the financial year	124,764	(142,332)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation Charge	242	472
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(1,655)	(2,150)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	114,921	(67,862)
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	(135)	(243)
	<u>238,137</u>	<u>(212,115)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	1,655	2,150
Purchase of fixed assets	(579)	
	<u>1,076</u>	<u>2,150</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	<u>239,213</u>	<u>(209,965)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January 2023	A 323,578	533,543
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December 2023	A <u>562,791</u>	<u>323,578</u>

A) Components of cash and cash equivalents

Current asset investments	64,886	64,885
Cash at bank and in hand	497,905	258,693
	<u>562,791</u>	<u>323,578</u>

B) Analysis of changes in net debt

The charity has not provided an analysis of changes in net debt as it does not have any long-term financing arrangements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention. They have been prepared in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards, the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP FRS 102 second edition), in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Going concern

The trustees have considered the impact of global events and consequently the economy and sources of funding on the charity's current and future financial position. They have concluded that there are no material uncertainties about the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern and consider that the charity has sufficient unrestricted reserves and cash flow to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved.

Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from the 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.

Interest Receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity: this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Funds accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Allocation of support and governance costs

Support and governance costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity, including the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements and any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on the following basis, which is an estimate of staff time spent on each activity:

	2023	2022
Raising funds	28.0%	32.7%
Charitable activities	72.0%	67.3%

Fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight-line basis over their expected economic life as follows:

- Plant and machinery – 5 years
- Fixtures, fittings and equipment – 2 - 5 years

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.

Current asset investments

Current asset investments consist of cash held on short term deposit.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors

Creditors and provisions 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 and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

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 recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. There are no further liabilities other than that already recognised in the statement of financial activities.

Foreign currency transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at rates prevailing at the date of the transaction. Balances denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange prevailing at the year end.

Accounting estimates and key judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

There are no sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

2. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Trusts and foundations	16,950	13,990	30,940	13,700
Donations and other fundraising	38,784	41,888	80,672	117,548
Gift aid	-	2,945	2,945	3,013
Total 2023	<u>55,734</u>	<u>58,823</u>	<u>114,557</u>	<u>134,261</u>
Total 2022	<u>78,419</u>	<u>55,842</u>	<u>134,261</u>	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

3. Income from charitable activities

	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<i>Project grants from institutional donors</i>				
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation	191,584	-	191,584	265,428
Netherlands Enterprise Agency	117,865	-	117,865	
Belgian Government	86,322	-	86,322	222,729
Medicor Foundation	131,986	-	131,986	80,000
National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-	49,708
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office	-	-	-	10,000
Turing Foundation	-	-	-	7,658
European Commission	204,044	-	204,044	-
Dulverton Trust	35,000	-	35,000	-
States of Guernsey	23,028	-	23,028	-
<i>Consultancy fees</i>	-	26,582	26,582	35,833
Total 2023	<u>789,829</u>	<u>26,582</u>	<u>816,411</u>	<u>671,356</u>
Total 2022	<u>635,523</u>	<u>35,833</u>	<u>671,356</u>	

4. Government grants

The charitable company receives government grants, defined as funding from the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, European Commission, the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, Netherlands Enterprise Agency, States of Guernsey and the Belgian Government to fund charitable activities. The total value of such grants in the period ending 31 December 2023 was £622,843 (2022: £547,865). There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attaching to these grants.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

5. Total expenditure

	Raising funds	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs (note 8)	57,925	148,742	14,177	220,844
Other costs	-	40,174	26,574	66,748
Audit and accountancy fees	-	-	7,191	7,191
Depreciation	-	-	241	241
Grants payable to partners (note 7)	-	513,528	-	513,528
Publicity and fundraising costs	2,971	-	-	2,971
Sub-total	60,895	702,445	48,183	811,523
Allocation of support and governance costs	13,505	34,678	(48,183)	-
Total Expenditure 2023	74,400	737,123	-	811,523

Total governance costs were £7,191 (2022: £6,360).

Total expenditure – comparative

	Raising funds	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	Total 2022 £
Staff costs (note 8)	56,737	116,630	23,907	197,274
Other costs	-	19,878	39,899	59,777
Audit and accountancy fees	-	-	5,441	5,441
Depreciation	-	-	472	472
Grants payable to partners (note 7)	-	685,272	-	685,272
Publicity and fundraising costs	1,690	173	-	1,863
Sub-total	58,427	821,953	69,719	950,099
Allocation of support and governance costs	22,817	46,902	(69,719)	-
Total Expenditure 2023	81,244	868,855	-	950,099

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

6. Net movement in funds

This is stated after charging:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation	242	472
Trustees' remuneration	-	-
Trustees' reimbursed expenses	-	-
Trustees' donations	1,010	1,432
Auditors' remuneration		
Statutory audit (including VAT)	6,780	6,360
Other services (grant audits)	411	-

7. Grants payable

	2023	2022
	£	£
<i>Grants paid to partner organisations</i>		
Platform for Labour Action	249,826	456,625
SITE Enterprise Promotion	88,328	107,994
Movement for Assistance and Promotion of Rural Communities	147,237	84,476
Tusonge Community Development Organization	-	35,280
Community Action for Rural Development	-	897
Volunteers' Effort for Development Concern	22,921	-
Other	5,216	-
	<u>513,528</u>	<u>685,272</u>

Grants payable are to institutions in Sierra Leone, Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania. All grants are paid to fund charitable activities, including funding to support strengthening of community based organisations, livelihood development, food security and inclusion of women and people with disabilities and specific programmes in camel milk production, tackling child labour, and supporting women market vendors. The grants shown above do not include any contribution to core costs.

8. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	Total	Total
	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	193,171	176,463
Social security costs	17,310	10,574
Pension costs	10,363	10,237
	<u>220,844</u>	<u>197,274</u>

No employee earned more than £60,000 during the year (2022: none).

The key management personnel of the charitable company comprise the trustees and chief executive. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £56,706 (2022: £52,677).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

The average weekly number of employees during the period was:

	Number 2023	Number 2022
Employees	<u>6.83</u>	<u>6.42</u>

9. Taxation

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and machinery	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total 2023 £
Cost			
As at 1 st January 2023	1,299	6,228	7,527
Additions	-	579	579
Disposals	(1,299)	(4,053)	(5,352)
As at 31 st December 2023	-	2,754	2,754
Depreciation			
As at 1 st January 2023	1,299	6,018	7,317
Charge in the Year	-	242	242
Disposals	(1,299)	(4,053)	(5,352)
As at 31 st December 2023	-	2,207	2,207
NBV as at 31st December 2023	-	547	547
NBV as at 31 st December 2022	-	210	210

11. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments and Accrued Income	4,423	10,317
Other debtors	-	109,027
	4,423	119,344

12. Current asset investments

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash held on deposit	64,886	64,885
	64,886	64,885

13. Creditors: amounts due within 1 year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals	10,846	9,205
Social security and other taxes	4,912	4,157
Other creditors	(489)	2,042
	15,269	15,404

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	547	547
Net current assets	258,061	70,000	223,884	551,945
	<u>258,061</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>224,431</u>	<u>552,492</u>

Analysis of net assets between funds - comparative

	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	210	210
Net current assets	143,034	70,000	214,484	427,518
	<u>143,034</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>214,694</u>	<u>427,728</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

15. Movement in funds

	At 1 January 2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 December 2023 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Livelihoods and food security for vulnerable people	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Enhancing CSO capacity	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Kenya and Uganda</i> : Strengthening the implementation of the CRPD with Women with Disabilities	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Empowering local communities in Pujehun District	10,178	-	-	(10,178)	-
<i>Tanzania</i> : Disability inclusive VICOBA	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Kenya</i> : Camel milk project	47,528	115,000	(115,314)	-	47,214
<i>Uganda</i> : Eradication of child labour	2,519	191,584	(196,099)	-	(1,996)
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Women make change	29,724	1,833	(28,090)	-	3,467
<i>Uganda</i> : Market vendors	(3,650)	86,322	(98,427)	-	(15,755)
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Fight against child labour	43,308	121,865	(179,393)	-	(14,220)
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : CSO Capacity Building	-	72,686	(23,479)	-	49,207
<i>Uganda</i> : Vegetable farming	6,000	48,229	(27,645)	-	26,584
<i>Uganda</i> : Child Labour	-	205,044	(51,911)	-	153,133
Country-specific funding	7,427	3,000	-	-	10,427
Total Restricted funds	143,034	845,563	(720,358)	(10,178)	258,061
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds</i>					
Forward fund	70,000	-	-	-	70,000
Total Designated funds	70,000	-	-	-	70,000
<i>General Funds</i>	214,694	90,724	(91,165)	10,178	224,431
Total General funds	214,694	90,724	(91,165)	10,178	224,431
Total Unrestricted funds	284,694	90,724	(91,165)	10,178	294,431
Total funds	427,728	936,287	(811,523)	-	552,492

Purposes of restricted funds

<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Livelihoods and food security for vulnerable people	Reducing the poverty and malnutrition of people in rural households through community organisations.
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Enhancing CSO capacity	Strengthening 45 civil society organisations to empower women, and provide gender, literacy, business skills and apprenticeship training.
<i>Kenya and Uganda</i> : Strengthening the implementation of the CRPD with Women with Disabilities	Supporting partner SITE in helping women with disabilities in Kenya and Uganda to understand and access their rights and to improve their inclusion in livelihoods.
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Empowering local communities in Pujehun District	Building the capacity of community structures, including 19 community-based organisations to provide livelihoods services, rights awareness and income generation and improved governance.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

<i>Tanzania:</i> Disability inclusive VICOBA	Establishing community banking groups and providing financial management, business and vocational training to vulnerable women and people living with disabilities.
<i>Kenya:</i> Camel milk project	Providing skills and hygiene training in new areas throughout the entire Camel Milk supply chain to improve productivity and produce standards.
<i>Uganda:</i> Eradication of child labour	Enabling over 12,000 families to be more resilient to child labour, improving incomes and access to skills, and establishing a child free zone in UMA Industrial Park.
<i>Sierra Leone:</i> Women make change	Supporting the leadership of marginalised women including training on vegetable growing, soap production, functional literacy and community seed banks.
<i>Uganda:</i> Market vendors	Civic and political participation of Women Market Vendors in Kaliro and Lira Districts.
<i>Sierra Leone:</i> Fight against child labour	Building resilient community ecosystems in the Fight Against Child Labour.
<i>Sierra Leone:</i> CSO Capacity Building	<i>Strengthening 30 CSOs as inclusive actors of good governance and poverty reduction reaching 4000 households in Sierra Leone</i>
<i>Uganda:</i> Vegetable farming	Improving incomes and climate resilience of 7,200 people in Lamwo District through vegetable farming businesses.
<i>Uganda:</i> Child Labour	<i>Business and Community Actions to Eliminate Child Labour in the Sugar and Rice Supply Chains in Uganda, increasing understanding with 2400 households and 60 commercial actors taking action</i>
Country-specific funding	Funds raised to provide help in Tanzania, Sri Lanka, Uganda and Sierra Leone on future project opportunities.

Purpose of designated funds

Forward fund	To forward fund projects when necessary and carry expenditure in advance of receipt of donation income.
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Restricted funds in deficit

Restricted funds in deficit represent on-going projects where additional funding is confirmed post year end.

Transfers between funds

Transfers between funds represent the use of general funds to complete the project at the conclusion of work.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Movement in funds - comparative					
	At 1 January 2022 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 December 2022 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Sierra Leone:</i> Livelihoods and food security for vulnerable people	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
<i>Sierra Leone:</i> Enhancing CSO capacity	-	3,180	(5,232)	2,052	-
<i>Kenya and Uganda:</i> Strengthening the implementation of the CRPD with Women with Disabilities	207	-	(207)	-	-
<i>Sierra Leone:</i> Empowering local communities in Pujehun District	28,800	4,255	(22,877)	-	10,178
<i>Tanzania:</i> Disability inclusive VICOBA	12,277	49,708	(66,295)	4,310	-
<i>Kenya:</i> Camel milk project	65,153	115,000	(132,625)	-	47,528
<i>Uganda:</i> Eradication of child labour	131,968	275,803	(405,252)	-	2,519
<i>Sierra Leone:</i> Women make change	35,468	18,263	(24,007)	-	29,724
<i>Uganda:</i> Market vendors	-	124,527	(128,177)	-	(3,650)
<i>Sierra Leone:</i> Fight against child labour	-	105,206	(61,898)	-	43,308
<i>Uganda:</i> Vegetable farming	-	6,000	-	-	6,000
Country-specific funding	5,427	2,000	-	-	7,427
Total Restricted funds	279,300	713,942	(856,570)	6,362	143,034
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds</i>					
Forward fund	70,000	-	-	-	70,000
<i>Total Designated funds</i>	<i>70,000</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>70,000</i>
General Funds	220,760	93,825	(93,529)	(6,362)	214,694
Total Unrestricted funds	290,760	93,825	(93,529)	(6,362)	284,694
Total funds	570,060	807,767	(950,099)	-	427,728

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

16. Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose in the current or previous reporting period.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

17. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	78,419	55,842	134,261
Charitable activities	635,523	35,833	671,356
Investments	-	2,150	2,150
Total income	713,942	93,825	807,767
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	7,160	74,084	81,244
Charitable activities	849,410	19,445	868,855
Total expenditure	856,570	93,529	950,099
Net income/(expenditure)	(142,628)	296	(142,332)
Transfer between funds	6,362	(6,362)	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	(136,266)	(6,066)	(142,332)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1 JANUARY 2022	279,300	290,760	570,060
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022	143,034	284,694	427,728

Accounts



Report and Audited Financial Statements

31 December 2022

Company no. 01872538
Charity no. 290836



APT Action on Poverty

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 December 2022

Company number	01872538	
Charity number	290836	
Registered office and operational address	111 Gloucester Road Bishopston Bristol BS7 8AT	
Trustees	Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:	
	Helen Altshul	
	Jake Bharier	
	Brian Capper	
	Benjamin Cumming	appointed 1 November 2022
	David Elliott	
	Amber Honey	
	Louise Locke	resigned 10 May 2022
	Justine Williams	resigned 10 May 2022
Chief executive	Alex Daniels	
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc 128 High Street Cheltenham GL50 1EL	Virgin Money plc Jubilee House Gosforth NE3 4PL
	CAF Bank Limited 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ	
Auditors	Godfrey Wilson Limited Chartered accountants and statutory auditors 5th Floor Mariner House 62 Prince Street Bristol BS1 4QD	

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2022

The trustees are pleased to present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes. The accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Structure, governance and management

The company is limited by guarantee, was registered as a charity in 1985 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the company's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and are therefore confident that APT Action on Poverty ('Action on Poverty') meets the public benefit requirements.

When considering the appointment of trustees the board give regard to the skills audit of existing trustees, the requirement for any specialist skills and ability to contribute to the charity's governance and objectives. The key element of the trustee's induction is to ensure sound understanding of the charity's mission, principles and strategy as well as the legal obligations of trustees. The induction process for new trustees involves a combination of provision of key documents plus communications and face to face discussions with the Chair of the trustees and the Chief Executive. New trustees are required to comply with company law requirements and declare any interests.

In the latter part of 2022 extensive specific advertising was undertaken to improve the diversity of the Board. Twelve different specific networks were approached, and a number promoted our recruitment information, including the Young Trustee Movement, Girl Dreamer, Beyond Suffrage, Women on Boards and Trustees Unlimited. We received 25 applications from a much wider diversity of applicants; one new Trustee was appointed and this process will be taken forward in 2023.

The Chief Executive of Action on Poverty, Alex Daniels, is appointed by the trustees to manage the day to day operations of the charity and ensure the overall implementation of the organisational strategy as agreed by the trustees. The Chief Executive and the Chair of the trustees communicate on a regular basis.

To save costs and promote sustainable, flexible ways of working the decision was made to be a team that works remotely. The process was finalised with the move from our office being completed in the latter part of 2022. The team still meet up approximately one day a month with some interim meetings between different staff members.

Objectives and activities for the public benefit

Our Vision:

A world where everyone can work with pride for a better future.

Our Mission:

To work with people in East and West Africa to address barriers to safe and lasting work, hunger and injustice.

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2022

We aim to achieve our objectives through delivering programmes targeting specific sectors, communities and/or marginalised people. These programmes all have a livelihood focus (such as accessing employment, incomes through enterprise and/or increased food production) together with addressing inequalities and exclusion to secure sustainable and transformational change. We deliver this through working together with partners and communities to design programmes and activities in the countries in which we operate, supporting and promoting local leadership. Through accessing the vital skills and resources people need to earn a living and address the root causes of their poverty, they can act as changemakers in their communities and countries to achieve equality for all.

Our key strengths are our experience with:

- Promoting livelihoods, including enterprise, decent work and food security;
- Reaching people who are marginalised by society (such as women, young people, people with disabilities (PWD), and those in a fragile environment); and
- Supporting the development and leadership of organisations – including our partners, CBOs (Community based Organisations) and other stakeholders.

Achievements and performance

The cost of living crisis and impact of the conflict in Ukraine has been felt globally and even more so in the poorest communities where we work, with economic and social impact and progress against Sustainable Development Goals affected. This includes those goals which Action on Poverty is focused on: 1 (End Poverty), 2 (Zero Hunger), 5 (Gender Equality) and 8 (Decent work). Despite the increased needs, many funding sources have been cut or continue in a reduced state.

Despite the poor outlook for all International Non-Government Organisations the year has been a very positive one for Action on Poverty. We have started three new projects during 2022: working with market vendors in Uganda, one working on child labour in Sierra Leone and a small one on women changemakers in Sierra Leone. All of these indicate a significant increase in the diversity of our funding – both in accessing new (European) institutional donors and supporter fundraising. Three programmes were also completed – finalising the programme with people with disabilities ending in December 2021 in Kenya and Uganda, a programme on disability inclusion in Tanzania, and a programme strengthening inclusive governance and livelihoods in Sierra Leone. Schools reopened early in 2022 in Uganda where some of the strongest Covid restrictions had been in place, and during the year mandates have been removed and travelling has been possible for Programme Managers, enabling face to face interaction whilst also continuing with cost saving online inputs.

We have worked with over 30,000 beneficiaries directly during 2022 and over 21,000 have obtained the skills for sustainable livelihoods so that they can secure enough food, medicines and education for themselves and their children and a life with more respect and dignity. Over 314,000 people have been supported through being better informed, empowered and/or as dependants of the direct beneficiaries. To extend the impact and to build for the future our work has also strengthened over 50 grassroots organisations to become more effective in helping their members collaborate for increased incomes, obtain better services and/or to influence other stakeholders to ensure their needs are not excluded in the future. Considerable learning from our work on livelihoods with people with disabilities (PWD) has been consolidated, documented and shared through a specific webpage and fed into new programmes.

We consider that poverty and gender inequality are inextricably linked and this continues to be reflected in our work – the majority of people directly reached are women and as we move forward with a new programme in Sierra Leone in 2023 this area of work continues to be strengthened, building on what has been learnt in interventions in 2022.

We were able to continue our successful growth in income from supporter fundraising in 2021 by developing successful relationships with individual donors, trusts and foundations, and a first-of-its-kind

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2022

corporate partnership. We were able to recruit a Fundraising and Communications Assistant to build on these successes and begin to develop exciting new income streams for 2023, and we closed the year with our Christmas Big Give appeal raising funds for our work on child labour.

Performance of Programmes

Sierra Leone

Empowering Local Communities in Pujehun District (November 2019 - October 2022)

We completed this three-year project, funded by European Union, Turing Foundation and other donors. This involved supporting our partner MAPCO to be the lead for the first time in an EU project, with Action on Poverty providing technical assistance. The project aimed 'To enhance the capacity of community structures (Community Based Organisations (CBOs), Village Development Committees (VDCs) and Ward Development Committees (WDCs) and others) across nine rural chiefdoms in Pujehun District to improve integrated governance and deliver services on poverty reduction to 5,700 vulnerable families (30,000 people)'. In total, we were able to exceed these targets and 7,053 vulnerable families have benefited from services delivered by the 19 rural CBOs, with support from VDCs, WDCs and others. Of these 7,053 household representatives, 4,959 (70%) are women; 826 (12%) are people with disabilities; 3,494 (50%) are young people aged 18-35; and 257 are teenage mothers. 380 young people, across the 19 communities completed a variety of locally based apprenticeships, accessed loans, and went on to earn their own income. Overall, CBO membership of these households benefits a total of 40,202 household members and dependents. This has had a significant impact on the lives of people in poverty in Pujehun, directly reducing the poverty that they faced through sustainable services offered by CBOs, such as revolving loan scheme, apprenticeship schemes, awareness raising campaigns seed banks, which will remain in the community long after the end of the project. It is an approach which has been widely recognised by key stakeholders (MPs, councillors, Ministry and District representatives) as highly effective and having achieved an impact unrealised by other NGOs. The capacity of local structures to deliver integrated governance has undoubtedly been strengthened. The impact is all the more notable given the implementation period being during the Covid pandemic.

'The intervention of the project encompasses a broad range of components that are extremely relevant and well designed that responds directly to most of the priority needs of disadvantaged adult women, young people, teenage mothers and PWD:

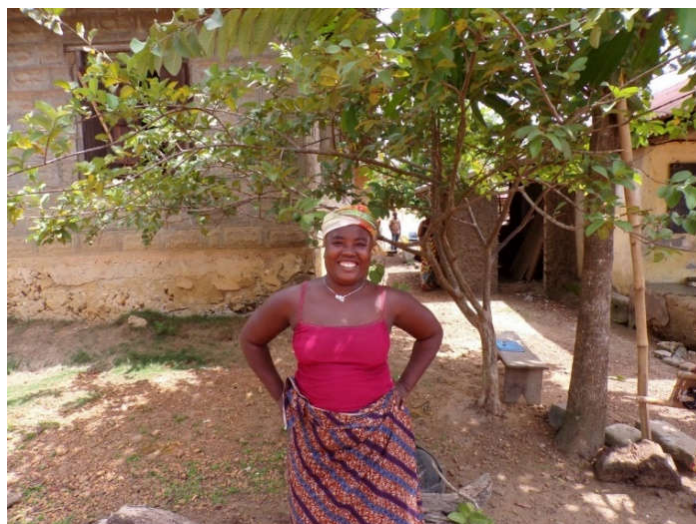
- *Strengthening CBOs to provide services (revolving loans, agricultural support/seeds, vocational skills, literacy training, etc.)*
- *Empowering women and other vulnerable groups to claim their rights and participate in decision making (right-based awareness, literacy training, mediation and conflict resolution trainings, etc.)*
- *Strengthening duty bearers and local authorities (capacity building of duty bearers, advocacy to address barriers, etc.)*
- *Building linkages and partnerships (establish linkages between community structures and other service providers, liaison and network, sensitization and dissemination of good practice)*

- External evaluator

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Case study:

Yattu is a young woman with three children. Yattu has completed a weaving apprenticeship in her community through the project's CBO vocational training scheme. Alongside this, she also now runs a business selling bananas, plantain and other fruits. She said that as a result of these experiences:

"Now my family treat me differently. I am now recognised proper in the community and in the family too. I am consulted on decisions, I can contribute to finance".

"I have received a certificate, I am proud to go anywhere and I am proud to present myself to the community. It helps me present myself well".

Her plan is to continue to work and start to save, then open a bank account to put savings towards her children's future. Yattu said her advice to the younger generation would be to look for a trade and join them in weaving as it will help to create new opportunities in the near future.

Women Changemakers (February 2022-January 2024)

This project, funded by private donors, trusts and the Big Give Challenge, is being implemented with our partner MAPCO, is empowering women in 8 communities of Pujehun District to make change and overcome poverty, including the most marginalised groups like young women, women with disabilities and widows. Women Changemakers are accessing skills and support to lead on tackling these issues in their communities. By the end of the first year, 190 women have increased earning capacity through group and individual vegetable growing and soap making, and 106 have accessed credit through the revolving loan scheme set up in 8 communities, 290 women are attending literacy and numeracy classes and 332 have attended business skills sessions. Already 303 families are reporting to have improved nutrition and food security.

These Women Changemakers will go on to catalyse further change. When women earn an income it improves their status within the household and community, the health and well-being of their children, and lessens their vulnerability to gender based violence. This project supports women to act as role models, passing on their entrepreneurial successes and nutritional improvements to other young women.

Building Resilient Community Ecosystems in the Fight Against Child Labour (January 2022-February 2025)

Action on Poverty is partnering with Planting Naturals of the Netherlands (the lead partner), Goldtree Ltd Sierra Leone, and MAPCO to reduce the use of child labour by smallholder farmers of palm oil plots in Kailahun District. It is funded by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency, Child Labour Fund. The first phase was to conduct an assessment of the extent of children working on household plots, whether it constituted child labour and plan how to reduce this. The analysis showed that most children were indeed engaging in child labour in that it was either affecting the education attendance of children, could cause harm especially through carrying heavy palm fruit, and/or being engaged for longer hours than appropriate. The main underlying causes were lack of understanding of the harm, and economic

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necessity. The second phase began in late 2022 with plans to improve understanding of the harm caused by child labour within the communities and stakeholders, providing clarity on what is allowable in terms of tasks and work hours; reducing the poverty status by strengthening livelihoods activities particularly for women, including access to credit; and improving monitoring of school attendance and children working. The project is working in 40 scattered communities of two Chiefdoms, with 1,440 farming families.

Kenya

Improved Livelihoods and Resilience through Camel Milk (1 April 2021- 31 March 2024)

Camili III, a three-year project which began in April 2021, and is funded by the Medicor Foundation and other trusts including the Dulverton Trust and the Charles Hayward Foundation. It is being run by SITE Enterprise Promotion (SITE) and Action on Poverty in the vast stretches of North Eastern Kenya between Garissa and Wajir: a culturally Somali part of the country that is arid, underserved, and is still reckoning with the shadow of Al Shabaab. Being a traditionally pastoralist region, camels and other livestock – goats and a few cattle – are the backbone of the economy and livelihoods, and play a significant role in food security.

Camili III seeks to build on the achievements of earlier work which achieved an average 45% increase in incomes for 3,060 camel milk traders (94% women), and greater food and income security for 38,000 households, and to expand the activities to Wajir County, which is within the same cultural, ecological and climatic context. The primary aim of the project is to improve the area's Camel Milk value chain, including increasing the quantity and quality of camel milk, secure markets and develop sustainable livelihoods, increasing and stabilising financial incomes (particularly women's) and food security. SITE chose 16 activity nodes to focus on: 6 in Wajir South, 7 in Garissa County, and 3 Tana River. These are nodes of pastoralist activity which contain over 12,000 client group households, as well as camel milking areas, watering sources, and milk markets.

The drought over East Africa that started in 2020 remains the project's key challenge throughout 2022. Since water is "Step Zero" in the camel milk value chain, and the key limiting factor for the effectiveness of other downstream elements of the value chain (such as milk handling, veterinary access, market vending), this necessarily means much of the project's focus has turned to improving dry season water access for 12 beneficiary communities who lack it. This has included training water committees on how to maintain generators, how to track herders' water access purchased on credit, and renovating inoperative water troughs and tanks. This has been very successful, with all communities reporting better water availability and water resource management – within the limits of their available hardware. To overcome the hardware limitations of boreholes and generators, Action on Poverty and SITE have started exploring the renovation and better management of rainwater reservoirs and river dams, which collect water during the rainy season and store it into the dry season.

Key to the Camili project are the Primary Traders of camel milk, who are almost all women. Improving their capacities and incomes has a positive impact on the overall livelihoods and nutrition of their communities. So far, the project has reached 2,439 traders with income increases, and has improved the diets of 9,346 people. Other ongoing activities include training of camel owners and herders on animal husbandry and herd management, promoting access to veterinary services, and working on milk handling sanitation at endpoint markets in Garissa and Wajir.

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Uganda

Eradicating Child Labour in Uganda (April 2021 – December 2023)

This project is funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad). Working with our partner Platform for Labour Action (PLA), the project will contribute to eradicating child labour in Uganda, focusing on two regions where child labour is very common: Busoga sub-region and Greater Kampala Metropolitan Area. The project will enable over 12,000 families to be more resilient in the face of recruitment to child labour through increasing understanding on preventing child labour – with community taskforces, sensitised duty bearers, and awareness-raising in the media. It will strengthen the social protection of targeted families, improving incomes and access to skills, and establish public/private partnerships including a child-free zone in key industrial parks; thus improving the implementation of International Labour Organisation (ILO) conventions on child labour.

The project has progressed well. 6,688 households have been reached and supported to date by 200 community champions to prevent the worst forms of child labour. 2,826 families have begun taking positive steps to withdraw their children from labour. There has also been a shift towards community members monitoring and holding each other accountable on issues of child labour: 408 incidences of child labour or exploitation were reported and handled by trained champions and local leaders; of which 277 cases were resolved and the remainder were referred to the appropriate institutions and duty bearers for redress. Meanwhile, 8,412 people have acquired livelihood skills to increase their resilience in the face of recruitment to child labour through skills shared by community champions and parent groups trained. This has led to many people starting small businesses individually or in groups, e.g. to make liquid soap, baking, as well as participating in savings groups to raise the capital needed to start a new business. Older children who were enrolled in vocational training courses have now completed their three-month work placements at local businesses.

More widely, following PLA's many engagements with District Labour Officers and the private sector, a checklist for child labour inspections of workshops by labour officers has been developed with the Child Labour Secretariat under the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development. This will be rolled out at national level, which will impact on approaches to tackle child labour at workplaces far beyond the target districts.

In the final quarter of the year, the project avoided large gatherings and awareness sessions as a precaution to mitigate risks of Ebola transmission and focussed on wider awareness raising through radio talkshows and TV programmes.



Nahia is from Bulamagi sub-county, Iganga district. She was forced to sell vegetables on the streets to cater for the family needs. The money was not enough to pay for school fees and other materials, it was hard to cover medical bills, buy food, and eventually she dropped out of school.

A community champion found Nahia selling in Bulamagi trading centre and introduced her to the project. She was enrolled at Nile vocational training institute for a mechanics course, during which she learnt how to repair motor vehicles and assemble parts. Nahia says she chose this

course because she wanted to be unique; to prove to her people and the community at large that mechanics is not only for men and boys. Nahia is very happy with the decision she took: she says she

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now gains respect from the community and her communication skills have improved. The garage owner has promised to retain Nahia after her internship. Nahia is also committed to fighting child labour in her community by reaching out to those in child labour, raising awareness amongst other young people.

Civic and Political Participation of Women Market Vendors in Kaliro and Lira Districts, Uganda (1 February 2022 – 31 January 2024)

Working together with our partner PLA (Platform for Labour Action), and funded by the Belgian Development Cooperation, this project will directly target 4,000 market vendors (90% women). It will build their civic and political participation for improved management and administration of markets, to better meet their needs and access their rights – including reducing financial and physical abuse. By including women's needs and perspectives in ongoing legislation development for markets, the impact is expected to reach many other women market vendors in the long term. Its aims are that market women will be empowered through transformative leadership skills and civic participation; with agency active and meaningfully influencing decision-making at national, district and local levels; together with increased economic empowerment and resilience. Expected results by the end of the project include 3,200 women having knowledge about gender power relations and democratic processes within their markets, 70% of women's market groups will demonstrate increased engagement and influence with decision makers (local government, MPs) and 1,200 women will be running more effective businesses due to their new skills and connections.

The project has had an impressive impact in its first year with 72% of the supported market agencies/associations demonstrating increased and proactive engagement and influence on decision making at district and local levels. Following training of women leaders of market groups/associations in transformative leadership skills they developed action plans on challenges on market administration and management, to enhance their economic empowerment, and how to cascade the knowledge to their group members. The leaders of groups in Kaliro Central Market were motivated to contest for elected positions on the Market Executive committee (main management structure of the market) and nine women were elected out of the 15 positions. The market groups also fed back on the Market Bill 2021, building understanding the current market administration and legal frameworks governing the management of markets, and to articulate issues such as taxes being collected daily instead of monthly, rubbish collection and disposal; improvements to market structures and access to Parish Development Model funding. In Namwiwa market, this has already led to the district council arranging for the market abattoir to be moved away from the stalls of the vendors and a new pit latrine constructed.

Two more market associations have also been recently formed – their leaders reported that they have been inspired to come together after observing the benefits of project involvement for other market vendors and their groups, such as new friendships, sharing skills, gaining confidence in public speaking and engaging with market leaders. Additionally, many women vendors have reported improved business functionality due to training and skills developed in business diversification, record keeping and cash flow management.

Tanzania

Disability Inclusion in Village Community Banking (DI-VICOBA) (July 2018 – June 2022)

In November 2020 we took over the management of this project, funded by the National Lottery Community Fund, from African Initiatives. The project was completed in June 2022. It was delivered in partnership with Tusonge CDO in Njia Panda ward in the Kilimanjaro region of Tanzania, and had the overall objective of mainstreaming people with disabilities (PWDs) into village community banking groups (known as VICOBA) for stronger livelihoods and social participation.

The project reached 540 direct beneficiaries with economic empowerment activities, 105 of whom were PWDs. 62% of all beneficiaries were women. The project had a significant, positive, quantifiable impact

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on the livelihoods of PWDs, especially women with physical disabilities. It also had a transformational effect on the awareness of PWDs' rights and needs of non-PWD participants, stakeholders and duty-bearers. Overall, the project has created a model for disability livelihoods and inclusion at the grassroots community level, by combining transformative financial outcomes for PWDs with wide-reaching rights awareness and stakeholder engagement.

Due to the project, monthly incomes for PWD participants quadrupled on average – with the greatest increases seen for women with physical disabilities, who increased their incomes sixfold. Similar increases were seen in savings. 78% of PWD participants were able to start a business as a result of the project, and 84% of PWDs reported gaining new assets. 53% of participants reported having no savings before the project started, but just 1.2% at the end. Every single project participant also reported that they were able to access cheaper basic needs through the VICOBA “mobile shop” mechanism, through which participants can pool their funds and purchase goods at bulk prices.

Part of this project was to share our learning on disability-inclusive livelihoods. Our [website page on disability learning](#) was completed during the year and promoted both in social media and BOND (British Overseas NGOs for Development) networks and includes: a review of four of Action on Poverty supported projects [Rapid Learning Review on Disability-Inclusive Livelihoods](#) which documents and shares lessons; and specific learning on [Strategies for County Implementation of the CRPD](#) (Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) from the project we supported in Kenya and Uganda, as well as a checklist and other documentation.

Plans for the future

The global context continues to add an additional layer of challenges and need for our work; we need more than ever to deliver sustainable, cost effective and transformative impact on livelihoods targeting people in East and West Africa who are marginalised in different ways. We will work to catalyse change in this area of work by proactively pushing a cross-cutting agenda of inclusive livelihoods amongst different stakeholders. This includes developing collaborations with new stakeholders.

We will continue to work to further develop our approaches to support the leadership and development of our partners. Action on Poverty has been working with a community and partner-led approach for most of its existence, providing or sourcing skills which our partners seek, organising monitoring exchange visits between partners, and supporting our partners as they take on the lead partner roles with large institutional donors. Despite this, we acknowledge that we need to continue to go further and seek new ways in which we can contribute to the decolonisation of development aid. We will continue to build on discussions on this both with our partners and as a team.

We will also continue to diversify our range of income sources and sustainably build our fundraising income so that Action on Poverty not only covers its costs but can thrive and invest in strategic areas and programmes. Our fundraising and communications will aim to grow supporter fundraising year-on-year so that Action on Poverty can fully fund its work and begin to invest in other areas too whilst being led by our values. We will particularly focus on sustaining our success with Trusts and Foundations; deepening relationships with individuals; growing a corporate partnership programme; testing fundraising events as a means to raise funds and grow our audience; and enabling supporters to fundraise for us through unique challenges.

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2022

Specific objectives

In line with our vision and mission we will:

1. Deliver sustainable, cost effective and transformative economic and social impact through:
 - Targeting people who are marginalised or vulnerable to extreme poverty and discrimination; and
 - Supporting the development and leadership of local organisations.
2. Develop a sound financial platform by:
 - Securing funding from institutions and trusts to follow up earlier success; and
 - Building our supporter fundraising by strengthening individual relationships and testing out raising funds from new sources.
3. Undertake focussed promotion, sharing and exchange of learning.
 - Improve the narrative and sharing of what we do in livelihoods work in specific areas.

Specific targets and activities have been set for the above and are monitored on a quarterly basis.

Financial review

As always the vast majority of our total expenditure of £950,099 has been on charitable activities in the year and sent out to our local project partner organisations who lead our projects from within the communities they are designed to help. Similarly, of the costs incurred in the UK, the vast majority was spent on programme management, with our staff overseeing and adding value to the projects and reporting back to our UK donors.

During 2022 our unrestricted activities resulted in a small surplus of £296. This leaves free reserves of £284,694 at the year-end which were in excess of our 6-12 month target range and this will ensure we are able to continue operating as a going concern throughout 2023. Part of these reserves (£70,000) are designated to forward fund programmes when donor funding is paid in arrears. Restricted reserves at the end of 2022 were £143,034.

Reserves policy

Action on Poverty's stated policy is to maintain a level of unrestricted reserves equivalent to 6-12 months' running costs. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. In addition to this, due consideration needs to be given to the need for forward funding as indicated above.

Investment policy

The trustees have the power to invest in such assets as they see fit but to date surplus unrestricted funds are held on low risk deposit to ensure ready availability.

Risk management

Action on Poverty takes very seriously the management of risk to which the charity is exposed particularly cash flow, recruitment, safeguarding and safety and security of staff travelling overseas. The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to those risks.

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2022

The risk register is an agenda item at each trustees' meeting and policies and practices are reviewed on a regular basis to manage the safety and security of staff, develop best practice in safeguarding including continuing to work with partners to improve policies and procedures, financial management and other management risks.

Our approach to fundraising

Our supporters are key to everything we do. We are fully committed to being transparent and accountable about how our supporters' donations are used. At Action on Poverty we are hugely grateful to all our donors and focus on building long-lasting relationships based on trust and respect. We follow the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice.

During the financial period ending December 2022 we did not use any professional fundraising organisations. Our fundraising is carried out by our small team of staff, with one person having fundraising and communications as their main role, supervised by the Chief Executive and one additional person recruited in the later part of the year with Charity Works, a graduate trainee programme which recruits and trains motivated individuals early in their non-profit sector career. This has meant we have full control of and confidence in our fundraising practices.

We did not receive any complaints about our fundraising activities during the 2022 financial year. We keep up to date with changes to regulation, respond to consultations on this and update processes and practice as necessary to comply. We welcome feedback from supporters and proactively use it to improve and enhance our fundraising campaigns.

Asset cover for funds

The trustees are satisfied that the charitable company's assets and cash balances attributable to each of its individual funds are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in relation to those funds.

Trustees' consideration of going concern basis of accounting

The consequences of the conflict in Ukraine, particularly on energy prices, and post COVID-19 pandemic supply issues and working patterns have resulted in high inflation levels. These are likely to continue to impact the global economy and hence the charity through higher operating costs and expenses. The trustees have considered the impact of this on the charity's current and future financial position.

Whilst some donors have been obliged by economic circumstances to cut their commitments, we have been able to start new projects this year due to grants from governments of the Netherlands and Belgium. Given the environment, this is very positive. During the COVID-19 pandemic company dividends were in many instances reduced or suspended affecting the ability of some individuals and trusts to donate. Income from such investments has generally been restored to pre-pandemic levels but the uncertainty created, together with continuing higher inflation, has understandably made donors rather more cautious. The financial support provided by the government during the pandemic, assistance with energy costs and increased military expenditure associated with the Ukraine conflict are all likely to influence decisions regarding expenditure on aid and development. We continue to be concerned about the impact not only on livelihoods, but on all Sustainable Development Goals in both the short and the long term in all the countries in which we work. The greatest impact is likely to be on those who are already vulnerable and in the depth of poverty.

No material uncertainties, apart from those mentioned above, that may cast significant doubt about the ability of the company to continue as a going concern have been identified by the trustees. The trustees consider that the charity has sufficient unrestricted reserves and cash flow to continue as a going

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the Trustees

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concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved for the following reasons:

- The charity holds unrestricted reserves (excluding designated funds) of £214,694; and
- The charity's current funders are continuing to fund the programmes in hand.

The trustees therefore consider it appropriate to adopt the going concern basis for the preparation of the accounts as detailed in note 1(b) to the financial statements.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

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

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards and statements of recommended practice 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 charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

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.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2022

Auditors

Godfrey Wilson Limited were re-appointed as auditors to the charitable company during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the trustees on 10 May 2023 and signed on their behalf by

BS Capper

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Brian S. Capper BSc MA PhD
Chair of Trustees
10 May 2023

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

APT Action on Poverty

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of APT Action on Poverty (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes to the financial statements, 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 our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of its 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 Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's 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 the charity'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.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the 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.

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

APT Action on Poverty

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in 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 there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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 (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the 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;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out in the trustees' report, the trustees 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 they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity'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 charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

APT Action on Poverty

Our 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 auditor's 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.

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 procedures we carried out and the extent to which they are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, are detailed below:

(1) We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, and assessed the risk of non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Throughout the audit, we remained alert to possible indications of non-compliance.

(2) We reviewed the charity's policies and procedures in relation to:

- Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations, and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
- Detecting and responding to the risk of fraud, and whether they were aware of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
- Designing and implementing internal controls to mitigate the risk of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud.

(3) We inspected the minutes of trustee meetings.

(4) We enquired about any non-routine communication with regulators and reviewed any reports made to them.

(5) We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and assessed their compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

(6) We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected transactions or balances that may indicate a risk of material fraud or error.

(7) We assessed the risk of fraud through management override of controls and carried out procedures to address this risk. Our procedures included:

- Testing the appropriateness of journal entries;
- Assessing judgements and accounting estimates for potential bias;
- Reviewing related party transactions; and
- Testing transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. Irregularities that arise due to fraud can be even harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

APT Action on Poverty

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity'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 charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Alison Godfrey

Date: 10 May 2023

Alison Godfrey FCA
(Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of:

GODFREY WILSON LIMITED

Chartered accountants and statutory auditors

5th Floor Mariner House

62 Prince Street

Bristol

BS1 4QD

APT Action on Poverty

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	78,419	55,842	134,261	74,127
Charitable activities	4	635,523	35,833	671,356	866,641
Investments		-	2,150	2,150	86
Total income		<u>713,942</u>	<u>93,825</u>	<u>807,767</u>	<u>940,854</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		7,160	74,084	81,244	60,179
Charitable activities		849,410	19,445	868,855	723,593
Total expenditure	6	<u>856,570</u>	<u>93,529</u>	<u>950,099</u>	<u>783,772</u>
Net income / (expenditure)		(142,628)	296	(142,332)	157,082
Transfers between funds		<u>6,362</u>	<u>(6,362)</u>	-	-
Net movement in funds	7	(136,266)	(6,066)	(142,332)	157,082
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		<u>279,300</u>	<u>290,760</u>	<u>570,060</u>	<u>412,978</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>143,034</u>	<u>284,694</u>	<u>427,728</u>	<u>570,060</u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in note 16 to the accounts.

APT Action on Poverty

Balance sheet

As at 31 December 2022

	Note	£	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	11		210	682
Current assets				
Debtors	12	119,344		51,482
Current asset investments	13	64,885		64,885
Cash at bank and in hand		258,693		468,658
		442,922		585,025
Liabilities				
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	14	(15,404)		(15,647)
Net current assets			427,518	569,378
Net assets	15		427,728	570,060
Funds	16			
Restricted funds			143,034	279,300
Unrestricted funds				
Designated funds			70,000	70,000
General funds			214,694	220,760
Total charity funds			427,728	570,060

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the trustees on 10 May 2023 and signed on their behalf by

B S Capper

Brian S Capper BSc MA PhD
Chair of Trustees

APT Action on Poverty

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash used in operating activities:		
Net movement in funds	(142,332)	157,082
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation charge	472	724
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(2,150)	(86)
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	(67,862)	(50,634)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	(243)	3,897
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	(212,115)	110,983
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	2,150	86
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities	2,150	86
Increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(209,965)	111,069
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	533,543	422,474
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	323,578	533,543
 This is represented as:		
Current asset investments	64,885	64,885
Cash at bank and in hand	258,693	468,658
	323,578	533,543

Analysis of changes in net debt

The charity has not provided an analysis of changes in net debt as it does not have any long term financing arrangements.

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

1. Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

APT Action on Poverty meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

b) Going concern basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared on the assumption that the charity is able to continue as a going concern, which the trustees consider appropriate having regard to the current level of unrestricted reserves. There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

c) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from the 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.

d) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity: this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

e) Funds accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

f) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required 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.

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

g) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support and governance costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity, including the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements and any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on the following basis, which is an estimate of staff time spent on each activity:

	2022	2021
Raising funds	32.7%	27.6%
Charitable activities	67.3%	72.4%

h) Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Plant and machinery	20% straight line basis
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	20 - 33% straight line basis

i) 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.

j) Current asset investments

Current asset investments consist of cash held on short term deposit.

k) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

l) Creditors

Creditors and provisions 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 and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

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 recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

n) Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. There are no further liabilities other than that already recognised in the statement of financial activities.

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

o) Foreign currency transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at rates prevailing at the date of the transaction. Balances denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange prevailing at the year end.

p) Accounting estimates and key judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

There are no sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

2. Prior period comparatives

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2021 Total £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	50,136	23,991	74,127
Charitable activities	814,204	52,437	866,641
Investments	-	86	86
Total income	864,340	76,514	940,854
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	30,763	29,416	60,179
Charitable activities	704,438	19,155	723,593
Total expenditure	735,201	48,571	783,772
Net income	129,139	27,943	157,082
Transfers between funds	10,111	(10,111)	-
Net movement in funds	139,250	17,832	157,082

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2022 Total £
Trusts and foundations	4,500	9,200	13,700
Donations and other fundraising	73,919	43,629	117,548
Gift aid	-	3,013	3,013
	<u>78,419</u>	<u>55,842</u>	<u>134,261</u>

Prior year comparative

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2021 Total £
Trusts and foundations	18,900	5,350	24,250
Donations and other fundraising	31,236	13,721	44,957
Gift aid	-	4,920	4,920
	<u>50,136</u>	<u>23,991</u>	<u>74,127</u>

4. Income from charitable activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2022 Total £
<i>Project grants from institutional donors:</i>			
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation	265,428	-	265,428
Belgian Government	222,729	-	222,729
Medicor Foundation	80,000	-	80,000
National Lottery Community Fund	49,708	-	49,708
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office	10,000	-	10,000
Turing Foundation	7,658	-	7,658
<i>Consultancy fees</i>	-	35,833	35,833
	<u>635,523</u>	<u>35,833</u>	<u>671,356</u>

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

4. Income from charitable activities (continued)

Prior year comparative

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2021 Total £
<i>Project grants from institutional donors:</i>			
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation	368,678	-	368,678
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office	157,157	-	157,157
National Lottery Community Fund	103,348	-	103,348
Medicor Foundation	90,000	-	90,000
European Commission	43,478	-	43,478
Turing Foundation	21,543	-	21,543
Charles Hayward Foundation	15,000	-	15,000
The Allan & Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust	15,000	-	15,000
<i>Consultancy fees</i>	-	52,437	52,437
	<u>814,204</u>	<u>52,437</u>	<u>866,641</u>

5. Government grants

The charitable company receives government grants, defined as funding from the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, European Commission, National Lottery Community Fund, the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation and the Belgian Government to fund charitable activities. The total value of such grants in the period ending 31 December 2022 was £547,865 (2021: £672,661). There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attaching to these grants.

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

6. Total expenditure

	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	2022 Total £
Staff costs (note 9)	56,737	116,630	23,907	197,274
Other costs	-	19,878	39,899	59,777
Audit and accountancy fees	-	-	5,441	5,441
Depreciation	-	-	472	472
Grants payable to partners (note 8)	-	685,272	-	685,272
Publicity and fundraising costs	<u>1,690</u>	<u>173</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,863</u>
Sub-total	58,427	821,953	69,719	950,099
Allocation of support and governance costs	<u>22,817</u>	<u>46,902</u>	<u>(69,719)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total expenditure	<u>81,244</u>	<u>868,855</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>950,099</u>

Total governance costs were £6,360 (2021: £9,600).

Prior year comparative

	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	2021 Total £
Staff costs (note 9)	40,714	106,778	21,691	169,183
Other costs	-	20,962	29,460	50,422
Audit and accountancy fees	-	-	9,600	9,600
Depreciation	-	-	724	724
Grants payable to partners (note 8)	-	550,970	-	550,970
Publicity and fundraising costs	<u>2,495</u>	<u>378</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,873</u>
Sub-total	43,209	679,088	61,475	783,772
Allocation of support and governance costs	<u>16,970</u>	<u>44,505</u>	<u>(61,475)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total expenditure	<u>60,179</u>	<u>723,593</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>783,772</u>

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

7. Net movement in funds

This is stated after charging:

	2022 £	2021 £
Depreciation	472	724
Trustees' remuneration	Nil	Nil
Trustees' reimbursed expenses	Nil	Nil
Trustees' donations	1,432	904
Auditors' remuneration:		
▪ Statutory audit (including VAT)	6,360	5,640
▪ Other services (grant audits)	-	3,960
	<u>6,360</u>	<u>3,960</u>

8. Grants payable

	2022 £	2021 £
<i>Grants paid to partner organisations:</i>		
Platform for Labour Action	456,625	212,273
SITE Enterprise Promotion	107,994	69,704
Movement for Assistance and Promotion of Rural Communities	84,476	73,215
Tusonge Community Development Organization	35,280	64,033
Community Action for Rural Development	897	60,222
Volunteers' Effort for Development Concern	-	71,523
	<u>685,272</u>	<u>550,970</u>

Grants payable are to institutions in Sierra Leone, Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania. All grants are paid to fund charitable activities, including funding to support community resilience through camel milk production, tackle child labour, and support women market vendors. The grants shown above do not include any contribution to core costs.

9. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Salaries and wages	176,463	151,594
Social security costs	10,574	8,367
Pension costs	10,237	9,222
	<u>197,274</u>	<u>169,183</u>

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

9. Staff costs and numbers (continued)

No employee earned more than £60,000 during the year.

The key management personnel of the charitable company comprise the trustees and chief executive. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £52,677 (2021: £51,107). This is made up of salary costs of £44,823 (2021: £43,677) and employer NI and pension costs of £7,854 (2021: £7,430).

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Average head count	6.42	6.17

10. Taxation

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

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 January 2021	1,299	6,228	7,527
Additions in year	-	-	-
At 31 December 2021	1,299	6,228	7,527
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2021	1,299	5,546	6,845
Charge for the year	-	472	472
At 31 December 2021	1,299	6,018	7,317
Net book value			
At 31 December 2022	-	210	210
At 31 December 2021	-	682	682

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

12. Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Prepayments and accrued income	10,317	51,482
Other debtors	109,027	-
	<u>119,344</u>	<u>51,482</u>

13. Current asset investments

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash held on deposit	<u>64,885</u>	<u>64,885</u>

14. Creditors : amounts due within 1 year

	2022 £	2021 £
Accruals	9,205	10,697
Other taxation and social security	4,157	3,186
Other creditors	2,042	1,764
	<u>15,404</u>	<u>15,647</u>

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	210	210
Net current assets	<u>143,034</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>214,484</u>	<u>427,518</u>
Net assets at 31 December 2022	<u>143,034</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>214,694</u>	<u>427,728</u>
Prior year comparative				
	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	682	682
Net current assets	<u>279,300</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>220,078</u>	<u>569,378</u>
Net assets at 31 December 2021	<u>279,300</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>220,760</u>	<u>570,060</u>

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

16. Movements in funds

	At 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 December 2022 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Livelihoods and food security for vulnerable people	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Enhancing CSO capacity	-	3,180	(5,232)	2,052	-
<i>Kenya and Uganda</i> : Strengthening the implementation of the CRPD with Women with Disabilities	207	-	(207)	-	-
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Empowering local communities in Pujehun District	28,800	4,255	(22,877)	-	10,178
<i>Tanzania</i> : Disability inclusive VICOBA	12,277	49,708	(66,295)	4,310	-
<i>Kenya</i> : Camel milk project	65,153	115,000	(132,625)	-	47,528
<i>Uganda</i> : Eradication of child labour	131,968	275,803	(405,252)	-	2,519
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Women make change	35,468	18,263	(24,007)	-	29,724
<i>Uganda</i> : Market Vendors	-	124,527	(128,177)	-	(3,650)
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Fight Against Child Labour	-	105,206	(61,898)	-	43,308
<i>Uganda</i> : Vegetable Farming	-	6,000	-	-	6,000
Country-specific funding	<u>5,427</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,427</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>279,300</u>	<u>713,942</u>	<u>(856,570)</u>	<u>6,362</u>	<u>143,034</u>
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
Forward fund	<u>70,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>70,000</u>
<i>Total designated funds</i>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>70,000</u>
General funds	<u>220,760</u>	<u>93,825</u>	<u>(93,529)</u>	<u>(6,362)</u>	<u>214,694</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>290,760</u>	<u>93,825</u>	<u>(93,529)</u>	<u>(6,362)</u>	<u>284,694</u>
Total funds	<u><u>570,060</u></u>	<u><u>807,767</u></u>	<u><u>(950,099)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>427,728</u></u>

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

16. Movements in funds (continued)

Purposes of restricted funds

Sierra Leone: Livelihoods and food security for vulnerable people Reducing the poverty and malnutrition of people in rural households through community organisations.

Sierra Leone: Enhancing CSO capacity Strengthening 45 civil society organisations to empower women, and provide gender, literacy, business skills and apprenticeship training.

Kenya and Uganda: Strengthening the implementation of the CRPD (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) with Women with Disabilities Supporting partner SITE in helping women with disabilities in Kenya and Uganda to understand and access their rights and to improve their inclusion in livelihoods.

Sierra Leone: Empowering local communities in Pujehun District Building the capacity of community structures, including 19 community based organisations to provide livelihoods services, rights awareness and income generation and improved governance.

Tanzania: Disability inclusive VICOPA Establishing community banking groups and providing financial management, business and vocational training to vulnerable women and people living with disabilities.

Kenya: Camel milk project Providing skills and hygiene training in new areas throughout the entire Camel Milk supply chain to improve productivity and produce standards.

Uganda: Eradication of child labour Enabling over 12,000 families to be more resilient to child labour, improving incomes and access to skills, and establishing a child-free zone in UMA Industrial Park.

Sierra Leone: Women make change Supporting the leadership of marginalised women including training on vegetable growing, soap production, functional literacy and community seed banks.

Uganda: Market Vendors Civic and political participation of Women Market Vendors in Kaliro and Lira Districts.

Sierra Leone: Fight Against Child Labour Building resilient community ecosystems in the Fight Against Child Labour.

Uganda: Vegetable Farming Improving incomes and climate resilience of 7,200 people in Lamwo District through vegetable farming businesses.

Country-specific funding Funds raised to provide help in Tanzania, Sri Lanka, Uganda and Sierra Leone on future project opportunities.

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

16. Movements in funds (continued)

Purpose of designated funds

Forward fund	To forward fund projects when necessary and carry expenditure in advance of receipt of donation income.
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Restricted funds in deficit

Restricted funds in deficit represent on-going projects where additional funding is confirmed post year end.

Transfers between funds

Transfers between funds represent the use of general funds to complete the project at the conclusion of work.

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

16. Movement in funds (continued)

Prior year comparative

	At 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 December 2021 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Livelihoods and food security for vulnerable people	11,798	68,316	(90,225)	10,111	-
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Enhancing CSO capacity	54,988	43,477	(98,465)	-	-
<i>Kenya and Uganda</i> : Strengthening the implementation of the CRPD (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) with Women with Disabilities	-	207	-	-	207
<i>Uganda</i> : Skilling youth for sustainable livelihoods in refugee hosting communities	(811)	90,342	(89,531)	-	-
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Empowering local communities in Pujehun District	29,414	33,258	(33,872)	-	28,800
<i>Tanzania</i> : Disability inclusive VICOBA	4,234	103,348	(95,305)	-	12,277
<i>Kenya</i> : Camel milk project	35,000	120,000	(89,847)	-	65,153
<i>Uganda</i> : Eradication of child labour	-	369,878	(237,910)	-	131,968
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Women make change	-	35,514	(46)	-	35,468
Country-specific funding	<u>5,427</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,427</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>140,050</u>	<u>864,340</u>	<u>(735,201)</u>	<u>10,111</u>	<u>279,300</u>
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
Forward fund	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>70,000</u>
<i>Total designated funds</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>70,000</u>
General funds	<u>272,928</u>	<u>76,514</u>	<u>(48,571)</u>	<u>(80,111)</u>	<u>220,760</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>272,928</u>	<u>76,514</u>	<u>(48,571)</u>	<u>(10,111)</u>	<u>290,760</u>
Total funds	<u><u>412,978</u></u>	<u><u>940,854</u></u>	<u><u>(783,772)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>570,060</u></u>

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

17. Operating lease commitments

The charity had operating leases at the year end with total future minimum lease payments as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Amount falling due:		
Within 1 year	-	702
Within 1 - 5 years	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>702</u>

The charity's rental lease is on a short term notice period; there is no lease commitment.

18. Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose in the current or previous reporting period.

Accounts

APT ACTION ON POVERTY

Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements

31 December 2021



Maureen, Project Assistant on Eradicating Child Labour project in Uganda spreads awareness on a community radio show.

APT Action on Poverty

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 December 2021

Company number	01872538	
Charity number	290836	
Registered office and operational address	Nicholas House Heath Park Main Road Crophorne Persnore Worcestershire, WR10 3NE	
Trustees	Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:	
	Helen Altshul	
	Jake Bharier	
	Brian Capper	
	David Elliott	
	Neil Fray	resigned 11 May 2021
	Amber Honey	appointed 24 March 2021
	Malcolm Harper	resigned 30 September 2021
	Louise Locke	resigned 10 May 2022
	Justine Williams	resigned 10 May 2022
Chief executive	Alex Daniels	
Company secretary	Elizabeth Chard	resigned 9 March 2021
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc 128 High Street Cheltenham GL50 1EL	Virgin Money plc Jubilee House Gosforth NE3 4PL
	CAF Bank Limited 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ	
Auditors	Godfrey Wilson Limited Chartered accountants and statutory auditors 5th Floor Mariner House 62 Prince Street Bristol BS1 4QD	

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Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2021

The trustees are pleased to present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes. The accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Structure, governance and management

The company is limited by guarantee, was registered as a charity in 1985 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the company's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and are therefore confident that APT Action on Poverty ('Action on Poverty') meets the public benefit requirements.

When considering the appointment of trustees the board give regard to the skills audit of existing trustees, the requirement for any specialist skills, and the ability to contribute to the charity's governance and objectives. The key element of the trustee's induction is to ensure a sound understanding of the charity's mission, principles and strategy as well as the legal obligations of trustees. The induction process for new trustees involves a combination of provision of key documents plus communications and face to face discussions with the Chair of the trustees and the Chief Executive. New trustees are required to comply with company law requirements and declare any interests.

The Chief Executive of Action on Poverty, Alex Daniels, is appointed by the trustees to manage the day to day operations of the charity and ensure the overall implementation of the organisational strategy as agreed by the trustees. The Chief Executive and the Chair of the trustees communicate on a regular basis.

Objectives and activities for the public benefit

Our Vision:

We have recently tightened our vision to:

A world where everyone can work with pride for a better future.

Our Mission:

We have also tightened our mission to:

To work with people in parts of Africa to address barriers to safe and lasting work, hunger and injustice.

We aim to achieve our objectives through delivering programmes targeting specific sectors, communities and/or disadvantaged groups. These programmes all have a livelihood focus (accessing employment, incomes through enterprise and/or increased food production) together with addressing inequalities and exclusion of target beneficiaries to secure sustainable and transformational change. We deliver this through working together with partners and communities to design programmes and activities in the various countries in which we operate, with the activities dependent upon local needs.

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Our key strengths are our experience with:

- Promoting enterprise and decent work;
- Reaching people who are marginalised (such as women, young people, people with disabilities (PWD), and those in a fragile environment); and
- Supporting the development and leadership of organisations – including our partners, CBOs (Community Based Organisations) and other stakeholders.

Achievements and performance

At the end of 2021 there were five programmes delivering high quality, effectively monitored work and sustainable impact. One of these was completed with an evaluation in January 2022.

The global impact of Covid-19 continues to be felt for a long time here in the UK and in the poorest communities where we work, with both economic and social impact. The progress against Sustainable Development Goals has been hit hard, including those goals which Action on Poverty is focused on (1 (End Poverty), 2 (Zero Hunger), 5 (Gender Equality) and 8 (Decent work)). Whilst statistical data limitations, health facilities, testing and slow/inadequate vaccination programmes all hinder the response to the global pandemic in countries in which we work, the response and movement restrictions have varied, continuing to severely impact on food security and other basic needs. In Sierra Leone travel bans were in place in different areas during the year; Covid-19 case numbers were reported to be very low by the end of the year, with only 8.7% of the population having had two doses of vaccinations. The rate of infection in Uganda sharply increased at times during the year resulting in a re-introduction of lockdown in June 2021 with restrictions on travel, meetings and gatherings. The restrictions were eventually eased, with schools only reopening early in 2022. New leadership with President Suluhu has moved Tanzania from a position of Covid-19 denial to begin a vaccination programme, enough to have vaccinated about 2.8% of the country's population. Kenya had various containment measures in place, such as a nightly curfew, throughout most of the year, while the vaccination programme continued with 10% of adults fully vaccinated by December 2021.

Despite the increased needs, many funding sources have faced disruptions and have declined, not least the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) which has provided support to our programmes for many years. Uncertainty resulting from the merger of the Department for International Development (DFID) with the FCO and the heavy cuts in funding for development continue. No overseas travel took place in 2021 and this has meant that project managers have continued to conduct meetings online and to develop approaches to supporting and managing projects remotely. Hybrid working has also been in place.

Despite the challenges, Action on Poverty has made an impact in 2021 which again went beyond our expectations. We have worked with over 40,000 beneficiaries directly during 2021 to obtain sustainable livelihoods so that they can secure enough food, medicines and education for themselves and their children and a life with more respect and dignity. A further 275,000 people have been supported through being better informed, empowered and/or as dependants of the direct beneficiaries. To extend the impact and to build for the future our work has also strengthened 1,036 small community organisations, including those for people with disabilities, and producer groups to become more effective in helping their members collaborate for increased incomes, obtain better services and/or to influence other stakeholders to ensure their needs are not excluded in the future.

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We consider that poverty and gender inequality are inextricably linked and this continues to be reflected in our work – 76% of the people directly reached are women. We also continue to improve the mainstreaming of people with disabilities (PWD) into our work and have supported two programmes which have inclusion of PWD as a key focus. Learning from our work in this area will be consolidated and fed into new programmes.

In terms of diversification of our funding sources, a grant from a new institutional donor, the Norwegian Development Agency (Norad), was secured in early 2021 as a result of an application made in 2020. During 2021, applications were made to institutional funding sources from other countries, including from Belgium, the Netherlands and the United States. At the beginning of 2022 we were informed that two of these (Belgium and Netherlands funding) had been successful. Continued emphasis was given to securing significant levels of donations from trusts and foundations and whilst we have secured essential income from this source, such as from the Medicor Foundation, the Dulverton Trust, the Charles Hayward Foundation and the Allan and Nesta Ferguson Charitable Settlement, our unrestricted funding from Trusts was reduced. However, the recruitment of a fundraiser – made possible through an earlier legacy – enabled us to increase our public fundraising from a BBC Radio 4 appeal, a Christmas Big Give Appeal, and from major donors. This has enabled us to develop a small project to widen the impact of work undertaken with Covid-19 response funding in Sierra Leone, which will be implemented in 2022. We were pleased to receive an award from the Big Give Appeal in recognition of this work.

Performance of programmes

Sierra Leone

‘Livelihoods and Food Security for Vulnerable People in Sierra Leone’ (April 2018 - June 2021)



This project was implemented with our partner Movement for Assistance and Promotion of Rural Communities (MAPCO) and funded by the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) with match funding from Medicor Foundation. The project addressed the chronic poverty faced by rural communities with inadequate incomes, food and nutrition, especially children and vulnerable mothers in Moyamba District. This situation is exacerbated by gender and disability discrimination and the unemployment of youth. This project presents the opportunity to work with some of the poorest people in all of Sierra Leone – Moyamba District was identified as one of the two poorest districts in the country.

Esther (left), a widow in Manjehun community, can now feed her children through her soap-making and enterprise skills in addition to farming, and now has the leadership skills to chair and lead a CBO helping others do the same.

The project was due to end in March 2021 but was extended for a further three months due to the FCDO cuts (across all grants made by the FCDO) in 2020.

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An external evaluation was carried out in April 2021 and recorded that:

- Loan records as at November 2020 indicated that the available funds in the loan account was about 247% of the loan capital that was initially provided to the 15 CBOs, with high levels of ownership of the funds from CBOs, which give good indications for sustainability;
- CBOs are well positioned to engage with other development actors and demonstrated good understanding that the role of working with development partners now falls to them, rather than relying on MAPCO; and
- Outcomes for women were reported to be very positive, with a marked increase in the number of women owning and operating microenterprises, and an improvement in the bargaining position and power of women within households.

Recommendations included the development of a strategy for financial sustainability of the waterpoints, the development of a standard operating procedure for CBO cash management, and improved strategies for inclusion of satellite communities in access to services. A private sector study also identified a number of businesses which have links to large numbers of smallholder farmers as part of their supply chains. The study helped to identify GoldTree/Planting Naturals, who we are now working with to eradicate child labour in their supply chains.

‘The Empowerment and Education of Young Mothers, Women and Girls’ (August 2018 - August 2021)

Together with our partner Community Action for Rural Development (CARD) and with funding from the European Union this project aimed to empower 3,500 young women in 40 rural communities in Kenema District both economically and socially. They accessed literacy, business skills, apprenticeships and rights training. 40 CBOs and five Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) were strengthened to deliver these services and to operate more effectively in the future. The project included an understanding of the mechanisms to protect young women from gender-based violence and fostered attitudinal change among men and community leaders. The Turing Foundation also contributed to this project by supporting the Apprenticeship Training of 200 of the most marginalised women, especially those with disabilities and young mothers.

The 40 CBOs have developed their management, improved planning and roles and responsibilities and established or expanded Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs). A disability awareness training session was held for all five NGOs and the learning from this was passed on to the 40 CBOs. Some of the CBOs have started up new literacy circles and apprenticeships and the VSLA schemes are operating well in all 40 communities. The five NGO partners have worked with the CBOs and local leaders to set up oversight committees which will continue to monitor and support the VSLAs, literacy training and apprenticeships in the post-project period.

The findings of the external evaluation were very positive, showing significant achievement of outcomes:

- Staff capacity at the 5 NGOs has improved, particularly in project management, disability and inclusion, financial management, monitoring and evaluation, amongst other skills;
- Project stakeholders appreciated the relevance of activities in enhancing women’s participation and changing patriarchal perceptions and attitudes, acknowledging the increased interest of women and PWDs in policy making;
- The apprenticeship schemes and business management training were found to be influential in supporting young women including teenage mothers into business management and income generation, with increased income levels leading to enhanced status and recognition of women at household and community levels; and

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- 3,542 women have benefitted from improved literacy skills, 219 women completed apprenticeships and 3,517 women have joined VSLA groups.



Recommendations included: replication of the project's approach in influencing positive masculinity, promoting women's empowerment and addressing poverty issues, as well as replicating the unique 'trickle down approach' in capacity development of NGO and CBO structures for social accountability, inclusive development planning and economic development; improved action planning for sustainability, particularly with literacy groups; and focusing on fewer beneficiaries and locations for greater impact.

Miata, CBO chair and literacy learner, Nomo chiefdom (left) has increased her income 7 fold through functional literacy and business skills, and access to saving and loans scheme. As Chair she shares her influence with other people in her community.

'Empowering Local Communities in Pujehun District' (November 2019 - October 2022)

This three-year project started in November 2019 with funding from the European Union. We are providing technical support to the project, which is being implemented by our partner MAPCO as they take on their first large project as the lead. The project will create lasting change by enhancing the capacity of community structures (CBOs), Village Development Committees (VDCs), Ward Development Committees (WDCs) in nine rural chiefdoms of Pujehun District, to improve integrated governance and deliver livelihood services to 5,700 vulnerable families (30,000 people). It will contribute to the empowerment of marginalised communities in some of the most disadvantaged areas enabling women, youth and PWD to access employment opportunities and earn sustainable incomes. It will increase the incomes of 4,560 vulnerable families bringing benefits to approximately 24,000 people.

The project has now completed its second year and has already had a significant impact. 19 CBOs have continued to provide services to members, including revolving loans, seed banks, literacy training and vocational apprenticeships. 5,124 families have accessed new livelihood services as CBO members (benefitting 29,204 household members), of which 3,148 (61%) are families led by women, 2,822 led by young people and 567 led by PWD. A 100% loan repayment rate has been maintained across the 19 communities. By the end of year two, 4,666 people had increased their average monthly incomes by at least 30%, whilst 3,945 community members had knowledge and understanding of gender equality and women's rights. 2,043 women, 1,593 young people and 312 PWD reported improved participation in decision making in their household and/or community. 57 demands (requests for services, access to government programmes etc.) were made by CBOs and other community structures to duty bearers in year two, a 33% increase on the number of demands made in year one.

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The Turing Foundation has also supported the apprenticeship training component of this project, with a grant over three years. 357 apprentices (226 women, 48 teenage mothers, 9 people with disabilities) have successfully completed vocational training with local artisans in various trade areas such as bread baking, cloth weaving, soapmaking, tailoring, blacksmithing and motorbike repairs. 83% of these trainees have accessed small business loans from the CBOs to either start their own businesses or expand existing businesses. 261 trainees are already earning a regular income and/or contributing to household incomes, which has enabled purchases of meals, school fees and essential medicines.



Aminata is 29 years old, and lives in Pujehun with her three children. She used to do domestic work in the community and earned Le 40,000 per month which was insufficient to meet her family's basic needs.

After taking part in a baking apprenticeship, Aminata has acquired the skills and knowledge to bake bread with support from her artisan trainer. She now earns Le320,000 per month from sales of her bread, which she said "has enabled me take care of myself, and my family independently. My children are very happy; there is no more hunger in the house".

Kenya

Whilst Kenya is making some progress in its GDP as a country inequalities remain very challenging and our focus is on reaching those who are particularly marginalised.

Strengthening the Implementation of the CRPD (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) with Women with Disabilities in Kenya and Uganda (January 2019 – December 2021)

SITE Enterprise Promotion Limited (SITE), a long-term partner of Action on Poverty, is the lead partner of this project which will improve the implementation of the CRPD in order to promote the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights by women living with disabilities. It is managed from Kenya with Action on Poverty providing a technical support role along with two other partners KUB (Kenya Union of the Blind) and NUWODU (National Union of Women with Disabilities of Uganda). The focus within the CRPD is on Articles 6 (women) and 27 (livelihoods).

This is an ambitious project. The anticipated result was that the CRPD is more effectively implemented in Kenya and Uganda with specific reference to gender and livelihoods, enterprise and employment, and demonstrated in three selected areas. These are Meru and Machakos (Kenya) and Gulu (Uganda). The primary beneficiaries are 51,135 women with disabilities in Kenya and 21,526 in Uganda. It will integrate disability into wider human rights work specifically enabling access to services and resources to secure livelihoods, enterprise and employment for women with disabilities.

This project has had an impressive impact, despite being hindered by the effects of Covid-19 due to the level of networking and linkages being required. Working with a multi-sectoral and rights-based approach with a range of stakeholders for sustained impact on improving the inclusion of WWDs (Women with Disabilities), the project has significantly exceeded targets:

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- Over 167,000 PWDS have increased awareness of the CRPD and disability rights;
- 28,331 PWDs (22,228 WWDs) accessed services from government and other service providers;
- 18,332 WWDs accessed financial services and 12,703 improved skills relating to enterprise; and
- 8,032 jobs created with WWDs.

Key to sustaining ongoing impact, the project also facilitated processes and improved structures:

- 627 Duty bearers have understanding of the CRPD, WWDs' specific needs and acted towards inclusion of PWDs at village, ward, sub county and county level;
- Specific recognition of CRPD or the rights of WWDs/PWDs in county/district plans (Kenya: 7; Uganda: 10) and over 20 key decisions made which transformed the PWD sector and had a wide impact on a large number of PWDs; and
- Structures with a range of strategies in place at county/district level for sustained inclusion of PWDs, supported by PWD champions and 846 strengthened and engaged organisations of PWDs (OPDs) and the representation of 36 stakeholder institutions.

The external evaluation indicated that the project has “made great impact, beyond the expected impact”, not least in terms of developing proven models for county level CRPD implementation regarding creation of the PWD coordination structure in Meru and the District (CRPD) caucuses in Uganda, as remarkable. These structures provided the government with effective platforms for engagement on disability issues. Further progress is still required, such as improving data capture and management systems, strengthening reporting mechanisms within the W/PWD structures, continued awareness creation/sensitisation among/of PWDs and the public, and strengthening young OPDs.

Improved Livelihoods and Resilience through Camel Milk (1 April 2021- 31 March 2024)

This project builds on the success of previous work with our partner SITE to transform the camel milk value chain, improving productivity and competitiveness of camel milk and value-added products. We now want to consolidate and expand on the achievements in neighbouring areas.

This project aims to strengthen the camel milk sector for the benefit of stakeholders, their families and other consumers in Garissa and Wajir counties, resulting in increased and more secure incomes and improved food security of 5,350 camel owners, herders, traders and their families. Project activities will support and improve the efficiency of the whole process from production to consumer, aimed at increasing markets and sales of camel milk and building the capacity to supply reliable quality milk. The project will protect the environment and build resilience to climate shocks through improved management of water resources, improved camel health, drought resilience strategies and enhanced knowledge of sustainable grazing practices.

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Sadly, the drought in Kenya continued until late December and had a severe impact on activities as camel owners and herders experienced difficult and stressful conditions including weak and sick animals, disposal of camels, reduced milk production, prolonged re-location with herds to remote distances in search of pasture and water, and households affected by poor diets. A rapid situation analysis helped the team to understand the different coping mechanisms adopted. It also analysed the impact of drought on family diets from consultations with school administrators and officers in-charge of health centres. It showed that nearly 50% of camel owners and herders lost camels to drought and others sold camels as a coping mechanism to raise money for supplementary fodder, treatment and drugs for livestock, and to purchase water from water truckers, salaries and upkeep of herders/families in the absence of incomes from camel milk due to low volumes sold. There were increased incidences of severe malnutrition in children reported. 85% of primary milk traders and their families migrated with the herds for long periods, operating in the remote villages and watering points and abandoning milk trading. Lessons learnt from this included the need for training on preparatory herd management.

The project team spent time engaging traders, transporters, community animators and re-connecting with the returning client groups (herders, traders, camel owners) as well as sensitising households on camel milk nutrition, and sensitising new entrants on the project scope and opportunities presented by the camel milk value chain.

A detailed assessment of technical issues affecting the water infrastructure was carried out in partnership with the Garissa Ministry of Water, which provided their engineer and water technician to assess equipment. A participatory community approach was used to establish the problems, identify gaps and investments required. The participants were taught the 'do's and don'ts', and how to improve the performance of the equipment for better service delivery in their communities.

Capacity building took place for water committee members and community animators at four water points, whereby participants were trained on lobbying and networking skills. As a result:

- Shimberey and Skanska water committees were able to lobby Islamic Relief Agency through the county Government for repairs and installation of a Genset; and
- In Sabuli water point the water committee were able to raise funds to engage a water technician from Wajir county Government to repair the existing faulty Genset, which is now functioning well with no water interruptions experienced.

The project team are now planning to make up for the lost time now that the herders are returning to the project areas.

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Uganda

Skilling Youth for Sustainable Livelihoods in Refugee Hosting Communities (October 2019 – September 2021)

This was a two-year project designed to increase employment opportunities for marginalised young people including refugees and host communities in Agago and Lamwo Districts in Northern Uganda. It addressed the skills, knowledge and experience gap that hinders young peoples' ability to generate income or gain employment. The project was implemented in partnership with Volunteer Efforts for Development Concerns (VEDCO) and they have a strong team in place to cope with the challenges of undertaking sustainable development work in an area which has both severe deprivation and long-term humanitarian assistance. The planned result was that 800 young people (50% female, at least 5% people with disabilities and 35% refugees) would be trained in market-relevant technical and employability skills. Of these 70% would earn an income through employment or self-employment and young people would have improved representation and engagement in public and private sectors.

In April 2021 we were notified by UK Aid Direct (FCDO) that the project would be terminated on 30 July 2021 (two months earlier than the planned end date) due to the reduction in the UK Government's aid expenditure from 0.7% of Gross National Income (GNI) to 0.5%. This created further challenges for the project, particularly after the budget savings made in 2020. In devising the revised project closure budget, we prioritised the training plans and honouring commitments already made to participants. This meant that the project was able to meet (and in some cases exceed) its targets: 800 young people in refugee and host communities were trained in business skills, life skills and participated in work placements to gain technical skills in a trade area of their choice (e.g. hairdressing, horticulture, motorbike mechanics, tailoring). By the end of the project, 70% of trainees had already found employment or had started their own businesses since completing their work placements. There had also been a noticeable shift in attitudes in an area where young people were previously very dependent on humanitarian assistance and handouts. The training has built the confidence, social skills and knowledge of the young people, which has supported them to find new employment and develop their own business plans. Some young people have become peer mentors to inspire and motivate others.

“Disability is not inability!”

Charles, from Agago district was unemployed, with little hope for his future.

After a 3-month work placement through the project with a local business to acquire skills in shoe making and repair, Charles was supported to start his own workshop. He is now earning UGX 300,000 per month, using the group savings and loans scheme. Charles has diversified his business into making local ‘tyre shoes’, affordable and accessible to a wider range of community members.

Charles is proud of being able to provide for his family, but also of being well known in the community. In future Charles plans to share his skills by training other young people in the community.



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The project extension to respond to the impacts of Covid-19 in the target areas was also successfully delivered as planned (October 2020 – March 2021). 800 households (560 led by women) are now growing vegetables in backyard gardens as a result. 784 households (3,921 people) have improved access to at least two nutritious meals per day, whilst 721 households are earning an income from group farming activities. 800 handwashing facilities were distributed and 42 people (23 female, 14 PWD) have been trained in soapmaking to meet local demand and earn incomes. 35,400 people were reached through radio programmes with key Covid-19 awareness and prevention messages.

Eradicating Child Labour in Uganda (April 2021 – December 2023)

Working with our partner Platform for Labour Action (PLA), the project will contribute to eradicating child labour in Uganda, focusing on two regions where child labour is very common: Busoga sub-region and Greater Kampala Metropolitan Area. Funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad), the project will enable over 12,000 families to be more resilient in the face of recruitment to child labour through increasing understanding on preventing and combating child labour – with community taskforces, sensitised duty bearers, and awareness-raising in the media. It will strengthen the social protection of targeted families, improving incomes and access to skills, establish public/private partnerships including a child-free zone in key industrial parks; thus improving the implementation of International Labour Organisation (ILO) conventions on child labour.

The project has started well in its first year, despite challenges during the start-up phase which coincided with a further severe wave of Covid-19 in Uganda. The lockdown led to delays in the planned training of key groups in the project, including the network of community champions and local leaders. However, the project team worked hard to fast-track activities from August 2021 when restrictions were lifted including:

- 209 community champions across both regions were trained in child rights, child labour prevention, child protection, positive parenting and the prevention of child abuse and exploitation. Alongside this, they were trained in enterprise and practical skills such as making snacks, book-making and soap-making, which they are sharing with community members so that families can develop alternative income sources to child labour;
- 1,163 households have been reached and supported by community champions to prevent the worst forms of child labour;
- 196 local leaders were trained on child labour laws and policies and have started to organise community awareness on the dangers of child labour, as well as acting on cases of child labour or exploitation identified in their communities;
- Radio talkshows related to child rights and child labour including the impact of COVID-19 on children and family coping mechanisms, roles and responsibilities of parents and duty bearers, worst forms of child labour and hazardous work, have helped to raise awareness more widely. 15,018 people have been reached through radio programmes with awareness messages and 59% of listeners have since used the messages to sensitise their peers, report cases of child labour or change their own behaviours; and
- A Rapid Assessment on the impact of the absence and non-facilitation of Labour and Probation Officers in the prevention of child labour will be used as an advocacy tool at multiple levels to push for more resourcing of workplace inspections and other activities to protect the rights of children.

As mentioned under ‘Kenya’ earlier we are also ‘**Strengthening the Implementation of the CRPD with Women with Disabilities**’ in Uganda.

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Tanzania

Disability Inclusion in Village Community Banking (DI-VICOBA) (July 2018 – June 2022)

In November 2020 we took over the management of this project, funded by the National Lottery Community Fund, from African Initiatives. We are working with Tusonge Community Development in Njia Panda ward in Tanzania. The project aims to reach 540 direct beneficiaries with economic empowerment activities, at least 10% of whom will be people living with a disability; deliver training and awareness raising activities to increase knowledge of disability rights and empower those living with disabilities to claim them; and to increase the practice and capacity of Tusonge and Action on Poverty to design and implement disability inclusive projects.

In 2021 Tusonge have continued to work with participants from all three years to consolidate their knowledge and to mentor trainees and create business networks. The Year 3 report showed excellent results for income generation: 100% of participants were engaged in income generation activities: up from 34%, with 77% of participants earning more than 15,000 Tanzanian shillings per week. At the baseline 54% of people said that their income never met basic needs. This dropped to zero by the end of Year 3.

They have continued to work with community champions, the PWD union, and advising and lobbying government representatives on the rights of PWDs. Tusonge have forged new partnerships with two organisations, the Tanzania Disability Development Initiatives (TDDI) in the Kilimanjaro region and Equality for Growth (EfG) located in the Dar es Salaam region, to discuss joint initiatives to effect changes on the livelihoods of PWDs. Tusonge also participated in an international dialogue on “16 Days of Ending Gender-Based Violence”, which brought together many organisations in Tanzania, including NGOs networks, religious institutions and government institutions. Organised by the United Nation Population Fund (UNFPA), the programme aimed at developing a paper on PWDs matters to present before the public. The deputy minister under Prime Minister's office with responsibility for PWDs in Tanzania visited Tusonge to meet with PWDs and to hear their concerns. She also delivered wheelchairs and crutches. Tusonge is increasingly attracting visits of this sort as their reputation grows; they celebrated their 10-year anniversary with a number of public events and webinars.



Stanley Macha is a father of four children. When he was nine years old he fell out of a tree and had a spinal cord injury which left him unable to walk.

Stanley joined a Tusonge led VICOBA group and was able to invest his share in a wheelchair which enabled him to be more mobile and run a small shop. As it was difficult for him to use a wheelchair during the rainy season, Tusonge then helped him to develop an individual work plan and access a government grant. He invested this money in a BAJAJI tricycle motorcycle.

He is now famous for transportation in Njia Panda and can pay for the education of his four children and provide for all their needs at home.

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Plans for the future

Our Strategic Plan confirms our vision, mission and aims.

Given the changing environment and context in which we work, and success in reaching our targets earlier than anticipated, we reviewed our strategic plan. The global context adds an additional layer of challenges and need for our work; we need more than ever to deliver sustainable, cost effective and transformative impact on livelihoods targeting people in Africa who are marginalised in different ways. We will work to catalyse change in this area of work by proactively pushing a cross-cutting agenda of inclusive livelihoods amongst different stakeholders. This includes working to support the leadership and development of our partners, and developing collaborations with new stakeholders.

We will also diversify our range of income sources.

Specific objectives

We will:

- 1 Deliver sustainable, cost effective and transformative economic and social impact through:
 - i. Targeting people who are marginalised;
 - ii. Supporting the development and leadership of local organisations; and
 - iii. Stimulating change in the private sector (at all levels including with micro enterprise and the formal sector) for better development impact.
- 2 Develop a sound financial platform by:
 - i. Securing funding from new institutions and trusts to follow up earlier success; and
 - ii. Building our supporter fundraising from a low resource base.
- 3 Undertake focussed promotion, sharing and exchange of learning.

Specific targets and activities have been set for the above.

Financial review

As always the vast majority of our total expenditure of £783,772 has been on charitable activities in the year and sent out to our local project partner organisations who lead our projects from within the communities they are designed to help. Similarly, of the costs incurred in the UK, the vast majority was spent on programme management, with our staff overseeing and adding value to the projects and reporting back to our UK donors.

During 2021, our unrestricted activities resulted in a surplus of £17,832. This leaves unrestricted general reserves of £220,760 at the year-end which were in excess of our 6-12 month target range and this will ensure we are able to continue operating as a going concern throughout 2022. A designated reserve of £70,000 was created to 'forward fund' projects where absolutely necessary ahead of final payment of invoices by donors. Restricted reserves at the end of 2021 were £279,300.

Reserves policy

Action on Poverty's stated policy is to maintain a level of unrestricted reserves equivalent to 6-12 months' running costs. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised.

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2021

Investment policy

The trustees have the power to invest in such assets as they see fit but to date surplus unrestricted funds are held on low risk deposit in order to ensure ready availability.

Risk management

Action on Poverty takes very seriously the management of risk to which the charity is exposed particularly cash flow, recruitment, safeguarding and safety and security of staff travelling overseas. The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to those risks.

The risk register is an agenda item at each trustees' meeting and we have reviewed practices around managing the safety and security of staff when working overseas to ensure we are meeting reasonable duty of care requirements and have strengthened security risk management practices to mitigate exposure. Safeguarding policies and procedures have been brought into line with renewed donor practices and we are working with partners to improve policies and procedures. Partnership contracts are reviewed to bring them in line with donor requirements. Action on Poverty also has a child protection policy in place.

Our approach to fundraising

Our supporters are key to everything we do. We are fully committed to being transparent and accountable about how our supporters' donations are used. At Action on Poverty we are hugely grateful to all our donors and focus on building long-lasting relationships based on trust and respect. We follow the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice.

During the financial period ending December 2021 we did not use any professional fundraising organisations. Our fundraising is carried out by our small team of staff, with one person having fundraising and communications as their main role, supervised by the Chief Executive. This has meant we have full control of and confidence in our fundraising practices.

We did not receive any complaints about our fundraising activities during the 2021 financial year. We keep up to date with changes to regulation, respond to consultations on this and update processes and practice as necessary to comply. We welcome feedback from supporters and proactively use it to improve and enhance our fundraising campaigns.

Asset cover for funds

The trustees are satisfied that the charitable company's assets and cash balances attributable to each of its individual funds are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in relation to those funds.

Trustees' consideration of going concern basis of accounting

The Covid-19 pandemic is likely to have a profound impact on the global economy and, together with the impact of the conflict in Ukraine, may in turn affect the charity. The trustees have considered the impact of this on the charity's current and future financial position.

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2021

The trustees appreciate that although some donors have cut their commitments, there was success at the completion of 2021 in securing grants from governments of the Netherlands and Belgium, and through a small appeal from Trusts and individuals. Given the environment, this is a good base from which we can move forward. There remain risks in government decisions to make cuts on development expenditure and the economic effect of the war in Ukraine through diversion of funds to military expenditure and higher fuel prices which may impact on our operations and projects. We remain concerned about the impact not only on livelihoods, but on all Sustainable Development Goals in both the short and the long term in all the countries in which we work. The greatest impact is likely to be on those who are already vulnerable and in the depth of poverty.

No material uncertainties, apart from the implications of Covid-19 and the conflict in Ukraine mentioned above, that may cast significant doubt about the ability of the company to continue as a going concern have been identified by the trustees. The trustees consider that the charity has sufficient unrestricted reserves and cash flow to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved for the following reasons:

- The charity holds unrestricted general reserves of £220,760 and designated reserves of £70,000; and
- The charity's current funders are continuing to fund the programmes in hand.

The trustees therefore consider it appropriate to adopt the going concern basis for the preparation of the accounts as detailed in note 1(b) to the financial statements.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

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

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing those 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 and statements of recommended practice 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 charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2021

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

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.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditors

Godfrey Wilson Limited were re-appointed as auditors to the charitable company during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the trustees on 10 May 2022 and signed on their behalf by

BS Capper

Brian S Capper BSc MA PhD
Chair of Trustees

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

APT Action on Poverty

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of APT Action on Poverty (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes to the financial statements, 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 our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2021 and of its 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 Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's 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 the charity'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.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the 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.

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

APT Action on Poverty

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in 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 there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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 (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the 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;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out in the trustees' report, the trustees 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 they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity'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 charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

APT Action on Poverty

Our 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 auditor's 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.

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 procedures we carried out and the extent to which they are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, are detailed below:

(1) We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, and assessed the risk of non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Throughout the audit, we remained alert to possible indications of non-compliance.

(2) We reviewed the charity's policies and procedures in relation to:

- Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations, and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
- Detecting and responding to the risk of fraud, and whether they were aware of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
- Designing and implementing internal controls to mitigate the risk of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud.

(3) We inspected the minutes of trustee meetings.

(4) We enquired about any non-routine communication with regulators and reviewed any reports made to them.

(5) We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and assessed their compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

(6) We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected transactions or balances that may indicate a risk of material fraud or error.

(7) We assessed the risk of fraud through management override of controls and carried out procedures to address this risk. Our procedures included:

- Testing the appropriateness of journal entries;
- Assessing judgements and accounting estimates for potential bias;
- Reviewing related party transactions; and
- Testing transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. Irregularities that arise due to fraud can be even harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

APT Action on Poverty

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity'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 charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Alison Godfrey

Date: 12 May 2022

Alison Godfrey FCA
(Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of:

GODFREY WILSON LIMITED

Chartered accountants and statutory auditors

5th Floor Mariner House

62 Prince Street

Bristol

BS1 4QD

APT Action on Poverty

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	50,136	23,991	74,127	143,143
Charitable activities	4	814,204	52,437	866,641	697,648
Investments		-	86	86	319
Other income		-	-	-	160
Total income		<u>864,340</u>	<u>76,514</u>	<u>940,854</u>	<u>841,270</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		30,763	29,416	60,179	34,385
Charitable activities		<u>704,438</u>	<u>19,155</u>	<u>723,593</u>	<u>772,473</u>
Total expenditure	6	<u>735,201</u>	<u>48,571</u>	<u>783,772</u>	<u>806,858</u>
Net income		129,139	27,943	157,082	34,412
Transfers between funds		<u>10,111</u>	<u>(10,111)</u>	-	-
Net movement in funds	7	139,250	17,832	157,082	34,412
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		<u>140,050</u>	<u>272,928</u>	<u>412,978</u>	<u>378,566</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u><u>279,300</u></u>	<u><u>290,760</u></u>	<u><u>570,060</u></u>	<u><u>412,978</u></u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in note 16 to the accounts.

APT Action on Poverty

Balance sheet

As at 31 December 2021

	Note	£	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	11		682	1,406
Current assets				
Debtors	12	51,482		848
Current asset investments	13	64,885		64,885
Cash at bank and in hand		468,658		357,589
		585,025		423,322
Liabilities				
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	14	(15,647)		(11,750)
Net current assets			569,378	411,572
Net assets	15		570,060	412,978
Funds	16			
Restricted funds			279,300	140,050
Unrestricted funds				
Designated funds			70,000	-
General funds			220,760	272,928
Total charity funds			570,060	412,978

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the trustees on 10 May 2022 and signed on their behalf by

BS Capper

Brian S Capper BSc MA PhD
Chair of Trustees

APT Action on Poverty

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash used in operating activities:		
Net movement in funds	157,082	34,412
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation charge	724	515
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(86)	(319)
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	(50,634)	4,545
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	3,897	(179)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	110,983	38,974
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	86	319
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	-	(685)
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities	86	(366)
Increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year	111,069	38,608
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	422,474	383,866
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	533,543	422,474
 This is represented as:		
Current asset investments	64,885	64,885
Cash at bank and in hand	468,658	357,589
	533,543	422,474

Analysis of changes in net debt

The charity has not provided an analysis of changes in net debt as it does not have any long term financing arrangements.

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

1. Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

APT Action on Poverty meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

b) Going concern basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared on the assumption that the charity is able to continue as a going concern, which the trustees consider appropriate having regard to the current level of unrestricted reserves. There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

c) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from the 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.

d) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity: this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

e) Funds accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

f) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

1. Accounting policies (continued)

f) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT (continued)

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

g) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support and governance costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity, including the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements and any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on the following basis, which is an estimate of staff time spent on each activity:

	2021	2020
Raising funds	27.6%	21.0%
Charitable activities	72.4%	79.0%

h) Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Plant and machinery	20% straight line basis
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	20 - 33% straight line basis

i) 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.

j) Current asset investments

Current asset investments consist of cash held on short term deposit.

k) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

l) Creditors

Creditors and provisions 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 and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

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 recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

1. Accounting policies (continued)

n) Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. There are no further liabilities other than that already recognised in the statement of financial activities.

o) Foreign currency transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at rates prevailing at the date of the transaction. Balances denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange prevailing at the year end.

p) Accounting estimates and key judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

There are no sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

2. Prior period comparatives

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2020 Total £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	39,399	103,744	143,143
Charitable activities	663,444	34,204	697,648
Investments	-	319	319
Other income	-	160	160
Total income	702,843	138,427	841,270
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	16,001	18,384	34,385
Charitable activities	732,534	39,939	772,473
Total expenditure	748,535	58,323	806,858
Net income / (expenditure) and net movement in funds	(45,692)	80,104	34,412

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2021 Total £
Trusts and foundations	18,900	5,350	24,250
Donations and other fundraising	31,236	13,721	44,957
Gift aid	-	4,920	4,920
	<u>50,136</u>	<u>23,991</u>	<u>74,127</u>

Prior year comparative	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2020 Total £
Trusts and foundations	35,900	19,950	55,850
Legacies	-	69,579	69,579
Donations and other fundraising	3,499	14,215	17,714
	<u>39,399</u>	<u>103,744</u>	<u>143,143</u>

4. Income from charitable activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2021 Total £
<i>Project grants from institutional donors:</i>			
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation	368,678	-	368,678
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office	157,157	-	157,157
National Lottery Community Fund	103,348	-	103,348
Medicor Foundation	90,000	-	90,000
European Commission	43,478	-	43,478
Turing Foundation	21,543	-	21,543
Charles Hayward Foundation	15,000	-	15,000
The Allan & Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust	15,000	-	15,000
<i>Consultancy fees</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>52,437</u>	<u>52,437</u>
	<u>814,204</u>	<u>52,437</u>	<u>866,641</u>

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

4. Income from charitable activities (continued)

Prior year comparative

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2020 Total £
<i>Project grants from institutional donors:</i>			
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office	426,977	-	426,977
European Commission	114,268	-	114,268
The Dulverton Trust	35,000	-	35,000
Turing Foundation	32,787	-	32,787
Medicor Foundation	25,000	-	25,000
Marr Munning	10,000	-	10,000
The Haremead Trust	10,000	-	10,000
African Initiatives	9,412	-	9,412
<i>Consultancy fees</i>	-	34,204	34,204
	<u>663,444</u>	<u>34,204</u>	<u>697,648</u>

5. Government grants

The charitable company receives government grants, defined as funding from the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, European Commission, National Lottery Community Fund and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation to fund charitable activities. The total value of such grants in the period ending 31 December 2021 was £672,661 (2020: £541,245). There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attaching to these grants.

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

6. Total expenditure

	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	2021 Total £
Staff costs (note 9)	40,714	106,778	21,691	169,183
Other costs	-	20,962	29,460	50,422
Audit and accountancy fees	-	-	9,600	9,600
Depreciation	-	-	724	724
Grants payable to partners (note 8)	-	550,970	-	550,970
Publicity and fundraising costs	<u>2,495</u>	<u>378</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,873</u>
Sub-total	43,209	679,088	61,475	783,772
Allocation of support and governance costs	<u>16,970</u>	<u>44,505</u>	<u>(61,475)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total expenditure	<u>60,179</u>	<u>723,593</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>783,772</u>

Total governance costs were £9,600 (2020: £5,400).

Prior year comparative

	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	2020 Total £
Staff costs (note 9)	23,165	87,089	24,427	134,681
Other costs	-	5,658	21,157	26,815
Audit and accountancy fees	-	-	5,400	5,400
Depreciation	-	-	515	515
Grants payable to partners (note 8)	-	638,564	-	638,564
Publicity and fundraising costs	<u>400</u>	<u>483</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>883</u>
Sub-total	23,565	731,794	51,499	806,858
Allocation of support and governance costs	<u>10,820</u>	<u>40,679</u>	<u>(51,499)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total expenditure	<u>34,385</u>	<u>772,473</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>806,858</u>

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

7. Net movement in funds

This is stated after charging:

	2021 £	2020 £
Depreciation	724	515
Trustees' remuneration	Nil	Nil
Trustees' reimbursed expenses	Nil	Nil
Auditors' remuneration:		
▪ Statutory audit (including VAT)	5,640	5,400
▪ Other services (grant audits)	3,960	-
	<u>3,960</u>	<u>-</u>

8. Grants payable

	2021 £	2020 £
<i>Grants paid to partner organisations:</i>		
Platform for Labour Action	212,273	-
Movement for Assistance and Promotion of Rural Communities	73,215	338,231
Volunteers' Effort for Development Concern	71,523	109,121
SITE Enterprise Promotion	69,704	4,353
Tusonge Community Development Organization	64,033	-
Community Action for Rural Development	60,222	186,859
	<u>550,970</u>	<u>638,564</u>

9. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Salaries and wages	151,594	121,660
Social security costs	8,367	5,411
Pension costs	9,222	7,610
	<u>169,183</u>	<u>134,681</u>

No employee earned more than £60,000 during the year.

The key management personnel of the charitable company comprise the trustees and chief executive. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £56,348 (2020: £50,217). This is made up of salary costs of £43,677 (2020: £42,925) and employer NI and pension costs of £7,430 (2020: £7,292).

	2021 No.	2020 No.
Average head count	<u>6.17</u>	<u>5.30</u>

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

10. Taxation

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

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 January 2021	1,299	6,228	7,527
Additions in year	-	-	-
At 31 December 2021	<u>1,299</u>	<u>6,228</u>	<u>7,527</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2021	1,299	4,822	6,121
Charge for the year	-	724	724
At 31 December 2021	<u>1,299</u>	<u>5,546</u>	<u>6,845</u>
Net book value			
At 31 December 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>682</u>	<u>682</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>-</u>	<u>1,406</u>	<u>1,406</u>

12. Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Prepayments and accrued income	51,482	-
Other debtors	-	848
	<u>51,482</u>	<u>848</u>

13. Current asset investments

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash held on deposit	<u>64,885</u>	<u>64,885</u>

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

14. Creditors : amounts due within 1 year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals	10,697	7,653
Other taxation and social security	3,186	2,648
Other creditors	1,764	1,449
	<u>15,647</u>	<u>11,750</u>

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	682	682
Net current assets	<u>279,300</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>220,078</u>	<u>569,378</u>
Net assets at 31 December 2021	<u>279,300</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>220,760</u>	<u>570,060</u>

	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Prior year comparative				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	1,406	1,406
Net current assets	<u>140,050</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>271,522</u>	<u>411,572</u>
Net assets at 31 December 2020	<u>140,050</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>272,928</u>	<u>412,978</u>

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

16. Movements in funds

	At 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 December 2021 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Livelihoods and food security for vulnerable people	11,798	68,316	(90,225)	10,111	-
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Enhancing CSO capacity	54,988	43,477	(98,465)	-	-
<i>Kenya and Uganda</i> : Strengthening the implementation of the CRPD (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) with Women with Disabilities	-	207	-	-	207
<i>Uganda</i> : Skilling youth for sustainable livelihoods in refugee hosting communities	(811)	90,342	(89,531)	-	-
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Empowering local communities in Pujehun District	29,414	33,258	(33,872)	-	28,800
<i>Tanzania</i> : Disability inclusive VICOBA	4,234	103,348	(95,305)	-	12,277
<i>Kenya</i> : Camel milk project	35,000	120,000	(89,847)	-	65,153
<i>Uganda</i> : Eradication of child labour	-	369,878	(237,910)	-	131,968
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Women make change	-	35,514	(46)	-	35,468
Country-specific funding	<u>5,427</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,427</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>140,050</u>	<u>864,340</u>	<u>(735,201)</u>	<u>10,111</u>	<u>279,300</u>
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
Forward fund	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>70,000</u>
<i>Total designated funds</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>70,000</u>
General funds	<u>272,928</u>	<u>76,514</u>	<u>(48,571)</u>	<u>(80,111)</u>	<u>220,760</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>272,928</u>	<u>76,514</u>	<u>(48,571)</u>	<u>(10,111)</u>	<u>290,760</u>
Total funds	<u><u>412,978</u></u>	<u><u>940,854</u></u>	<u><u>(783,772)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>570,060</u></u>

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

16. Movements in funds (continued)

Purposes of restricted funds

Sierra Leone: Livelihoods and food security for vulnerable people Reducing the poverty and malnutrition of people in rural households through community organisations.

Sierra Leone: Enhancing CSO capacity Strengthening 45 civil society organisations to empower women, and provide gender, literacy, business skills and apprenticeship training.

Kenya and Uganda: Strengthening the implementation of the CRPD (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) with Women with Disabilities Supporting partner SITE in helping women with disabilities in Kenya and Uganda to understand and access their rights and to improve their inclusion in livelihoods.

Uganda: Skilling youth for sustainable livelihoods in refugee hosting communities Skills training in market relevant technical skills through apprenticeships for 800 refugee and host community youth, improving their engagement in public and private sectors.

Sierra Leone: Empowering local communities in Pujehun District Building the capacity of community structures, including 19 community based organisations to provide livelihoods services, rights awareness and income generation and improved governance.

Tanzania: Disability inclusive VICOBA Establishing community banking groups and providing financial management, business and vocational training to vulnerable women and people living with disabilities.

Kenya: Camel milk project Providing skills and hygiene training in new areas throughout the entire Camel Milk supply chain to improve productivity and produce standards.

Uganda: Eradication of child labour Enabling over 12,000 families to be more resilient to child labour, improving incomes and access to skills, and establishing a child-free zone in UMA Industrial Park.

Sierra Leone: Women make change Supporting the leadership of marginalised women including training on vegetable growing, soap production, functional literacy and community seed banks.

Country-specific funding Funds raised to provide help in Tanzania, Sri Lanka, Uganda and Sierra Leone on future project opportunities.

Purpose of designated funds

Forward fund To forward fund projects when necessary and carry expenditure in advance of receipt of donation income.

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

16. Movement in funds (continued)

Transfers between funds

Transfers between funds represent the use of general funds to complete the project at the conclusion of work, and the creation of a new designated reserve.

Prior year comparative

	At 1 January 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 December 2020 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Vocational skills development and income generation for disadvantaged young people	3,913	-	(3,913)	-	-
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Livelihoods and food security for vulnerable people	39,638	321,419	(349,259)	-	11,798
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Enhancing CSO capacity	125,168	143,769	(213,949)	-	54,988
<i>Kenya and Uganda</i> : Strengthening the implementation of the CRPD (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) with Women with Disabilities	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
<i>Uganda</i> : Skilling youth for sustainable livelihoods in refugee hosting communities	963	135,558	(137,332)	-	(811)
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Empowering local communities in Pujehun District	1,000	57,685	(29,271)	-	29,414
<i>Tanzania</i> : Disability inclusive VICOBA	-	9,412	(5,178)	-	4,234
<i>Kenya</i> : Camel milk project	-	35,000	-	-	35,000
Country-specific funding	14,060	-	(8,633)	-	5,427
Total restricted funds	185,742	702,843	(748,535)	-	140,050
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	192,824	138,427	(58,323)	-	272,928
Total unrestricted funds	192,824	138,427	(58,323)	-	272,928
Total funds	378,566	841,270	(806,858)	-	412,978

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

17. Operating lease commitments

The charity had operating leases at the year end with total future minimum lease payments as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Amount falling due:		
Within 1 year	702	936
Within 1 - 5 years	<u>-</u>	<u>702</u>
	<u>702</u>	<u>1,638</u>

The charity's rental lease is on a short term notice period; there is no lease commitment.

18. Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose in the current or previous reporting period.

Accounts

Company no. 01872538
Charity no. 290836

APT Action on Poverty

Report and Audited Financial Statements

31 December 2020



APT Action on Poverty

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Company number	01872538	
Charity number	290836	
Registered office and operational address	Nicholas House Heath Park Main Road Crophorne Persnore Worcestershire, WR10 3NE	
Trustees	Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows: Helen Altshul Jake Bharier Brian Capper David Elliott Neil Fray Malcolm Harper Louise Locke Justine Williams	
Chief executive	Alex Daniels	
Company secretary	Elizabeth Chard	
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc 128 High Street Cheltenham GL50 1EL	Virgin Money plc Jubilee House Gosforth NE3 4PL
	CAF Bank Limited 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ	
Auditors	Godfrey Wilson Limited Chartered accountants and statutory auditors 5th Floor Mariner House 62 Prince Street Bristol BS1 4QD	

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

The trustees are pleased to present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes. The accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Structure, governance and management

The company is limited by guarantee, was registered as a charity in 1985 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the company's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and are therefore confident that APT Action on Poverty ('Action on Poverty') meets the public benefit requirements.

When considering the appointment of trustees the board give regard to the skills audit of existing trustees, the requirement for any specialist skills, and the ability to contribute to the charity's governance and objectives. The key element of the trustee's induction is to ensure a sound understanding of the charity's mission, principles and strategy as well as the legal obligations of trustees. The induction process for new trustees involves a combination of provision of key documents plus communications and face to face discussions with the Chair of the trustees and the Chief Executive. New trustees are required to comply with company law requirements and declare any interests.

The Chief Executive of Action on Poverty, Alex Daniels, is appointed by the trustees to manage the day to day operations of the charity and ensure the overall implementation of the organisational strategy as agreed by the trustees. The Chief Executive and the Chair of the trustees communicate on a regular basis.

Objectives and activities for the public benefit

Our Vision:

A fair world free from poverty and discrimination where every person is empowered to fulfil their potential.

Our Mission:

To transform lives and promote economic empowerment and social change by helping vulnerable and socially excluded people achieve sustainable livelihoods and by addressing the barriers that limit their participation.

We aim to achieve our objectives through delivering programmes targeting specific sectors, communities and/or disadvantaged groups. These programmes all have a livelihood focus (accessing employment, incomes and/or increased food production) together with addressing inequalities and exclusion of target beneficiaries to secure sustainable and transformational change. We deliver this through working together with overseas partners and their beneficiaries to design programmes and activities in the various countries in which we operate. The nature of the activities will depend upon the local needs prioritised and the capacity/experience of the partners.

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Our key strengths are our experience with:

- Promoting enterprise and decent work;
- Reaching marginalised people (particularly women and people with disabilities); and
- Building the capacity of organisations – including our partners, CBOs (Community Based Organisations) and other stakeholders.

Achievements and performance

By the end of 2020 there were six active programmes delivering high quality, effectively monitored work and sustainable impact. Two of these also have significant extensions for 'COVID Rapid Response' projects.

The global impact of COVID-19 is likely to be felt for a long time here in the UK and in the poorest communities in sub-Saharan Africa where we work, with both economic and social impact. The impact in sub-Saharan Africa has not been as serious as in the UK. However, statistical data, health facilities, reporting and testing are all extremely poor with movement restrictions severely hindering access to food and other basic needs. Despite the increased needs many funding sources have faced disruptions and have declined. No overseas travel has taken place since January 2020 and this has meant that project managers have conducted meetings online and have developed different approaches to supporting and managing projects. For most of 2020, staff have been working from home with weekly project management meetings held via Zoom, staff meetings have been held monthly and interim meetings arranged as and when necessary.

Despite the challenges Action on Poverty has made an impact this year which went far beyond our expectations. We have helped over 51,000 beneficiaries directly during 2020 to obtain sustainable livelihoods so that they can secure enough food, medicines and education for themselves and their children and a life with more respect and dignity. A further 100,000 people have been helped through being better informed, empowered and/or as dependants of the direct beneficiaries. To extend the impact and to build for the future our work has also helped 452 small community organisations, disabled people's organisations, and producer groups to become more effective in helping their members collaborate for increased incomes, obtain better services and/or to influence other stakeholders to ensure their needs are not excluded in the future.

Within this, we consider that poverty and gender inequality are inextricably linked and this continues to be reflected in our work and more than half of our current beneficiaries are women. We also continue to support mainstream people with disabilities into our work and to support programmes that promote their inclusion.

We have continued to have considerable success with key institutional donors adding the National Lottery Fund and increasing funding from UK Aid and European funding. This is despite the uncertainty resulting from the merger of the Department for International Development (DFID) with the Foreign Office and the heavy cuts in the 0.7% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) target for overseas aid. In terms of diversification, the number of different institutional donors and trusts providing grants of over £10,000 was 7 in 2020 (up from 5 in 2019). Continued emphasis was given to securing significant levels of donations from trusts and foundations and this has continued to be successful. Donations from trusts have been approximately 20% of our total income in 2020. We have received a grant of £32,787 from the Turing Foundation for apprenticeship work with young people, a grant of £10,000 as part of a three year grant from the Marr Munning Trust for young women in Sierra Leone and a £25,000 contribution as part of a three year grant from the Medicor Foundation to improve livelihoods and food security for vulnerable people in Sierra Leone.

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

In April 2020 we were approached by the charity African Initiatives (Registered Charity No. 1064413) as to whether we would be interested in taking over the management of a project in Tanzania as sadly they were planning to close in the Spring of 2021. The project is concerned with building the capacity of village savings and credit groups and their ability to mainstream people with disabilities in their work. This is a good strategic fit for Action on Poverty and we are pleased to be able to help the good work continue. The project is funded by the National Lottery Fund and, after much discussion between the parties and due diligence procedures we took over the management of the 'Tusonge' project in November 2020. This project is included in the performance of programmes detailed below.

Performance of programmes

Sierra Leone

'Livelihoods and Food Security for Vulnerable People in Sierra Leone' (April 2018 - June 2021)

This project is with our partner Movement for Assistance and Promotion of Rural Communities (MAPCO) and funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), previously DFID, through UK Aid with matched funding from Medicor Foundation. The project addresses the chronic poverty faced by rural communities with inadequate incomes, food and nutrition, especially children and vulnerable mothers in Moyamba District one of the two poorest districts in the country. This situation is exacerbated by gender and disability discrimination and the unemployment of youth.

Through a proven sustainable Community Based Organisation (CBO) support model these vulnerable groups are being targeted in 15 communities (64,000 people) to improve livelihoods and food security through access to resources, markets, knowledge, skills in agriculture and enterprise together with integrated inputs on women's and youth empowerment and well-being.



The project has expanded to incorporate COVID-19 rapid response activities over a six month period September 2020 – February 2021.

These included sensitising communities in both Moyamba and Pujehun providing hand washing stations and latrines, improving water sources and supporting the CBO loan schemes to cope with the crisis. Also promoting livelihood activities to respond to the Covid restrictions such as by increasing vegetable production for their own consumption and for sale rather than reliance on petty trading when markets were closed.

The project continues to be successful in terms of depth, outreach and sustainability of its impact. Two meals per day are being eaten by 98% of participating families compared with only 34% at the start of the project. Over 22,000 people have increased their household income by at least 50% and 15 communities have increased access to drinking water.

MAPCO held an experience sharing meeting with other Non-Government Organisations (NGOs), they then cascaded the information to 15 Community Based Organisations (CBOs). All MAPCO staff attended a disability-awareness toolkit training and are in turn holding CBO based training on disability awareness.

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Action on Poverty were pleased to be asked by UK Aid Direct to do a webinar presentation to other grant holders on the subject of 'Women and Financial Inclusion and the Impact of COVID-19' on revolving loan schemes. Our project with MAPCO showed that loan repayments were still on schedule and that adaptations had been made to ensure the viability of the scheme and continued support of the CBOs.

The project was due to end in March 2021 but has been extended for a further three months as a result of the FCDO cuts (across all grants during 2020) which required that savings in 2020 were transferred to 2021. An external evaluation will be carried out in April 2021.

'The Empowerment and Education of Young Mothers, Women and Girls' (August 2018 - August 2021)

In August 2018 with our partner Community Action for Rural Development (CARD) and with funding from the European Union we began a project to empower 3,500 young women in 40 rural communities in Kenema District both economically and socially. They will access literacy, business skills, apprenticeships and rights training. Forty CBOs and five NGOs will be strengthened to deliver these services and to operate more effectively in the future. The project includes an understanding of the mechanisms to protect young women from gender-based violence and will foster attitudinal change among men and community leaders.

The project is progressing well in all areas. The second year of this 3-year project was completed at the end of August. The five NGOs have all improved their capacity to deliver services including improved skills in project management, monitoring, fundraising, advocacy and networking. They have gained experience in delivering a range of project interventions and are more aware of the importance of engaging with women and people with disabilities. Thirty staff and volunteers of the five NGOs have received additional training and the five NGOs have networked well with other departments and partners. The 40 CBOs have developed their management, improved planning and roles and responsibilities and established or expanded Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs).

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the NGOs and CBOs coordinated well to deliver awareness raising and prevention activities in their communities with an additional small grant from Action on Poverty.

The third year of the project is progressing well. Disability awareness training was held for all five NGOs and the learning from this will be cascaded down to the 40 CBOs. Some of the CBOs have started up new literacy circles and apprenticeships and the VSLA schemes are operating well in all 40 communities. The five NGO partners have worked with the CBOs and local leaders to set up oversight committees that can continue to monitor and support the VSLAs, literacy training and apprenticeships after the project ends in August.

The Turing Foundation is also contributing to this project by supporting the apprenticeship training of 200 of the most vulnerable women especially those with disabilities and young mothers. Over 100 have completed their training programme. They have also received business training and are earning some income from their improved skills and benefiting from the revolving loan schemes that the project has helped them establish.

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

‘Empowering Local Communities in Pujehun District’ (November 2019 - October 2022)

This three year project started in November 2019 with funding from the European Union. We are providing technical support to the project being implemented by our partner MAPCO as they take on their first large project as the lead. The project will create lasting change by enhancing the capacity of community structures (CBOs), Village Development Committees (VDCs), Ward Development Committees (WDCs) and nine other rural chiefdoms in Pujehun District to improve integrated governance and deliver services on poverty reduction to 5,700 vulnerable families (approximately 30,000 people). It will contribute to the empowerment of marginalised and vulnerable communities in some of the most disadvantaged areas enabling women, youth and people with disabilities to access employment opportunities and earn sustainable incomes. It will increase the incomes of 4,560 vulnerable families bringing benefits to approximately 24,000 people.

The project has progressed well in its first year. CBOs in 19 rural communities have been established and have elected leaders from within their communities including a high representation of marginalised groups (62% women and 23% people with disabilities). All 19 CBOs are successfully delivering new livelihoods services in their communities with 59% of target households reached (18,969 people) by the end of year one. This has already impacted income levels as 40% of families have increased their incomes by at least 30%. VDCs and WDCs have been supported to improve their understanding of their roles and responsibilities and how to fulfil them which has increased their capacity to function effectively.



Kadiatu is currently taking part in a weaving apprenticeship. With mentoring from a local artisan she now designs and creates her own woven dresses. MAPCO has supported the trainee weavers to locate reasonably priced materials and the tools needed to make quality products and meet market demand. Kadiatu is now making five dresses a month.

She says ‘I am proud of my contribution to household income and I save the rest of my earnings for unforeseen circumstances’.

In early March there were 3,937 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Sierra Leone and 79 deaths. There has been a small increase in the number of cases in our project districts since November and there has recently been a two week travel ban for Western Area. The outbreak of the Ebola virus in neighbouring Guinea is of great concern.

Kenya

Whilst Kenya is making some progress in its GDP as a country inequalities remain very challenging and our focus is on reaching those who are particularly marginalised.

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Strengthening the Implementation of the CRPD (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) with Women with Disabilities in Kenya and Uganda (January 2019 – December 2021)

SITE Enterprise Promotion Limited (SITE), a long-term partner of Action on Poverty, is the lead partner of this project which will improve the implementation of the CRPD in order to promote the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights by women living with disabilities. It is managed from Kenya with Action on Poverty providing a technical support role along with two other partners KUB (Kenya Union of the Blind) and NUWODU (National Union of Women with Disabilities of Uganda). The focus within the CRPD is on Articles 6 (women) and 27 (livelihoods).

This is an ambitious project. The anticipated result is that the CRPD is more effectively implemented in Kenya and Uganda with specific reference to gender and livelihoods, enterprise and employment, and demonstrated in three selected areas. These are Meru and Machakos (Kenya) and Gulu (Uganda). The primary beneficiaries are 51,135 women with disabilities in Kenya and 21,526 in Uganda. It will integrate disability into wider human rights work specifically enabling access to services and resources to secure livelihoods, enterprise and employment for women with disabilities.

This project is making good progress despite being hindered by the indirect impact of COVID-19 due to the level of networking and linkages required. In early March 2021, there were 111,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 1,899 deaths recorded in Kenya. Healthcare workers have been particularly affected. Testing is privatised and expensive, suggesting that a large number of cases go undetected as many people cannot afford to buy tests.

Nevertheless, the project has made good progress towards establishing co-ordinated and progressive efforts by many stakeholders to include women with disabilities in the targeted areas currently and in the longer term. Over 12,589 Women with Disabilities (WWD) have been recruited by 369 Disabled Persons Organisations (DPOs), which have been strengthened in leadership, management and representation of their members. New joint campaigns and collaborations including 157 new forums have improved effective engagement between DPOs leaders and duty-bearers. County and district plans and budgets increased recognition and inclusion of people with disabilities, including COVID-19 food aid, ramps to enable access to shops in the market, white canes and COVID-19 masks. WWDs totalling 288 were trained in enterprise, money management, record keeping and business skills and these women trained a further 1,740 WWDs.

Improved Livelihoods and Resilience through Camel Milk

During the latter part of 2020, we made preparations to start on the third phase of our highly successful 'CAMILI' project. We have been working with our partner SITE since 2014 to transform the camel milk value chain, improving productivity and competitiveness of camel milk and value added products. The second phase lasting 18 months of the project ended in January 2019 and exceeded its targets so now we want to consolidate and expand on the achievements.

Some of the funding had been secured by the end of December 2020 for this new phase of the project to increase the quantity and quality of camel milk and develop sustainable livelihoods, increasing incomes and food security. We are planning that 5,350 people involved in the 'industry' will benefit from an average 35% increase in incomes thereby reducing poverty and hunger among 5,350 households in vulnerable and fragile pastoralist communities. The nutritional status of 5,000 children under the age of five will be improved, 2,200 women milk traders will benefit from improved working conditions and access to equipment to sustain and grow their small enterprises. Additionally, 1,250 people will access new employment through the camel milk sector. Many thousands more will also benefit indirectly by having greater access to camel milk and its valuable nutritional qualities.

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Uganda

Skilling Youth for Sustainable Livelihoods in Refugee Hosting Communities (October 2019 – September 2021)

This is a two year project designed to increase employment opportunities for marginalised youth, including refugees in Agago and Lamwo Districts in Northern Uganda. It will address the skills, knowledge and experience gap that hinders young peoples' ability to generate income or gain employment. The project is partnering with Volunteer Efforts for Development Concerns (VEDCO) and they have a strong team in place to cope with the challenges of undertaking sustainable development work in an area that has both severe deprivation and long-term emergency aid.

Eight hundred young people aged 18-24 (50% female, at least 5% people with disabilities and 35% refugees) will be trained in market-relevant technical and employability skills. Of these, 70% will earn an income through employment or self-employment and youth in general will have improved representation and engagement in public and private sectors.

In September we were requested by UK Aid Direct to reduce our budget by 25% and to transfer the savings to the next financial year. This has had a significant impact on the project's workplan. The project is now in its second year and has trained the first cohort of 400 and started training the second cohort of 150 young people, working with 10 local businesses to provide work placements. The remaining 250 young people are expected to be brought on board in April 2021, later than planned due to budget cuts. This delay has caused some issues with local authorities as at the project inception meetings we had committed to enrolling 400 young people in the second cohort. It was agreed with the authorities that 50 young people would be selected in Agago district and 100 from Lamwo district including some from the refugee settlement.

Isaac is 17 years old from Palabek Gem sub county, Lamwo district. His friend encouraged him to go to meetings to find out about this project. He was selected for the project and chose a training course in tailoring as not many men work in tailoring. It seemed like a good opportunity for him to try something new. After his placement he received a start-up kit, which enabled him to open a tailoring workshop. He is now earning 250,000 UGX a month on average and his savings have increased. His life has changed a lot as he used to spend time gambling but now he is focussed on his tailoring business. He supports his family by contributing food for the household. He hopes to be a role model to inspire other youth in the community. He is planning to study design in the future after saving enough money to study. "You cannot make the situations in life but you can have the right attitude to fit those situations" he said.



VEDCO is drawing on learning and feedback from the first cohort of youth trainees to adapt and improve the project plans for the second year. This includes using feedback from the youth on the topics that they particularly valued within life skills and business skills training to tailor the training schedule for the second cohort. VEDCO is continuing to conduct monitoring visits and provide business mentoring support for young people from the first cohort who have set up their own businesses.

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

In early March 2021, there were 40,535 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 334 COVID-19 related deaths in Uganda. The rate of infection has steadily increased in recent months but lockdown restrictions have continued to ease, for example with mass gatherings now permitted with up to 200 people. Political tensions prior to, during and following the national elections were also closely monitored by us and our partners.

The COVID-19 Rapid Response project began on 1 October 2020 and is progressing well. Households totalling 800 of which 560 are led by women have been supported with local vegetable seeds for backyard gardens. Incomes are being quickly generated from fast maturing local vegetables such as cow peas. Twenty two people, including nine People With Disabilities (PWD) have been trained and supported in groups with materials to produce liquid soap and linked to fellow beneficiaries in both projects to market their products. Handwashing facilities were also provided to 800 households. Radio programmes have reached 23,000 people with key messages on COVID-19 awareness and prevention.

As mentioned under '**Kenya**' earlier we are also '**Strengthening the Implementation of the CRPD with Women with Disabilities**' and specifically with 21,516 women with disabilities in Uganda.

Tanzania

As mentioned above, in November 2020 we took over the management of a project entitled 'Disability Inclusion in Village Community Banking' (July 2018 – June 2022) from African Initiatives that is funded by the National Lottery Community Fund. The project is working in Njia Panda and Kilema Pofu villages in Njia Panda ward in Tanzania. The project has three main objectives. Firstly, to reach 540 direct beneficiaries with economic empowerment activities at least 10% of whom will be people living with a disability. Secondly, training and awareness raising activities to increase knowledge of disability rights and empower those living with disabilities to claim them. Thirdly, increasing the practice and capacity of Tusonge to design and implement disability inclusive projects.

By the end of year 2 in July 2020, 180 group members were reached with economic empowerment activities 26% of whom were people with disabilities and 37% were family members of an adult or child with a disability. The transfer from African Initiatives to Action on Poverty has gone very smoothly and there has been no negative impact or disruption for Tusonge.

Now in its third year, the project is progressing well with no major challenges. Tusonge have managed to find ways to work through the recent elections in October 2020 and all activities are on track to meet the end of year targets. Village Community Banking (VICOPA), financial management and entrepreneurship training have all gone smoothly and have been completed. Future plans involve vocational training and awareness training on disability rights will be run for people with disabilities, the wider community and local leadership. Capacity building training will be run in partnership with Uchimi bank for groups to open bank accounts. Signposting to local service providers and support to the emerging PWD Union will continue. The groups set up in years 1 and 2 continue to be supported through follow up training and visits, technical mentorship, learning exchange visits and microfinance institution/banking training. These will all contribute to the sustainability of the work.

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

For most of 2020, the Government of Tanzania was reporting that COVID-19 had been overcome in the country and was not an issue. Given the lack of data and transparency it is very difficult to judge the overall impact COVID-19 has had on Tanzania. So far the communities we work with do not seem to have been significantly affected although with the lack of reliable data this is largely anecdotal. Tusonge adapted some of their planned awareness raising activities to spread messaging and information on COVID-19. This awareness raising campaign was run in partnership with local government and other local NGOs, and was successful in ensuring access to reliable advice and information for the communities we work with. Tusonge continues to take some preventative measures. There has been some disruption at the border with Kenya which has affected trade to some extent but this has not yet significantly impacted group members. Tusonge continues to monitor the situation.

Plans for the future

Our Strategic Plan confirms our vision, mission and aims.

We will continue to empower vulnerable people economically and socially by working together with local partners in sub-Saharan Africa.

We will deliver a sustainable, cost-effective and transformative impact on livelihoods work with some of the most marginalised people. We will work to catalyse change in this area of work proactively pushing a cross-cutting agenda of inclusive livelihoods amongst different stakeholders.

We strive to continuously improve the quality and effectiveness of our work supporting and developing new programmes in response to need and opportunities and diversifying our range of income sources.

Specific Objectives

We will:

- 1 Extend our transformational impact and build on earlier success;
- 2 Develop a sound financial platform by continuing to seek funding from larger trusts to follow up the success in previous years, building a better foundation and income diversification from a low resource base. We will support our individual givers with appropriate levels of communication;
- 3 Investigate partnerships with others including the private sector where mutual objectives can be met and develop new partnerships and ways of working; and
- 4 Build the effectiveness and efficiency of raising awareness by implementing targeted communication and promotion of Action on Poverty in line with the above.

Specific targets and activities have been set for the above.

Financial review

As always the vast majority of our total expenditure of £806,858 has been on charitable activities in the year and sent out to our overseas project partner organisations who lead our projects from within the communities they are designed to help. Similarly, of the costs incurred in the UK, the vast majority was spent on programme management, with our staff overseeing and adding value to the projects in the field and reporting back to our UK donors.

During 2020, our unrestricted activities resulted in a surplus of £80,104. This leaves free reserves of £272,928 at the year-end which were in excess of our 6-12 month target range and this will ensure we are able to continue operating as a going concern throughout 2021. Restricted reserves at the end of 2020 were £140,050.

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Reserves policy

Action on Poverty's stated policy is to maintain a level of unrestricted reserves equivalent to 6-12 months' running costs. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. As at 31 December 2020 unrestricted reserves equivalent to 19 months' running costs were held. This is expected to reduce to 12-13 months during 2021.

Investment policy

The trustees have the power to invest in such assets as they see fit but to date surplus unrestricted funds are held on low risk deposit in order to ensure ready availability.

Risk management

Action on Poverty takes very seriously the management of risk to which the charity is exposed particularly cash flow, recruitment, safeguarding and safety and security of staff travelling overseas. The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to those risks.

The risk register is an agenda item at each trustees' meeting and we have reviewed practices around managing the safety and security of staff when working overseas to ensure we are meeting reasonable duty of care requirements and have strengthened security risk management practices to mitigate exposure. Safeguarding policies and procedures have been brought into line with renewed donor practices and we are working with partners to improve policies and procedures. Partnership contracts are reviewed to bring them in line with donor requirements. Action on Poverty also has a child protection policy and vulnerable adults' policy in place.

COVID-19

The trustees have considered the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the charity's current and future financial position. During 2020, we were in discussions with our institutional donors to adapt our programmes accordingly. We were tracking and participating in the discussion on the rapid changes in the global environment and funding context and continue to do so.

The trustees appreciate that although some donors have cut their commitments these have to some degree been offset by one-off COVID grants. Rather than threats to existing funding, the main risk could be in obtaining new funding as cuts in company dividend income may affect the ability of some individuals and trusts to donate.

We remain particularly concerned about the impact on livelihoods in both the short and the long term in all the countries in which we work. The impact will not be felt equally. In the poorest communities or amongst those with hand-to-mouth livelihoods such as farm workers, market vendors, boda boda riders and hourly paid labour, the concern is not so much about economic growth but simply one of survival of the most vulnerable. The greatest impact is likely to be on those who are already vulnerable and in the depth of poverty including the significant percentages who do not make any savings and their coping mechanisms involve travelling to sell their labour or other prohibited activity.

Our approach to fundraising

Our supporters are key to everything we do. We are fully committed to being transparent and accountable about how our supporters' donations are used. At Action on Poverty we are hugely grateful to all our donors and focus on building long-lasting relationships based on trust and respect. We follow the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice.

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

During 2020 we introduced a new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system which has proved to be an excellent investment enabling easy tracking of funding applications, recording of donations and Gift Aid claims to Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC).

During the financial period ending December 2020 we did not use any professional fundraising organisations. Our fundraising is carried out by our small team of staff all of whom had additional roles in 2020 supervised by the Chief Executive. This has meant we have full control of and confidence in our fundraising practices.

We did not receive any complaints about our fundraising activities during the 2020 financial year. We keep up to date with changes to regulation, respond to consultations on this and update processes and practice as necessary to comply. We welcome feedback from supporters and proactively use it to improve and enhance our fundraising campaigns.

Asset cover for funds

The trustees are satisfied that the charitable company's assets and cash balances attributable to each of its individual funds are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in relation to those funds.

Trustees' consideration of going concern basis of accounting

The COVID-19 pandemic will continue to have an impact on the charity, its work and the wider global community. The trustees have considered the impact of this issue on the charity's current and future financial position.

No material uncertainties, apart from the implications of COVID-19 mentioned above, that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the company to continue as a going concern have been identified by the trustees. The trustees consider that the charity has sufficient unrestricted reserves and cash flow to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved for the following reasons:

- The charity holds unrestricted, general reserves of £272,694 and a cash balance of £422,475; and
- The charity's key funders are continuing to fund the programmes in hand.

The trustees therefore consider it appropriate to adopt the going concern basis for the preparation of the accounts as detailed in note 1(b) to the financial statements.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

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

APT Action on Poverty

Report of the trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing those 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 and statements of recommended practice 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 charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

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.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditors

Godfrey Wilson Limited were re-appointed as auditors to the charitable company during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the trustees on 11 May 2021 and signed on their behalf by



Brian S. Capper BSc MA PhD
Chair of Trustees

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

APT Action on Poverty

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of APT Action on Poverty (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes to the financial statements, 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 our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2020 and of its 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 Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's 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 the charity'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.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the 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.

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

APT Action on Poverty

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in 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 there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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 (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the 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;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out in the trustees' report, the trustees 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 they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity'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 charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

APT Action on Poverty

Our 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 auditor's 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.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity'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 charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Alison Godfrey

Date: 11 May 2021

Alison Godfrey FCA
(Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of:

GODFREY WILSON LIMITED

Chartered accountants and statutory auditors

5th Floor Mariner House

62 Prince Street

Bristol

BS1 4QD

APT Action on Poverty

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	39,399	103,744	143,143	60,013
Charitable activities	4	663,444	34,204	697,648	464,907
Investments		-	319	319	488
Other income		-	160	160	1,834
Total income		<u>702,843</u>	<u>138,427</u>	<u>841,270</u>	<u>527,242</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		16,001	18,384	34,385	20,631
Charitable activities		<u>732,534</u>	<u>39,939</u>	<u>772,473</u>	<u>529,836</u>
Total expenditure	6	<u>748,535</u>	<u>58,323</u>	<u>806,858</u>	<u>550,467</u>
Net income / (expenditure) and net movement in funds	7	(45,692)	80,104	34,412	(23,225)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		<u>185,742</u>	<u>192,824</u>	<u>378,566</u>	<u>401,791</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u><u>140,050</u></u>	<u><u>272,928</u></u>	<u><u>412,978</u></u>	<u><u>378,566</u></u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in note 16 to the accounts.

APT Action on Poverty

Balance sheet

As at 31 December 2020

	Note	£	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	11		1,406	1,236
Current assets				
Debtors	12	848		5,393
Current asset investments	13	64,885		64,885
Cash at bank and in hand		357,589		318,981
		423,322		389,259
Liabilities				
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	14	(11,750)		(11,929)
Net current assets			411,572	377,330
Net assets	15		412,978	378,566
Funds	16			
Restricted funds			140,050	185,742
Unrestricted funds				
General funds			272,928	192,824
Total charity funds			412,978	378,566

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the trustees on 11 May 2021 and signed on their behalf by



Brian S Capper BSc MA PhD
Chair of Trustees

APT Action on Poverty

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
Cash used in operating activities:		
Net movement in funds	34,412	(23,225)
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation charge	515	254
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(319)	(488)
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	4,545	(6)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	(179)	936
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	38,974	(22,529)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	319	488
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(685)	(1,490)
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities	(366)	(1,002)
Increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year	38,608	(23,531)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	383,866	407,397
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	422,474	383,866
 This is represented as:		
Current asset investments	64,885	64,885
Cash at bank and in hand	357,589	318,981
	422,474	383,866

Analysis of changes in net debt

The charity has not provided an analysis of changes in net debt as it does not have any long term financing arrangements.

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

1. Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

APT Action on Poverty meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

b) Going concern basis of accounting

The trustees acknowledge that the COVID-19 pandemic has had an impact on the charity and the wider economy but are confident that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The charity has seen a 60% increase in its income in the year to 31 December 2020 and its unrestricted reserves and cash balances remain healthy. The accounts have therefore been prepared on the assumption that the charity is able to continue as a going concern.

c) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from the 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.

d) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity: this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

e) Funds accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

f) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required 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.

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

g) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support and governance costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity, including the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements and any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on the following basis, which is an estimate of staff time spent on each activity:

	2020	2019
Raising funds	21.0%	12.8%
Charitable activities	79.0%	87.2%

h) Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Plant and machinery	20% straight line basis
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	20 - 33% straight line basis

i) 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.

j) Current asset investments

Current asset investments consist of cash held on short term deposit.

k) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

l) Creditors

Creditors and provisions 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 and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

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 recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

n) Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. There are no further liabilities other than that already recognised in the statement of financial activities.

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

o) Foreign currency transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at rates prevailing at the date of the transaction. Balances denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange prevailing at the year end.

p) Accounting estimates and key judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

There are no sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

2. Prior period comparatives

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2019 Total £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	25,975	34,038	60,013
Charitable activities	447,746	17,161	464,907
Investments	-	488	488
Other income	-	1,834	1,834
Total income	473,721	53,521	527,242
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	11,995	8,636	20,631
Charitable activities	487,159	42,677	529,836
Total expenditure	499,154	51,313	550,467
Net income / (expenditure)	(25,433)	2,208	(23,225)
Transfer between funds	(640)	640	-
Net movement in funds	(26,073)	2,848	(23,225)

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2020 Total £
Trusts and foundations	35,900	19,950	55,850
Legacies	-	69,579	69,579
Donations and other fundraising	3,499	14,215	17,714
	<u>39,399</u>	<u>103,744</u>	<u>143,143</u>

Prior year comparative	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2019 Total £
Trusts and foundations	22,700	12,750	35,450
Legacies	-	5,370	5,370
Donations and other fundraising	3,275	15,918	19,193
	<u>25,975</u>	<u>34,038</u>	<u>60,013</u>

4. Income from charitable activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2020 Total £
<i>Project grants from institutional donors:</i>			
FCDO	426,977	-	426,977
European Commission	114,268	-	114,268
The Dulverton Trust	35,000	-	35,000
Turing Foundation	32,787	-	32,787
Medicor Foundation	25,000	-	25,000
Marr Munning	10,000	-	10,000
The Haremead Trust	10,000	-	10,000
African Initiatives	9,412	-	9,412
<i>Consultancy fees</i>	-	34,204	34,204
	<u>663,444</u>	<u>34,204</u>	<u>697,648</u>

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

4. Income from charitable activities (continued)

Prior year comparative

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2019 Total £
<i>Project grants from institutional donors:</i>			
FCDO (previously DFID)	235,403	-	235,403
European Commission	107,503	-	107,503
Medicor Foundation	50,000	-	50,000
Turing Foundation	26,223	-	26,223
Marr Munning	20,000	-	20,000
Comic Relief	8,617	-	8,617
 <i>Consultancy fees</i>	 -	 17,161	 17,161
	<u>447,746</u>	<u>17,161</u>	<u>464,907</u>

5. Government grants

The charitable company receives government grants, defined as funding from the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) and European Commission to fund charitable activities. The total value of such grants in the period ending 31 December 2020 was £541,245 (2019: £342,906). There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attaching to these grants.

APT Action on Poverty

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

6. Total expenditure

	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	2020 Total £
Staff costs (note 9)	23,165	87,089	24,427	134,681
Other costs	-	5,658	21,157	26,815
Audit and accountancy fees	-	-	5,400	5,400
Depreciation	-	-	515	515
Grants payable to partners (note 8)	-	638,564	-	638,564
Publicity and fundraising costs	400	483	-	883
Sub-total	23,565	731,794	51,499	806,858
Allocation of support and governance costs	10,820	40,679	(51,499)	-
Total expenditure	34,385	772,473	-	806,858

Total governance costs were £5,400 (2019: £5,220).

Prior year comparative

	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	2019 Total £
Staff costs (note 9)	13,741	93,733	16,251	123,725
Other costs	-	14,927	25,733	40,660
Audit and accountancy fees	-	-	5,220	5,220
Depreciation	-	-	254	254
Grants payable to partners (note 8)	-	371,770	-	371,770
Publicity and fundraising costs	822	8,016	-	8,838
Sub-total	14,563	488,446	47,458	550,467
Allocation of support and governance costs	6,068	41,390	(47,458)	-
Total expenditure	20,631	529,836	-	550,467

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7. Net movement in funds

This is stated after charging:

	2020 £	2019 £
Depreciation	515	254
Trustees' remuneration	Nil	Nil
Trustees' reimbursed expenses	Nil	Nil
Auditors' remuneration:		
▪ Statutory audit (including VAT)	5,400	5,220

8. Grants payable

	2020 £	2019 £
<i>Grants paid to partner organisations:</i>		
Movement for Assistance and Promotion of Rural Communities	338,231	208,016
Community Action for Rural Development	186,859	128,519
Volunteers' Effort for Development Concern	109,121	30,455
SITE Enterprise Promotion	4,353	4,780
	<u>638,564</u>	<u>371,770</u>

9. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Salaries and wages	121,660	111,415
Social security costs	5,411	5,819
Pension costs	7,610	6,491
	<u>134,681</u>	<u>123,725</u>

No employee earned more than £60,000 during the year.

The key management personnel of the charitable company comprise the trustees and chief executive. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £50,217 (2019: £55,049). This is made up of salary costs of £42,925 (2019: £46,938) and employer NI and pension costs of £7,292 (2019: £8,110). Of these salary costs £nil (2019: £4,808) relates to a back-dated contractual pay-rise from 2016.

	2020 No.	2019 No.
Average head count	<u>5.30</u>	<u>4.50</u>

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10. Taxation

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

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 January 2020	1,299	5,543	6,842
Additions in year	-	685	685
At 31 December 2020	<u>1,299</u>	<u>6,228</u>	<u>7,527</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2020	1,299	4,307	5,606
Charge for the year	-	515	515
At 31 December 2020	<u>1,299</u>	<u>4,822</u>	<u>6,121</u>
Net book value			
At 31 December 2020	<u>-</u>	<u>1,406</u>	<u>1,406</u>
At 31 December 2019	<u>-</u>	<u>1,236</u>	<u>1,236</u>

12. Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Prepayments and accrued income	-	5,393
Other debtors	<u>848</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>848</u>	<u>5,393</u>

13. Current asset investments

	2020 £	2019 £
Cash held on deposit	<u>64,885</u>	<u>64,885</u>

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For the year ended 31 December 2020

14. Creditors : amounts due within 1 year

	2020	2019
	£	£
Accruals	7,653	8,158
Other taxation and social security	2,648	2,458
Other creditors	1,449	1,313
	<u>11,750</u>	<u>11,929</u>

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,406	1,406
Net current assets	<u>140,050</u>	<u>271,522</u>	<u>411,572</u>
Net assets at 31 December 2020	<u>140,050</u>	<u>272,928</u>	<u>412,978</u>

	Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Total funds £
Prior year comparative			
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,236	1,236
Net current assets	<u>185,742</u>	<u>191,588</u>	<u>377,330</u>
Net assets at 31 December 2019	<u>185,742</u>	<u>192,824</u>	<u>378,566</u>

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For the year ended 31 December 2020

16. Movements in funds

	At 1 January 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 December 2020 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Vocational skills development and income generation for disadvantaged young people	3,913	-	(3,913)	-	-
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Livelihoods and food security for vulnerable people	39,638	321,419	(349,259)	-	11,798
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Enhancing CSO capacity	125,168	143,769	(213,949)	-	54,988
<i>Kenya and Uganda</i> : Strengthening the implementation of the CRPD (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) with Women with Disabilities	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
<i>Uganda</i> : Skilling youth for sustainable livelihoods in refugee hosting communities	963	135,558	(137,332)	-	(811)
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Empowering local communities in Pujehun District	1,000	57,685	(29,271)	-	29,414
<i>Tanzania</i> : Disability inclusive VICOBA	-	9,412	(5,178)	-	4,234
<i>Kenya</i> : Camel milk project	-	35,000	-	-	35,000
Country-specific funding	14,060	-	(8,633)	-	5,427
Total restricted funds	185,742	702,843	(748,535)	-	140,050
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	192,824	138,427	(58,323)	-	272,928
Total unrestricted funds	192,824	138,427	(58,323)	-	272,928
Total funds	378,566	841,270	(806,858)	-	412,978

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For the year ended 31 December 2020

16. Movement in funds (continued)

Purposes of restricted funds

Sierra Leone: Vocational skills development and income generation for disadvantaged young people	To reach an additional 240 disadvantaged youths and provide skills training in conjunction with the larger livelihoods project.
Sierra Leone: Livelihoods and food security for vulnerable people	Reducing the poverty and malnutrition of people in rural households through community organisations.
Sierra Leone: Enhancing CSO capacity	Strengthening 45 civil society organisations to empower women, and provide gender, literacy, business skills and apprenticeship training.
Kenya and Uganda: Strengthening the implementation of the CRPD (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) with Women with Disabilities	Supporting partner SITE in helping women with disabilities in Kenya and Uganda to understand and access their rights and to improve their inclusion in livelihoods.
Uganda: Skilling youth for sustainable livelihoods in refugee hosting communities	Skills training in market relevant technical skills through apprenticeships for 800 refugee and host community youth, improving their engagement in public and private sectors.
Sierra Leone: Empowering local communities in Pujehun District	Building the capacity of community structures, including 19 community based organisations to provide livelihoods services, rights awareness and income generation and improved governance.
Tanzania: Disability inclusive VICOBA	Establishing community banking groups and providing financial management, business and vocational training to vulnerable women and people living with disabilities.
Kenya: Camel milk project	Providing skills and hygiene training in new areas throughout the entire Camel Milk supply chain to improve productivity and produce standards.
Country-specific funding	Funds raised to provide help in Tanzania, Sri Lanka, Uganda and Sierra Leone on future project opportunities.

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16. Movement in funds (continued)

Prior year comparative movement in funds

	At 1 January 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 December 2019 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Kenya</i> : Camel milk project	7,121	14,668	(21,432)	(357)	-
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Empowering communities	402	-	(402)	-	-
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Vocational skills development and income generation for disadvantaged young people	-	3,967	(54)	-	3,913
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Livelihoods and food security for vulnerable people	42,749	256,272	(258,743)	(640)	39,638
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Enhancing CSO capacity	151,835	154,759	(181,426)	-	125,168
<i>Kenya and Uganda</i> : Strengthening the implementation of the CRPD (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) with Women with Disabilities	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
<i>Uganda</i> : Skilling youth for sustainable livelihoods in refugee hosting communities	-	38,055	(37,092)	-	963
<i>Sierra Leone</i> : Empowering local communities in Pujehun District	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Country-specific funding	<u>9,708</u>	<u>4,000</u>	<u>(5)</u>	<u>357</u>	<u>14,060</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>211,815</u>	<u>473,721</u>	<u>(499,154)</u>	<u>(640)</u>	<u>185,742</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>189,976</u>	<u>53,521</u>	<u>(51,313)</u>	<u>640</u>	<u>192,824</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>189,976</u>	<u>53,521</u>	<u>(51,313)</u>	<u>640</u>	<u>192,824</u>
Total funds	<u><u>401,791</u></u>	<u><u>527,242</u></u>	<u><u>(550,467)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>378,566</u></u>

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17. Operating lease commitments

The charity had operating leases at the year end with total future minimum lease payments as follows:

	2020	2019
	£	£
Amount falling due:		
Within 1 year	936	468
Within 1 - 5 years	<u>702</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>1,638</u>	<u>468</u>

The charity's rental lease is on a short term notice period; there is no lease commitment.

18. Related party transactions

There are no other related party transactions to disclose in the current or previous reporting period.