

# Tools For Solidarity

Northern Ireland · Charity number 100614

## Details

Known as	TFS
Status	Received
Registered	2014-10-13
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register</a>

## Contact

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Website	<a href="http://www.toolsforsolidarity.com">www.toolsforsolidarity.com</a>

## Activities

**Purposes:** The Company is established to relieve poverty and advance education in any part of the world and in particular to collect, refurbish and distribute tools to countries in the Third World (the "area of benefit")

**What the charity does:** The prevention or relief of poverty, The advancement of education

**How the charity works:** Education/training, Environment/sustainable development/conservation, Overseas aid/famine relief, Relief of poverty, Volunteer development

**Who the charity helps:** Overseas/developing countries, Volunteers

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£102,006	£105,234	£0	5

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
Ms Angeline Balland		
Ms Boglarka Mckeown		
Ms Dorit Reppert		
Ms Laura Rio Fernandez		
Ms Nancy Graham		

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**Tools For Solidarity**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100614

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# Accounts

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## Tools For Solidarity

**ANNUAL ACCOUNTS - Company Number: NI52306 (NI)**

**1st APRIL 2024 to 31st MARCH 2025**

**PROFIT & LOSS REPORT - Registered Charity Number: NIC100614**

**Including Statement of Financial Affairs**

2023-24	INCOME	2024-25	Restricted	Unrestricted	Notes
	2448 Building Society/Bank Interest	2888		2888	
	10414 Donations	16900		16900	
	14959 Grants (EVS)				2,
	41794 Grants Other	59002	59002		3,
	1125 Other Income	410		410	
	8260 Rent Income	2780		2780	4,
	1072 Scrap Metal Sales	1857		1857	
	1924 VAT Refunds	1282		1282	
	2068 Sewing Machine/Tools sales	4368		4368	
	545 Gift Aid	808		808	
	ESD Income	6625		6625	
	1223 Yarn Sales	1290		1290	
	205 Foreign Payments				
	320 Fund Raising	890		890	
	2929 Energy Savings	2906		2906	
	<b>89286 Total Income</b>	<b>102006</b>			

2023-24	EXPENDITURE	2024-25			
	<b>Direct Expenses</b>				
	3215 Purchase, Parts, Materials	4031	403	3628	7,
	3550 Fixed Assets	199		199	5,
	30 Repairs	199		199	
	<b>6795 Total Direct Expenses</b>	<b>4429</b>			
	Overheads				
	120 Financial Fees	74	25	49	7,
	2863 Field Trip Costs	2447		2447	6,
	4115 Insurance	5814	1935	3879	7,
	Fund Raising Expenses	171	171		
	1676 Legal & Professional Costs	454	151	303	7,
	5000 Loan Repayment	5000	5000		
	4893 Light & Heat	6313	2104	4209	7,
	Overseas Payments	4556	4556		
	3124 Project Costs				
	200 Publicity				
	5241 Rent, Rates & Water Charges	4959	1653	3306	7,
	27530 Salary	45498	45498		8,
	Shipping	11079	11079		
	73 Stationary & Postage	317		317	
	1363 Other Expenditure	333		333	
	1100 Telephone	1213	607	606	7,
	4047 Travel & Subsistence	5328	4789	539	7,
	3632 Vehicle Fuel/Motor Expenses	2876	957	1919	7,
	10571 Volunteer Expenses	4373	2915	1458	9,
	<b>75548 Total Overhead Expenses</b>	<b>100805</b>	<b>81843</b>	<b>23391</b>	
	<b>82343 Total Expenditure</b>	<b>105234</b>			
	<b>6943 Profit/Loss</b>	<b>-3228</b>			



## Draft\_Accounts\_24-25

Grants from the EU - European Voluntary Service for the support of International Volunteers in Northern Ireland  
Other Grants incl - BHSCT (16763), Irish Govt (£18346), NIPSA (£9855), Halifax (£7855), Unicorn (£3500), Saint James (£2500)  
Rental Income from the Volunteer House and the Shipping and Education Office.  
Fixed Assets includes three buildings - Volunteer House, Workshop, Shipping and Education Office  
Field trips to Tanzania  
Overhead costs attributed to indirect/direct costs on an apportionment basis  
Salaries for Development Educational Worker, Supported Volunteers Co-ords, Project Co-ord. And Workshop/Office Staff  
Volunteer Expenses incl. supported volunteers, Core Volunteers, International Volunteers plus out of pocket expenses  
Motor Vehicles are depreciated on a 5 year cycle  
Incl O/S balance for EDS from Irish Govt and Unicorn  
Incl Committed expenditure for EDS program, Salaries and Partnership Expenditure



**Tools For Solidarity**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100614

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# Accounts

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Sheet1

Tools For Solidarity

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS - Company Number: NI52306 (NI)  
1st APRIL 2023 to 31st MARCH 2024  
PROFIT & LOSS REPORT - Registered Charity Number: NIC100614  
Including Statement of Financial Affairs

2022-23	INCOME	2023-24	Restricted	Unrestricted	Notes
	965 Building Society/Bank Interest	2448		2448	
	19600 Donations	10414		10414	
	26761 Grants (EVS)	14959		14959	2,
	73687 Grants Other	41794	41794		3,
	0 Other Income	1125		1125	
	9760 Rent Income	8260		8260	4,
	1054 Scrap Metal Sales	1072		1072	
	2958 VAT Refunds	1924		1924	
	4698 Sewing Machine/Tools sales	2068		2068	
	989 Gift Aid	545		545	
	0 Yarn Sales	1223		1223	
	365 Foreign Payments	205	205		
	620 Fund Raising	320		320	
	2404 Energy Savings	2929		2929	
	141457 Total Income	89286			

2022-23	EXPENDITURE	2023-24			
	Direct Expenses				
	16404 Purchase, Parts, Materials	3215	322	2893	7,
	2080 Fixed Assets	3550	3550		5,
	0 Repairs	30		30	
	18484 Total Direct Expenses	6795			
	Overheads				
	12 Financial Fees	120	40	80	7,
	1486 Field Trip Costs	2863		2863	6,
	3725 Insurance	4115	1372	2743	7,
	0 Fund Raising Expenses	0			
	1545 Legal & Professional Costs	1676	559	1117	7,
	5000 Loan Repayment	5000	5000		
	3960 Light & Heat	4893	1631	3262	7,
	2218 Overseas Payments	0			
	0 Project Costs	3124	3124		
	0 Publicity	200	200		
	5286 Rent, Rates & Water Charges	5241	1747	3494	7,
	29798 Salary	27530	27530		8,
	4902 Shipping	0			
	89 Stationary & Postage	73		73	
	335 Other Expenditure	1363		1363	
	1016 Telephone	1100	550	550	7,
	4490 Travel & Subsistence	4047	3639	408	7,
	6251 Vehicle Fuel/Motor Expenses	3632	1211	2421	7,
	16217 Volunteer Expenses	10571	7047	3524	9,
	86330 Total Overhead Expenses	75548			
	104814 Total Expenditure	82343			
	36643 Profit/Loss	6943			

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS - Company Number: NI52306 (NI)  
1st APRIL 2022 to 31st MARCH 2023  
ASSETS & LIABILITIES - Registered Charity Number: NIC100614

2022-23	ASSETS	2023-24			
	375100 Fixed Assets (Premises)	375100			5,
	Current Assets	0			
	0 Van	0			11,
	8855 Current Account	7312			
	91443 Building Society	99891			
	149 Petty Cash	165			
	833 Paypal	855			
	14959 Debtors	13833			12,
	116239 TOTAL ASSETS	122056			

Sheet1

2022-23	LIABILITIES	2023-24	
	11034 Creditors	33063	13,
	11034 TOTAL LIABILITIES	33063	
	105205 TOTAL ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES	88993	

Tools For Solidarity  
 ANNUAL ACCOUNTS - Company Number: NI52306 (NI)  
 1st APRIL 2022 to 31st MARCH 2023  
 BALANCE SHEET - Registered Charity Number: NIC100614

2022-23		2023-24	
	Fixed Assets		
	376600 Tangible Assets	376600	5,
	Current Assets		
	14959 Debtors	13833	12,
	101280 Cash in Hand	108223	1,
	116239 Total Current Assets	122056	
	Creditors		
	-11034 Amount falling within one year	-33063	13,
	105205 Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)	88993	
	481805 Total Assets Less Current Liabilities	465593	
	Creditors		
	0 Amount falling due more than one year	0	
	481805 Total Funds/Net Assets	465593	

Notes to the Accounts

- 1, Cash assets include fund of £60,000 held in Building Society in excess of the Reserve policy
- 2, Grants from the EU – European Voluntary Service for the support of International Volunteers in Northern Ireland
- 3, Other Grants incl - BHSC (16895), Irish Govt (£18799), Unicorn (£4500), Ulster
- 4, Rental Income from Volunteer House and Storage Warehouse
- 5, Fixed Assets include Volunteer house, Workshop and Shared ownership of Storage Warehouse
- 6, Field trips to Tanzania
- 7, Overhead costs attributed to indirect/direct costs on an apportionment basis
- 8, Salaries for Development Educational Worker, Supported Volunteers Co-ord., Project Co-ord. And Workshop/Office Staff
- 9, Volunteer Expenses incl. supported volunteers, Core Volunteers, International Volunteers plus out of pocket expenses
- 11, Motor Vehicles are depreciated on a 5 year cycle
- 12, Incl O/S balance for EDS from Irish Govt
- 13, Incl Committed expenditure for EDS program, Salaries and repayment of Loan

## CASH FLOW

OPENING BALANCE = £101280

O	101280	100131	117863	114630
INCOME	April-June	July-Sept	Oct-Dec	Jan- March
Building Society/Bank Interest	0	0	2448	0
Donations	4472	1189	1446	3306
Grants (EVS)	14959	0	0	0
Grants Other	5198	28798	3899	3899
Other Income	247	583	177	118
Rent Income	2600	1460	2260	1940
Scrap Metal Sales	0	506	566	0
Gift Aid	0	0	0	545
Yarn Sales	0	979	207	38
VAT Refunds	853	0	784	288
Sewing Machine/Tools sales	151	425	365	1127
Foreign Payments	205	0	0	0
Fund Raising	0	0	320	0
Energy Saving	0	1640	1288	0
<b>TOTAL INCOME =</b>	28685	35580	13760	11261
EXPENDITURE	April-June	July-Sept	Oct-Dec	Jan- March
<b>Direct Expenses</b>				
Purchase, Parts, Materials	1168	612	475	960
Fixed Assets	0	0	3550	0
Repairs	30	0	0	0
<u>Total Direct Expenses</u>	1198	612	4025	960
<b>Overheads</b>				
Bank Fees	13	12	12	83
Project Costs	3124	0	0	0
Field Trip Costs	2799	64	0	0
Publicity	200	0	0	0
Insurance	842	811	565	1897
Legal & Professional Costs	1248	100	0	328
Light & Heat	1323	1165	903	1502
Loan Repayment	1250	1250	1250	1250
Rent, Rates & Water Charges	4002	377	467	394
Salary	7138	8006	5178	7207
Stationary & Postage	6	14	53	0
Other Expenditure	173	100	40	1050
Telephone	271	268	279	282
Travel & Subsistence	1443	802	982	820
Vehicle Fuel/Motor Expenses	934	807	1122	770
Volunteer Expenses	3870	3460	2117	1125
<u>Total Overhead Expenses</u>	28636	17236	12968	16708
<b>TOTAL EXP =</b>	29834	17848	16993	17668

<b>CASH FLOW CF</b>				
<b>X - Y</b>	-1149	17732	-3233	-6407
<b>CLOSING BALANCE = C</b>				
<b>O + CF</b>	100131	117863	114630	108223

**CLOSING BALANCE = £108223**

**Tools For Solidarity**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100614

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# Annual report

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Tools for Solidarity

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024



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 [toolsforsolidarity.com](https://toolsforsolidarity.com)



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# Background Information

## PRINCIPLES

Underlying all the activities of Tools for Solidarity are the principles and values of self-help and empowerment, individual and global equality, environmental awareness, inclusiveness, voluntarism, and the right to challenge/oppose activities/actions that contradict these values.

## MISSION STATEMENT

TFS supports self-reliance by providing high quality refurbished tools to working people overseas, promoting international solidarity, and challenging global inequalities through a critical examination of development issues, environmental sustainability and ethical working practices.

## OUR AIMS



### ENCOURAGE

Promote self-reliance by furnishing overseas projects with high quality recycled hand tools and sewing machines



### ENGAGE

Involve individuals, organisations and the public in the development and environmental issues. Utilise working methods that develop and support a sense of international solidarity and promote volunteering and ethical working practices



### ENSURE

TFS will have appropriate premises, personnel and funding to meet the agreed outputs and objectives of the organisation

# How can you help?

Solidarity in practice is the heart of TFS's work. You can contribute in a very practical way by **donating hand tools** or **sewing machines**, by **making a donation** towards essential shipping and running costs, by **providing materials** or by **volunteering**.

You can follow and support our activities and work from our networks:



@tfs\_belfast



@toolsforsolidarity



[ko-fi.com/toolsforsolidarity](https://ko-fi.com/toolsforsolidarity)

*We thank you for your continued support in our efforts to contribute to the TFS*

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## CONTACT

Tools for Solidarity

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[toolsforsolidarity.com](https://toolsforsolidarity.com)

# Chairperson's Address

Each year brings new challenges to the organisation and the last year has been no exception. The **level of donations** into Tools has **increased**. At the same time, we have also been supporting **three projects within Tanzania**. This has raised many issues that the organisation has had to look to tackle not least our ability to store, manage and supply the resources coming into the organisation. This has meant that we have had to look for a new approach to our overseas work, further details of which are presented within the partnership section of this report.



*Figure 1: Last Shipment boxes*

Thanks to Stephen, the organisation has had a smooth transition in recruiting new **international volunteers**, which has brought stability to our work. We have also been able to attract more **local volunteers** and this will have to be attend in the future if we are going to cope with the greater inflow of donations into TFS. The programme to offer placements to **people with extra support needs**, two days a week, has been very successful and there is a waiting list of people applying. They have been very productive refurbishing many of the horticultural and other tools that we will ship later in the year.

The **educational** element of the project suffered a set back with the departure of Catherine and we have been able to recruit a new enthusiastic person in Sue to take over the role. Sue Bamford brings a new energy and direction to the project and is involved in looking at sustainable clothing and the impact it has. With this change, **Education for Sustainable Development Programme** has been very badly affected by timing of the transition and the schools element. There are plans in the coming year to continue with the **schools educational element** as well as develop the ideas around **sustainable fashion** and **reuses clothing in creative ways**.

**Financially**, the organization is still **reasonably healthy**, but we will need to address some key areas within TFS. The first of which is the **loss of our partnership worker**, Sofia, who did a great job and we were unable to offer a further year due to the regulations regarding visa rules. This has meant that the roles have been divided within the organization but we have to address how this can be managed more effectively next year. The other big decision that the organization has undertaken is to **seek funding too replace the existing diesel van with an electric one**. The decision was made on both environmental and economic running costs.

This will be **TFS 40th year** of operating and preparations have begun to celebrate the event with former/present volunteers, supporters and friends who have helped us keep going over that long period. We will also be planning a new shipment to Tanzania to all 3 projects , which should take place around the same time.

As always we would like to thanks those who have helped over the last year in giving there time, commitment and money to enable TFS to continue its important work. This also includes all the staff in the projects in Tanzania.

# Partnership Development and Support

## Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO)

**SIDO**, our main partner in Tanzania, was established in 1973 by the Tanzanian government to support the cooperative and artisan small and medium enterprise sector throughout the country by providing **technical and financial advice and assistance**. We have been working directly with them since 1994.

In 2023 SIDO Hq introduced a new accounting system which has created major issues with the operations of our centres and has adversely affected their performance. We have been in ongoing discussions to find ways to ameliorate the negative impact, but sadly all the centres have seen a fall out of supply.

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## MALAWI

This year's shipment is likely to be the last for the hugely impactful **Tools and Training for Livelihoods in Malawi** programme, coordinated by the **Global Concerns Trust (GCT)** and delivered by local partners **MACOHA** and **KODO**. At the end of the year GCT informed us that the Scottish government had changed the criteria for applications which means that the Malawi programme is no longer eligible.

This programme transforms the lives of the people who are trained and supported by it. The people are all with disabilities or with mental health issues.

They receive **vocational training** for 6 – 12 months, **accommodation and food** during the training, sessions on HIV awareness, sexual and reproductive health rights and gender awareness. They also learn how to make green manure and are taught business skills.

At the end of the training they receive the tools or sewing machine they need to start a business, a solar panel and working materials. **Over 96%** of those that have passed through this programme have established **successful businesses, improving greatly the lives of the graduates and their families and transforming how local people view people with disabilities.**

This year we shipped a consignment of 6 treadle bases, 2 sewing machines, 2 cane furniture making tool kits and 12 Haberdashery Kits. These joined tools kits and sewing machines from 3 Scottish tools groups and were sent to Malawi for newly qualified graduates from the Ntcheu and Nkhotakota districts.

We will work to support GCT in seeking alternative funding sources so that this transformative and inspire programme can continue.

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## **MWANZA SEWING AND TRAINING CENTER (MSTC)**

The period from April 2023 to March 2024 was challenging for MSTC. They sold 147 sewing machines, a small number of knitting machines and delivered training to 137 tailors. The difficult MSTC faced was the balance of stock – too many electrical and Zig Zag machines and not enough straight stitch (SS) machines which are the most popular among tailors.

The period from April 2023 to March 2024 was challenging for MSTC. They sold 147 sewing machines, a small number of knitting machines and delivered training to 137 tailors.

The difficult MSTC faced was the balance of stock – too many electrical and Zig Zag machines and not enough straight stitch (SS) machines which are the most popular among tailors. This situation will only change with more stock.

TFS has struggled to meet the demand for SS machines as our own stock has been depleted.

Workaid did supply machines to MSTC last year but again not enough SS machines to meet demand.

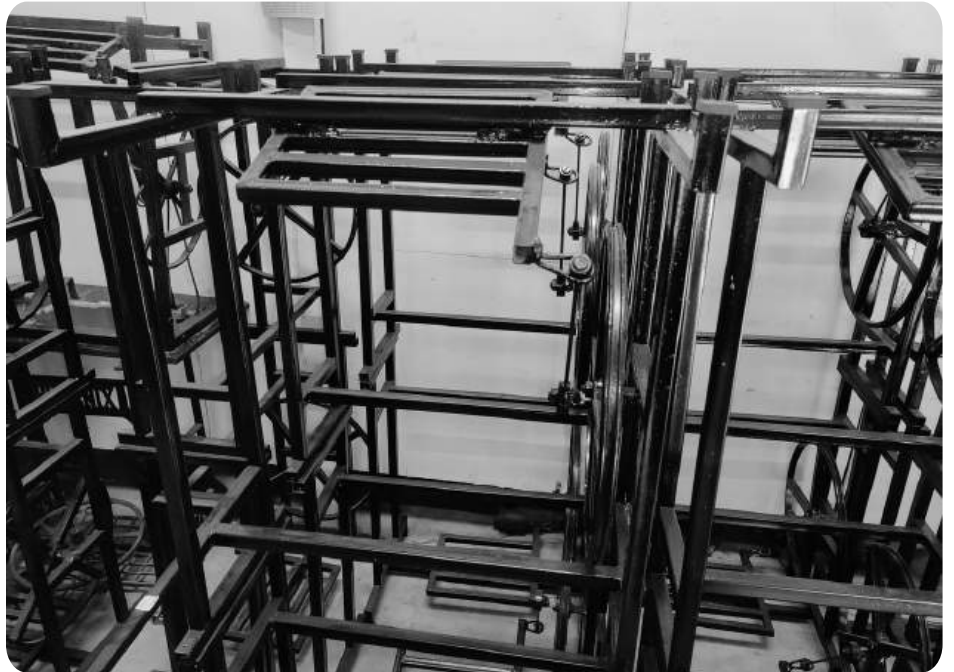


Figure 2: Local treadles produced in Mwanza for the project

TFS did not send a container to MSTC this year and are looking for support for MSTC from other tools organisations in the UK and the Netherlands. Despite the difficulties faced MSTC was still **able to continue to support its People With Disabilities (PWD) programme.**



Figure 3: Rebecca Reuben. She now has her own shop where she employs a trainer and two students



Figure 4: Athuman, (mechanic) and Angelina Mattias. She's now making women's clothing

## NJOMBE ARTISAN SUPPORT TRAINING CENTRE (NASTC)

The period from April 2023 to March 2024 was challenging for NASTC.

The centre ran one training for tailors with 20 participants – 19 women and one man and allocated 63 sewing machines. 16% of these went to groups and Vocational Training Centres and the rest to individual tailors, 85% of them women.

Tools sales were down on the previous year. From April 2023 to March 2024 the centre sold 485 hand tools, 8 electrical tools 1 starter kit and one piece of workshop machinery.

The **finances** of NASTC **remain quite healthy**, despite its income fluctuating significantly from one month to another according to the activities planned: tools promotions, training for tailors, visits at VTCs.

In April 23 the SIDO regional manager and the centre staff conducted a two day evaluation of the project in Njombe and Makambako town centres visiting tailors and artisans that had received sewing machines and tools from NASTC.

The beneficiaries were surprised and delighted by the visit because after care service is of vital important to them. They felt the project is for artisan support, not profit oriented. The evaluation helped the project better understand the **challenges artisans face and to see the impact of training the centre provides in increased income generating capacity**.

The PWD programme in Njombe continues to have a real **transformative impact** on the lives of the beneficiaries.

In January 2023 two young people with disabilities, Anna and Edmund, started their year-long course at the VTC in Njombe. They graduated in December and received a free sewing machine, funding and support from the NASTC staff to enable them to set up their own businesses.

Andrea was on the programme the previous year also completed his tailoring scholarship in December. The centre also provided 3 free sewing machines to the Deaf school in Njombe town and one free machine to a woman tailor with disabilities – Ms Theonila Sanga from Makambako.

The feedback from the PWD and the trainees has been extremely positive because they appreciate that project is really helpful to local tailors, as they get high quality sewing machines at affordable prices and for the PWDs they gain new hope in the fight against poverty.



*Figure 5: Peles Nyamla. She now makes sweaters, batik and flowers from fabric*



*Figure 6: Anna and Edmund on the PWD graduation day*

## IRINGA ARTISAN SUPPORT TRAINING CENTRE (IASTC)

In April 23 John and Sofia arrived in Iringa to set up our newest centre. They were for nearly three month training **Catherine** and **Mohamed** in **sewing machine and tool refurbishment** and in how to manage the project.

Their first two weeks were spent building and fitting out the workshop and in doing a stock take. Then on the 9th May the workshop was formally opened.

There is a **real benefit** in having two centres so close together – Iringa and Njombe are neighbouring regions– because the staff in the centers can **support** one another. So in May and June the NASTC visited the Iringa centre to conduct training and then, at the end of June, Catherine traveled with Sofia to Njombe to see how they managed their training programme.



Figure 7: Sofia and John in NASTC



Figure 8: IASTC Opening Day

In January 2023 SIDO recruited two people to run the centre. **Catherine Nyamba** was appointed to be the new workshop coordinator and **Mohamed Naly** the workshop mechanic. They started their sewing machine repair training in February mentored by Emmanuel Pama, the junior mechanic from the Mwanza centre.

In their first year IASTC sold **66 sewing machines, 635 hand tools, 53 electrical tools, 5 starter kits and 2 pieces of machinery** generating an income **21 million Tanzanian shillings**. They held two week long training programmes for tailors – 20 attending the first and 18 the second.

They also conducted two **promotional visits** – one to Ilula-Kilolo in July and another to Mafinga in October. Both proved very successful in boosting sales. The first two young people with disabilities were selected for one year vocational training in tailoring early in 2024 and started their course in March. The situation with SIDO's new accounting system hampered the development of the centre nevertheless it has got off to a promising start.



*Figure 9: John teaching Mohammed saw sharpening*



*Figure 10: John training Catherine sewing machine mechanics*

# Volunteers Report

**Volunteering** is central to all that TFS is and does. For nearly 40 years people have come to Tools from around the world and across the street; all ages, backgrounds and abilities. They bring their **energy, passion, interest, curiosity, humanity** and **humour**. They come to learn, to share, to build a better world and it works because we share values: empathy, compassion and a desire to create sustainable development.

We have our regular team of local and supported volunteers attending each week. They are the backbone of our work force, some with many years experience of volunteering with Tools.

They bring a sense of continuity to the workshop and their skills and expertise are a real asset in supporting and training our international volunteers and in ensuring high quality outputs.

We now have a growing team of local volunteers with specific expertise in areas that really benefit our work – such as electrical testing or reshafting hammers and axes. This year was the first time in over 20 year that we had no volunteers through the EU youth volunteering programme.

Figure 11: Some volunteers



That programme had a massive impact on our work and the work of many hundreds of organisations throughout the UK working to improve people's lives. It also had a massive impact of the lives of the volunteers. TFS will continue to campaign for this programme to be reinstated.

Despite this loss we were able to recruit 3 full time year long volunteers from France through the **French government programme Service Civique** with the support of VISAAD. We continued with our long standing relationship with **Eirene**. We now share one of their volunteers with the Centre for Global Education in Belfast – a mutual beneficial arrangement.

We are extremely grateful to **Sofia Tagliani** who after finishing her one year solidarity corp volunteering with us agreed to come back and take on the role of partnership worker for a year which she did brilliantly.



Figure 12: Some volunteers

Many thanks to all our volunteers – local, core, international and supported for their dedication and hard work.

# Supported Volunteers Programme

Since April 2023 we have continued to have a very full programme with our **volunteers with support needs**.

We are grateful to the **Belfast Trust** who continue to fund 6 slots for **6 individuals** with a learning disability. This enables us to employ 2 of our volunteers on a part-time basis to coordinate this programme. At the end of March 2024 we were providing placements to 8 individuals from the Belfast Trust area.

We provide a total of **17 places** each week to people with support needs. We have 4 slots each on Monday and Thursday mornings and afternoons.

In addition, we also have one volunteer who comes every Tuesday and cooks lunch for us every two weeks.

Our volunteers have a mix of **support needs and abilities**. Some have had a brain injury, some have a learning disability, some are on the autism spectrum, some have chronic fatigue and some have mental health needs.

Some of the supported volunteers stay only for a few months but most of our current supported volunteers have been with us for at least 2 years, some of them many years.



*Figures 13 and 14: Michael (above) and Larry*

The volunteers learn skills of simple repairing and cleaning of hand tools and sewing machines or building wooden boxes. The tasks our volunteers undertake are **matched to their abilities**. The volunteers find it therapeutic to be doing something useful and to help people who are disadvantaged on the other side of the world.

They also have a **social experience** meeting the other local and international volunteers. Volunteers have said that the experience increases their personal confidence, social skills as well as their manual skills:

*“My son benefits a lot from meeting all the new volunteers from different countries. He bounces out of here after a day’s work.”*

Volunteer’s mom speech

*“The best thing about ‘Tools’ is coming together with other volunteers. I enjoy it big time here. I’ve learn’t new skills like fixing and repairing things. There is nothing I don’t like at ‘Tools’, I love coming here”*

Volunteer speech

In this last year the supported volunteers have made a very big contribution towards the shipments of refurbished hand tools and sewing machines to our overseas partners. In particular the supported volunteers have refurbished large quantities of horticultural tools for our centres in the Njombe and Iringa regions of Tanzania.

We have in the last year started to get more referrals from the **Belfast Trust**, particularly for people with a learning disability. We continue to support volunteers referred to us by Leonard Cheshire which supports people with an alcohol related brain injury. We also have volunteers who have been referred to us by **Cedar Foundation, L’Arche, Orchardville, Sense, Triangle** and **Bryson Care**.

# Fundraising Report

This financial year we had a smaller number of funding applications approved, but they were very significant with substantial sums being committed by some of our regular partners.

The **Belfast Health and Social Care Trust** support for some aspects for our **Supported Volunteer** Programme has been made recurrent i.e. it will continue to run from year to year, subject to satisfactory monitoring of outputs.

The **ESD programme** benefitted greatly from continued support from **Irish Aid and from Roger Waters**. **Irish Aid** funding was increased this year to allow a greater number of working hours per week, to permit the continued growth of the programme.

We are very grateful for the on-going support from **NIPSA (Northern Ireland Public Service Alliance)** and Unicorn for the workshops in Njombe and Iringa, between them covering all the costs of these projects. The contribution of the **Halifax Building Society** (for our Training Coordinator) is also gratefully acknowledged.

In November, we obtained funding from **Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful** through their Tackling Textiles initiative. This short-term funding covered the cost of supplying 20 sewing machines and accessories to community groups across Northern Ireland, for them to use to extend the life of clothing and reduce the volume of textiles going to waste streams. This was a highly successful and well publicised campaign which we plan to repeat next year.

During 2023-24, we received funding from the following organisations:

FUNDER	PROJECT
Belfast Health and Social Care Trust	Supported Volunteer Programme
Halifax Foundation	Training Coordinator
Irish Aid	ESD Coordinator
Keep NI Beautiful	Tackling Textiles
NIPSA	Tanzania Centres
Roger Waters	Education for Sustainable Development
Thomas Catto Charity	Supported Volunteer Programme
Unicorn Coop	Tanzania Centres

The Fundraising committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all the organisations listed above, and the many individuals and donors who have so generously supported the work of Tools for Solidarity during the year. We rely entirely on your support to be able to continue our life changing work.

# Financial Report

The Financial Year 2023-24 saw a **small profit** after the large profit of the previous year. The most striking change was the significant **drop in both Income and Expenditure**.

Apart from that, on the Income side this was due to large drops in Grants (Both EVS and other Grants) and Donations (no Donation from Roger Waters) and regarding to Expenditure there was a significant drop in the Purchase of Parts & Materials.

No Overseas Payments made.

Both Vehicle and Salary expenditure reduced.

The Project Costs were offset by no Shipping Costs during the year.

Going forward the Loan Repayments will finish in 2024-25.

EVS Grants have ceased which will have an impact on total Income.

We should brake even in 24-25 due to a projected increase in Donations and the Income streams from Irish Government and BHSCT Grants.

On the Expenditure side issues with Shipping and Project costs in setting up Dodoma will stretch our financial stability without additional income.

After 24-25 a small, but steady loss is envisaged unless we find other income streams.

We are very reliant on the income from the Irish Government and BHSCT and by way of ensuring our financial security must ensure we comply with the Loan conditions of those two key funders.

The improved Donations figure is almost certainly a one off event which will not be repeated in 25-26.

Overall we made a small profit in the financial year. Both income and expenditure dropped significantly.

The expectation remains that we will have a small, but significant, shortfall year on year without identifying new income streams.

Current account	£7,312
Building Society	£99,891
Petty Cash	£165
Paypal	£855

**Net Financial Assets £108,223**

### INCOME 2023-2024

Building Society/Bank Interest	£2,448
Donations	£10,414
Grants (EVS)	£14,959
Grants Other	£41,794
Rent Income	£8,260
Scrap Metal Sales	£1,072
VAT Refunds	£1,924
Sewing Machine/Tools sales	£2,068
Other	£1,125
Yarn	£1,224
Gift Aid	£545
Foreign Payments	£205
Fund Raising	£320
Energy Savings	£2,929
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>£89,286</b>



# Refugees and Asylum Seekers Training Programme (RASP)

Tools for Solidarity started the first **Refugee and Asylum Seeker programme (RASP)** in 2018 but had to stop for two years because of the pandemic.

This year we ran two training programmes in November 23 and March 24th. The course was designed for five participants and consisted of three days of **basic learning on sewing machine refurbishing and sewing**. The aim is to support refugees and asylum seekers in feeling **welcomed** in the local society, encourage their participation, and provide them with new skills for their future. The training was completely **free of charge** for the participants, who have also been reimbursed for the transport costs to the Belfast workshop. At the end of the three days they also received a plastic sewing machine, some sewing material and a certificate of completion.

The **three-day training** was mentored by John, with the support of the sewing section volunteers: Melie, Zoe, Karina and Nora. The volunteers provided individual **support** to each participant during the training. A wonderful occasion for them to share the knowledge they acquired since the beginning of their volunteering. On the third day, thanks to Elisabeth, the participants received training how to use their new machine. The participants enjoyed both repairing the sewing machines and trying their hand at some simple sewing projects.

The first training in November was very well attended by the 4 women and one man recruited. They all finished the training successfully and each received their sewing machine and certificate.

We will have to give careful consideration about how to ensure that future programmes are fully attended despite a minimum language level being required, one of the goals of the training was to give the people an **opportunity to meet and talk together in English**. Overall, this aspect was achieved because, especially during the breaks and lunchtime, the participants chatted and shared.

We value also the fact of having encouraged some of the people to **try something new**, not only in terms of manual skills but also in increasing their confidence in moving through the city to find the workshop, interacting with some local and international volunteers, communicating in person, by phone and through the emails. The feedback we received from the participants has been very positive.

*Figures 15, 16 and 17:  
Volunteers with  
asylum seekers*



# Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

This report provides information regarding **Tools For Solidarity Education for Sustainable Development** (ESD) programme for 2023/24. The work of the ESD group during this period was funded by **Irish Aid and Roger Waters**. We are very grateful for their support.

The **objectives** of the ESD programme include:

- Raising **awareness** of the issues of inequality, poverty, climate change, exploitation of natural resources and overconsumption.
- Promoting **sustainability**.
- Encouraging everyone to reflect on how our lives and **actions impact** the world and others.
- Engendering the ability to **think critically** and enact solutions to these issues and changes to our lifestyles.

This has been a year of mixed fortunes for the ESD programme. A large amount of excellent work was completed with schools and community groups, as detailed below, but there were also some staffing difficulties.

After 4 wonderful years, our Education Officer Roisin Sloan decided to seek new challenges at the end of the 2023 academic year. A new Officer was appointed ready for September 2023, but had to resign at the end of September due to health issues.

Finding the right person to replace her took some time, but we were very pleased to welcome Ms **Sue Bamford** in January 2024. Sue comes with a wealth of experience in development education and has made a strong impression since then.

We would also like to thank **Nora Treichel**, a European volunteer who made a huge contribution to the work through the year. Nora worked two days a week for TFS and three days for the Centre for Global Education, an arrangement which will continue into 2024-25.



*Figure 18: Sue Bamford (left) and Nora Treichel (right)*

## PRIMARY SCHOOLS, AFTER SCHOOLS CLUBS and COMMUNITY GROUPS

In the academic year 2023-24, Tools for Solidarity delivered the ESD programme to 7 primary schools, reaching a total of 650 pupils. All of these included multiple sessions, with a minimum of 4 sessions per school. These numbers are well down on the previous year, due to the time when no Education Officer was in post.

Given these challenges, the Education Officer focused on what could be achieved in the timeframe available, focusing on the Adult and Community group sector, and Youth Groups. This led to delivering multiple sessions to 13 new community groups, and the development of a large project in collaboration with Belfast City Council. These groups were adult leisure groups, community activism groups, council-run community programmes, youth and womens groups.



Figure 19: Sue Bamford at Hazelwood College



Figure 20: Sue Bamford at Holy Rosary Primary School

## ESD FUTURE PROJECTIONS

TFS is looking forward to the new academic year 2024-25, with a stable ESD team in place and able to build on the foundations laid this year.

The **primary school programme** will be fully back on track, but the new emphasis on adult community work will also continue.

A major **Fashion Show** is planned for September 2024, and garments from the Fashion Show will go on exhibition in October / November meaning their production is not limited to the one showing on 27th September but provide an ongoing archive of the project.

**Belfast City Council** sees this as a pilot project and due to the extremely favourable feedback already received from both participants and council community workers, BCC has committed to run the program **again in 2025**. This fills a space in the ESD timetable when schools are on holiday (June - September).



*Figure 21: Sue Bamford working on the fashion show along community groups*

*Figure 22: Mikaela Ellwood on a bowtie dress from the fashion show*



# SPECIAL THANKS

**We appreciate all the help our supporters provided to us during the last year, especially next organisations and individuals**

Halifax Foundation for NI

Belfast City Council

Unicorn Food Co-Op

Belfast HSCT

Pam and Tara  
Patchwork Goose

Tim McGarry

South Belfast Quakers

SIDO

Mr R. Waters

Belfast Tool Library

Northern Ireland  
Resource  
Network

Céline Persico

Mr and Mrs Finney

Belfast Repair Cafe

Roy Blair

All Schools and  
Colleges from ESD

Irish Aid

Emma Duncan and  
the Global Concerns  
Trust

NIPSA

Belfast City Council  
Recycling Centres

Thomas Catto  
Charitable Settlement

Friends of Mourne  
Grange

Tony and Brid Weeks

British Council

Volunteer Now

International Synergies

Jaap Prins

G Sloan

Colm Gallagher

TFS volunteers

Phillip Allen

Keep NI Beautiful

North Down Recycling  
Centres

North Belfast Quakers

Ralf Zeigler and Eirene

St. Malachy's Old Boys  
Association

Causeway Council

Geoff and Tina Claxton

Julian Sanders

Ecorys

Jenny Groves

Tools for Self Reliance  
Garvald

Attracta Walsh

Inner Wheel  
Ballymena

Ms S Saraswati



**Tools For Solidarity**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100614

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# Annual return

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Tools For Solidarity Charity Number 100614

Unqualified report for a charity and has an income of £250,000 or less

I was asked by the charity to act as independent examiner of the Charities Accounts in December 2018 (email request available). I agreed providing I had the standing to act as examiner. I confirmed eligibility by satisfying the following conditions

- The Charity had an income of less than £250000 but is a company thus allowing accruals accounts that can be independently examined
- The constitution of TFS allowed for the appointment of an independent examiner

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Tools For Solidarity

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 03 to 05.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

☐ examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act ☐ follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act ☐ state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act

2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records

3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

CCNI ARR07 – supporting document 5 August 2016

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D Moore".

Name: Diarmuid Moore

Relevant professional qualification or body: Not applicable

Address: 22 Thirlmere Gardens Belfast BT15 5EF

Date: 7/1/24

**Tools For Solidarity**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100614

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# Accounts

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# Tools For Solidarity

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS - Company Number: NI52306 (NI)

1st APRIL 2022 to 31st MARCH 2023

PROFIT & LOSS REPORT - Registered Charity Number: NIC100614

Including Statement of Financial Affairs

2021-22	INCOME	2022-23	Restricted	Unrestricted	Notes
£721	Building Society/Bank Interest	£965	£965		
£19,412	Donations	£19,600	£10,000	£9,600	1
£0	Grants (EVS)	£26,761		£26,761	2
£16,861	Grants Other	£73,687	£72,987	£700	3
£0	Other Income	£0			
£10,722	Rent Income	£9,760		£9,760	4
£1,392	Scrap Metal Sales	£1,054		£1,054	
£3,306	VAT Refunds	£2,958		£2,958	
£2,851	Sewing Machine/Tools sales	£4,698		£4,698	
£914	Gift Aid	£989		£989	
£715	Foreign Payments	£365	£365		
£0	Fund Raising	£620		£620	
£2,012	Energy Savings	£2,404		£2,404	
£100	Private Loan	£0			
<b>£59,006</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£143,861</b>			

2021-22	EXPENDITURE	2022-23			
	<u>Direct Expenses</u>				
£1,340	Purchase, Parts, Materials	16404	£1,723	£15,200	7
£2,985	Fixed Assets	2080	£2,080		5
£113	Repairs	0			
<b>£4,438</b>	<b>Total Direct Expenses</b>	<b>18484</b>			
	<u>Overheads</u>				
£54	Financial Fees	£12	£3	£9	7
£2,945	Field Trip Costs	£1,486		£1,486	6
£3,463	Insurance	£3,725	£1,242	£2,483	7
£0	Fund Raising Expenses	£0			
£667	Legal & Professional Costs	£1,545	£515	£1,030	7
£3,750	Loan Repayment	£5,000	£5,000		
£4,044	Light & Heat	£3,960	£1,320	£2,640	7
£1,282	Overseas Payments	£2,218	£2,218		
£4,875	Rent, Rates & Water Charges	£5,286	£1,762	£3,524	7
£28,580	Salary	£29,798	£29,798		8
£82	Shipping	£4,902	£4,902		
£56	Stationary & Postage	£89		£89	
£418	Sundry	£335		£335	
£943	Telephone	£1,016	£508	£508	7
£5,332	Travel & Subsistence	£4,490	£4,041	£449	7
£9,783	Vehicle Fuel/Motor Expenses	£6,251	£2,084	£4,167	7
£22,503	Volunteer Expenses	£16,217	£11,352	£4,865	9
<b>£88,777</b>	<b>Total Overhead Expenses</b>	<b>£86,330</b>			
<b>£93,215</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£104,814</b>			
<b>-£34,209</b>	<b>Profit/Loss</b>	<b>£39,047</b>			

**ANNUAL ACCOUNTS - Company Number: NI52306 (NI)**

**1st APRIL 2022 to 31st MARCH 2023**

**ASSETS & LIABILITIES - Registered Charity Number: NIC100614**

<b>2021-22</b>	<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	
£375,100	<b>Fixed Assets (Premises)</b>	£375,100	5
	<b>Current Assets</b>		
£0	Van	£0	10
£5,145	Current Account	£8,855	
£55,878	Building Society	£91,443	
£31	Petty Cash	£149	
£1,179	Paypal	£833	
£38,377	Debtors	£14,959	12
<b>£100,610</b>	<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>£116,239</b>	
<b>2021-22</b>	<b>LIABILITIES</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	
£37,181	Creditors	£11,034	11
<b>£37,181</b>	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>£11,034</b>	
<b>£63,429</b>	<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES</b>	<b>£105,205</b>	

**Tools For Solidarity**

**ANNUAL ACCOUNTS - Company Number: NI52306 (NI)**

**1st APRIL 2022 to 31st MARCH 2023**

**BALANCE SHEET - Registered Charity Number: NIC100614**

<b>2021-22</b>		<b>2022-23</b>	
	<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
£383,218	Tangible Assets	£376,600	5
	<b>Current Assets</b>		
£38,377	Debtors	£14,959	12
£62,233	Cash in Hand	£101,280	13
<b>£100,610</b>	<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>£116,239</b>	
	<b>Creditors</b>		
<b>-£25,931</b>	Amount falling within one year	<b>-£11,034</b>	
£74,679	<b>Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)</b>	£105,205	
£457,897	<b>Total Assets Less Current Liabilities</b>	£481,805	
	<b>Creditors</b>		
<b>-£11,250</b>	Amount falling due more than one yr	£0	
£446,647	<b>Total Funds/Net Assets</b>	£481,805	

## Notes to the Accounts

- 1 £10,000 donated by Roger Waters for ESD programme
- 2 Final payment from the EU – European Voluntary Service for the support of International Volunteers
- 3 Other Grants incl - BHSC (€15062), Irish Govt (€13110), NIPSA (€10200), Ulster Gdn. Village (€5000), AE Harvey (€5000), Halifax (€4743), Unicorn (€3500), AN Ferguson Trust (€3,500), Souter Trust (3500), SJP Foundation (€2500), Danske Bank (€2034), Chrysalis (€2500), Archer Trust (€1000)
- 4 Rental Income from Volunteer House and Storage Warehouse
- 5 Fixed Assets include Volunteer house, Workshop and Shared ownership of Storage Warehouse
- 6 Field trip to visit TFS projects in Tanzania
- 7 Overhead costs attributed to indirect/direct costs on an apportionment basis
- 8 Salaries for ESD Worker, Overseas Project Co-ordinator plus Key Workshop and Office Staff
- 9 Vol Expenses incl. supported volunteers, core volunteers, EVS volunteers, out of pocket expenses
- 10 Motor Vehicle depreciation by £2058 a year (5 year cycle)
- 11 Creditors include loan repayment, committed expenditure for ESD programme, RASP and Salaries
- 12 Debtors include Work Aid, Rent Income from New Workshop
- 13 Cash assets include £90,000 held in Building Society

**Tools For Solidarity**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100614

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# Annual report

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# Annual Report

## 2022/2023

**Tools for Solidarity**



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# BACKGROUND INFORMATION

## PRINCIPLES

Underlying all the activities of Tools for Solidarity are the principles and values of self-help and empowerment, individual and global equality, environmental awareness, inclusiveness, voluntarism, and the right to challenge/oppose activities/actions that contradict these values.

## MISSION STATEMENT

TFS supports self-reliance by providing high quality refurbished tools to working people overseas, promoting international solidarity, and challenging global inequalities through a critical examination of development issues, environmental sustainability and ethical working practices.

## Our Aims



### Encourage

Promote self-reliance by furnishing overseas projects with high quality recycled hand tools and sewing machines.



### Engage

Involve individuals, organisations and the public in the development and environmental issues. Utilise working methods that develop and support a sense of international solidarity and promote volunteering and ethical working practices.



### Ensure

Tools For Solidarity will have appropriate premises, personnel and funding to meet the agreed outputs and objectives of the organisation.

Solidarity in practice is the heart of TFS's work. You can contribute in a very practical way by donating hand tools or sewing machines, by making a donation towards essential shipping and running costs, by providing materials or by volunteering.

*We thank you for your continued support in our efforts to contribute to the TFS.*

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## CONTACT

Tools For Solidarity

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+44 028 9543 5972

[tools.belfast@myphone.coop](mailto:tools.belfast@myphone.coop)

[toolsforsolidarity.com](http://toolsforsolidarity.com)



# CHAIRPERSON'S ADDRESS

This year has been a period to consolidate the changes from previous years and build on the successes that the organisation has achieved.

It has been our first year with new organisations supplying volunteers from France and Germany. We also are thankful for our long standing relationship with Eirene who have sent volunteers to TFS for the last 25 years. This has provided the base for us to look to respond to additional requests from Tanzania to develop more tool refurbishment centres within the country. At present we are in negotiations to establish another centre next year, in Iringa region.

The other big successes have been the increase in placements to people in our supported volunteer programme. With some funding this now gives opportunities for us to support 32 half day slots within our workshop. The ESD programme has also developed new educational material to raise awareness of climate change and inequality – 2 of the biggest issues facing us all.

Financially it has been a better year, for TFS, than last year and gives the organisation the resources to plan for the future. This may well include us looking to replace the van which has been costly to maintain in the last 12 months.

Both projects in Tanzania are going very well with high demand, the provision of training and the production of local high quality treadles. While it is a slow process we are beginning to clear the build of donations and improve the storage facilities within the organisation.



# CHAIRPERSON'S ADDRESS

The collection of sewing machines has increased with the Lions club, in Malihide, collecting 100's of them. We have also had donations of a large amount of wool from Walter in Kilkeel and with the help of Jud, a volunteer from Spain , we have been generating some income for the organisation. We will of course be sending boxes of wool to Tanzania to knitting groups within the project area.

As ever a big thank you to all the people who have helped us over the last year. The coming year promises to be as full as ever and we are fortunate to have a dedicated team of people to help TFS deliver on its mission.

# PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT

## MWANZA SEWING AND TRAINING CENTRE (MSTC)

The period from April 2022 to March 2023 was quite positive for MSTC in terms of trainings and sewing machines allocations. Despite a shortage of sewing machines during the first few months, the involvement of Work Aid allowed the centre to resume activities at its usual pace. Work Aid sent its first consignment of 248 sewing machines in August 2022 and another 201 sewing machines in February 2023. The centre ran 7 trainings and allocated 277 machines, of which 88% went to women and 38% to Vocational Training Centres (VTC) and groups. The following map shows the regions of the allocations.

Straight stitch machines (SS) are the most popular among tailors. The staff struggles to find a balance in responding to this demand. This results in a faster reduction of SS stock than other types of machines.

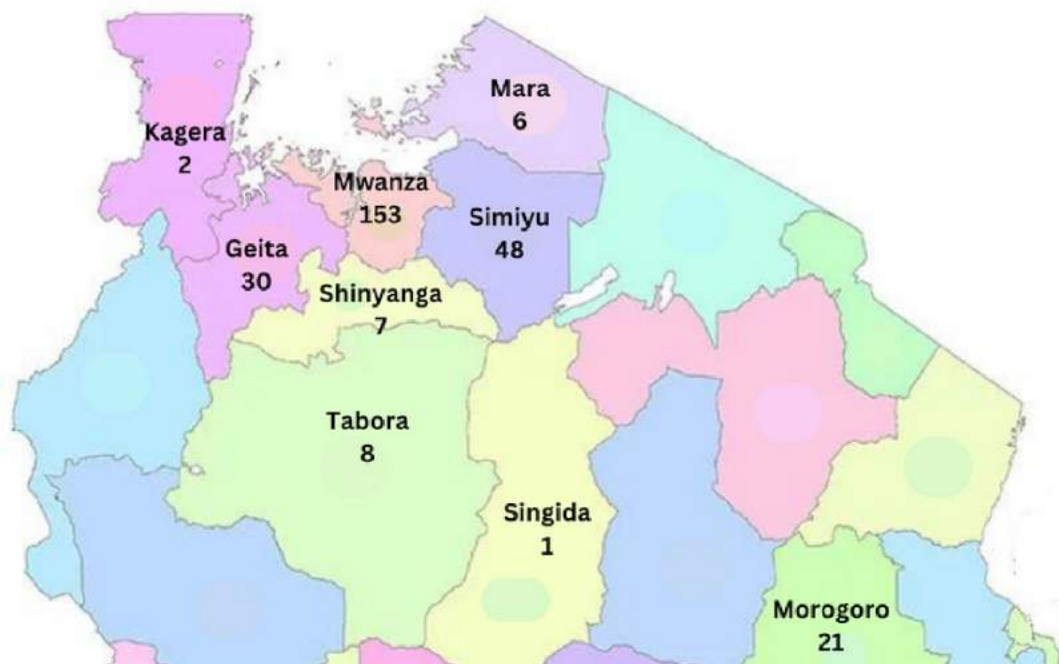


Figure 1: MSTC sewing machines allocations in the different regions from April 2022 to March 2023.

# PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT

During the first months the allocations of sewing machines to tailors with disabilities (PWD) did not show any remarkable progress. However since September 2022 there has been a change. MSTC trained and allocated sewing machines free of charge to 12 tailors with disabilities, quickly catching up with the targets set in the previous Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and in the one signed with Work Aid.

In April 2022, 2 young women, Ashura and Sarya (both with hearing impairment) started a tailoring course for one year in the Rosemiriam Dagg vocational training centre in Musoma (4 hours away from Mwanza). The costs (accommodation, tuition fees, food, etc.) are fully covered by the reserves of MSTC. The two girls are expected to graduate in April 2023, attend one week of training at MSTC and receive a sewing machine each. In October 2022 two other young people with disabilities, Fadhili and Bertha, started their course at the Rosemiriam Dagg Centre supported by MSTC.

MSTC is a successful centre. The finances are healthy as they have nearly 19 million TZS (over £ 6000) in the bank at the end of March 2023.

## FEEDBACK FROM THE BENEFICIARY TAILORS



The girls in the photo in the previous page suffer from hearing and speaking impairment. They are receiving training and support by a woman called Ester Sanga with the help of her daughter Jessica. Ester lives on the outskirts of Mwanza and started on her own helping young women with disabilities and those women with few opportunities to make a living. Some of these girls do not receive any support from their families and struggle in every aspect of life. Two of them are also young single mothers.

## NJOMBE ARTISAN SUPPORT TRAINING CENTRE (NASTC)

The period from April 2022 to March 2023 was very positive for NASTC. The centre ran 3 trainings for tailors with 74 participants and allocated 131 sewing machines. 12% of these went to groups and Vocational Training Centres and the rest to individual tailors, 95% of them women. The following map shows the villages, town and districts of the allocations.

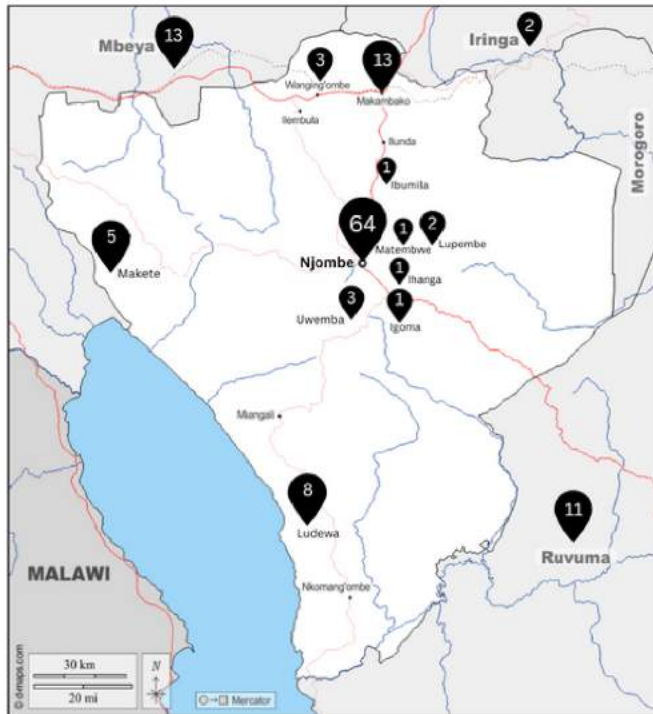


Figure 2: NASTC allocations of sewing machines within the Njombe region and in the regions of Ruvuma, Mbeya and Iringa. 3 allocations of machines do not appear in the map. The buyers came from non specified rural villages in the region.

In December 2022 a new 2-year MoU was signed between TFS and SIDO. This new agreement included also the establishment of a new centre in the neighbouring region of Iringa. TFS sent a container which arrived in Tanzania at the beginning of February 2023 with a load of 121 sewing machines and over 1000 tools and items for NASTC.



# PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT

The other half of the container went to the new Iringa centre. NASTC staff actively participated in the offloading and recording of the boxes for both centres.

The past year was also positive in terms of tools sales. From April 2022 to March 2023 the centre sold 1,400 hand tools and 16 electrical tools. The tools promotions in the districts of Makete and Makambako were effective in bringing good-quality tools to different areas and collecting the feedback from artisans. NASTC is now well connected to these districts through a network of contact people. As a result of the good sales, the finances of NASTC are quite healthy, despite its income fluctuates significantly from one month to another according to the activities planned: tools promotions, training for tailors, visits at VTCs... Following the closure of the Ruvuma ASTC project it was decided that all the resources of the centre would be transferred to Njombe. The equipment left in Songea amounts to 62 sewing machines, 272 tools and the bank account balance is TZS 7,362,045 (£ 2,408). In February 2023 3 Million from RASTC bank account was transferred to SIDO Iringa as start-up capital to set up the centre. This money will be reimbursed to NASTC.

NASTC's expenditure is more stable except when they have to pay for the clearance and transportation of the container from Dar es Salaam to Njombe. For the last container the project paid TZS 14,647,599 (£ 4,773). This is the reason why the account balance at the end of March 2023 is only TZS 2,611,785 (£ 851).

The PWD programme in Njombe is making good progress. In January 2022 two young people with disabilities, Andrea and Doris, had started their year-long course at the VTC in Njombe.



# PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT

They graduated in December 2022. Afterwards Andrea won a scholarship to attend one additional year in the VTC and Doris received from NASTC a sewing machine and a small amount of capital to set up her tailoring business. The workshop coordinator assisted her in renting the shop and making the first purchases. Another two people, Anna and Edmund, started in the VTC in January 2023.

## FEEDBACK FROM THE BENEFICIARY TAILORS

Peles Nyamle lives on the outskirts of Njombe. She has been working as a tailor for 7 years making dresses, sweaters and fabric flower decorations. Her creativity leads her to always explore new techniques to manufacture different types of products. She learnt through YouTube how to make batiks, a technique to decorate cloths using wax and dye. In 2022 she received a multi stitch sewing machine from NASTC with which she wants to start sewing batik dresses with embroidered hems. Her business is going well, she owns a shop which she shares with another tailor. She also looking to create a group with other tailors.



# PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT

## IRINGA ARTISAN SUPPORT TRAINING CENTRE (IASTC)

In April 2022 TFS and our local partner SIDO engaged in discussions to open a new Artisan Support Centre in Iringa, in the Southern Highlands of Tanzania. This is a mainly rural area where artisans and tailors face many difficulties in improving their income generation due to a lack of training opportunities and good quality tools and sewing machines. In fact the distance between Njombe town and Iringa town is 4 hours by bus, making it not viable for people from Iringa to go to Njombe to access services there.



Figure 3: IASTC's workshop's sign



Figure 4: December 2022 shipment to Iringa & Njombe

A MoU with SIDO Regional Office was signed in October 2022 and a container, split between Iringa and Njombe, was shipped from Belfast in December. IASTC received 148 sewing machines, 2720 hand tools, 44 electrical tools/items, 4 pieces of machinery and 11 tool starter kits. The new centre is modelled on the Njombe centre. The target groups are women tailors, young people in VTCs, artisans with fewer opportunities and people with disabilities.



# PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT

In January 2023 SIDO recruited two people to run the centre. Catherine Nyamba was appointed to be the new workshop coordinator and Mohamed Naly the workshop mechanic. They started their sewing machine repair training in February mentored by Emmanuel Pama, the junior mechanic from the Mwanza centre. The experience acquired over the past few years by the staff from MSTC and NASTC is crucial for the establishment of this new centre in Iringa. During the first months Janeth, the workshop coordinator of NASTC, travelled to Iringa on a recurrent basis to deliver training to Catherine in how to manage the centre, assess the artisans requests, process the orders etc.

TFS field trip is planned for the period between April to July 2023. The main goals of the field trip are to fit out the workshop, train the new staff in tools refurbishment, develop procedures with SIDO Iringa and the staff to manage promotions, sales and monitoring.



Figure 5: Image of one of the trainings hosted during the Field Trip 2023

# PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT

## MALAWI

Towards the end of the year we sent our last shipment of tools and sewing machines to Malawi. These will go to graduates of the Tools and Training for Livelihoods in Malawi programme, coordinated by the Global Concerns Trust (GCT), funded by the Scottish government and delivered by local partners MACOHA and KODO.

This programme transforms the lives of the people who are trained and supported by it. The people are all with disabilities or with mental health issues. They receive vocational training for 6 – 12 months, accommodation and food during the training, sessions on HIV awareness, sexual and reproductive health rights and gender awareness.

They also learn how to make green manure and are taught business skills. At the end of the training they receive the tools or sewing machine they need to start a business, a solar panel and working materials. Over 96% of those that have passed through this programme have established successful businesses, improving greatly the lives of the graduates and their families and transforming how local people view people with disabilities.



Figure 6: Women from the Kwathu Project after receiving materials and fabrics from TFS



# PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT

This year we shipped a small consignment - 6 treadles and 9 Haberdashery Kits. These joined tools kits and sewing machines from 4 Scottish tools groups and were sent to Malawi.

Sadly the future of this programme is unsure. Funding from the Scottish government has ended and there is uncertainty about when a new round of funding will be launched and if GCT will be able to ensure further funding. We will work with GCT to explore whatever funding opportunities may be available to keep this unique and highly successful programme going.

In 2022 we received a request for help from Melina Chinyama, a young woman in southern Malawi who decided to start a small campaign to provide reusable pads to women in prison and young girls.

She got together with a group of women to set up the Kwathu Project. We sent her two sewing machines, cloth and sewing accessories and the group are now working hard to improve the lives of local women.



Figure 7: Melina Chinyama posing in front of the box TFS sent for her association 'the Kwathu Project'

# VOLUNTEERS REPORT



Volunteering is central to all that TFS is and does. For nearly 40 years people have come to Tools from around the world and across the street; all ages, backgrounds and abilities. They bring their energy, passion, interest, curiosity, humanity and humour. They come to learn, to share, to build a better world and it works because we share values: empathy, compassion and a desire to create sustainable development.

We have our regular team of local and supported volunteers attending each week. They are the backbone of our work force, some with many years experience of volunteering with Tools. They bring a sense of continuity to the workshop and their skills and expertise are a real asset in supporting and training our international volunteers and in ensuring high quality outputs.

Our last European Solidarity Corp volunteer Lena from France finished her service just before Christmas. Tools has benefitted enormously from all of the volunteers that have come to us through this and previous European programmes



# VOLUNTEERS REPORT

Over the years more than 100 young people from all over Europe and beyond have brought their enthusiasm, energy, passion and dynamism to our organisation and helped create what it is today. There were real concerns about how we would be able to continue to host international volunteers or afford to do so. However thanks to our long term partnership with Eirene and new partships with VISA -AD in France and Fachstelle Internationale Freiwilligendienste in Germany we have nearly a full quota of international volunteers.

Many thanks to all our volunteers – local, core, international and supported for their dedication and hard work.



# SUPPORTED VOLUNTEERS REPORT

Since April 2022 we have had a very full programme with our volunteers with support needs.

The Belfast Trust now funds 6 slots for 6 individuals with a learning disability on our supported volunteer programme. We currently have 7 people from the Belfast Trust area, one of whom comes twice a week.

We have agreed to provide a total of 17 places each week to people with support needs. We have 4 slots each on Monday and Thursday mornings and afternoons. In addition we also have one volunteer who comes every Tuesday.

Our volunteers have a mix of support needs and abilities. Some have had a brain injury, some have a learning disability, some are on the autism spectrum, some have chronic fatigue and some have mental health needs. Some of the supported volunteers stay only for a few months but most of our current supported volunteers have been with us since before April 2022. Some have been with us for many years.



Figure 9: Michael Weir, Supported Volunteer



# SUPPORTED VOLUNTEERS REPORT

We have in the last year developed a good relationship with one project run by Leonard Cheshire which supports people with an alcohol related brain injury. We also have volunteers who have been referred to us by Cedar Foundation, L'Arche, Orchardville, Sense, Triangle, Bryson Care and directly from the Belfast Trust.

The volunteers learn skills of simple repairing and cleaning of hand tools and sewing machines or building wooden boxes. The tasks our volunteers undertake are matched to their abilities. The volunteers find it therapeutic to be doing something useful and to help people who are disadvantaged on the other side of the world. They also have a social experience meeting the other local and international volunteers. Volunteers have found that the experience increases their personal confidence, social skills as well as their manual skills.

The supported volunteers have made a very large contribution towards the shipments of refurbished hand tools to our overseas partners. They have been delighted to see crates leaving our workshop this year and to learn about the recipient projects in presentations given by our staff who recently went to Tanzania.



*Figure 10: Thomas and Ariel,  
Supported Volunteers*

# FUNDRAISING GROUP

This financial year started still under a number of coronavirus pandemic restrictions, and with the attention of funders still very much directed to mitigation measures rather than general funding. Despite this we had a successful year in approaching funders to finance our various programmes.

Perhaps the most important development was to attract on-going funding from the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust for some aspects for our Supported Volunteer Programme. Congratulations for this are mostly due to Stephen rather than the fundraising sub-group, as he did most of the work on this application. The SVP also received generous donations from the St. James Place Foundation and the Archer Trust.

The ESD programme benefitted greatly from continued support from Irish Aid and from Roger Waters. Irish Aid funding commits us to a considerable time input in terms of monitoring and reporting, as well as renewed applications, but this is becoming more straight-forward as we learn the processes involved.

Finding funds for developing our new projects in Tanzania was a major focus this year. We were very pleased to obtain grants from the Chrysalis Trust and the Nesta and Allan Ferguson Trust to supplement the on-going support from NIPSA and Unicorn for the workshops in Njombe and Iringa.

Funding from the Dormant Accounts fund was explored this year, but our proposals did not fit well with the eligibility criteria, and we did not make an application. The Dormant Accounts fund has now closed for review, and we will examine it again when it re-opens with modified criteria, probably in 2024.



# FUNDRAISING GROUP

In 2021-22, Ulster Garden Villages committed to funding 50% of the cost of refurbishing the newly acquired storage building on the Antrim Road on condition that we were able to match-fund this from other funders. We were pleased to be able to fulfil this in 2022-23 with donations from the Hon. Irish Society, the Danske Bank Employees Fund and the Rank Foundation. We are very grateful to all these bodies who have enabled us to fully meet the costs of making the new building a really useful resource into the future.

The contributions of the Halifax BS (for our Training Coordinator) and the Souter Trust (for the Refugee and Asylum Seeker Programme) are also gratefully acknowledged. These grants ensured that each of our various programmes were fully funded with their own revenue streams.

With the relaxation of the covid restrictions, fundraising events again became possible, and our international volunteers were able to raise a substantial amount by organising a Movie Night in the Vault Studios in June 2022. A good audience watched the thought-provoking film 'Demain' ('Tomorrow') about the impacts of climate change.



Figure 11: Picture of a shipment 2022



# FUNDRAISING GROUP

During 2022-23, we received funding from the following organisations:

Funder	Project
Archer Trust	Supported Volunteer Programme
Belfast Health and Social Care Trust	Supported Volunteer Programme
Chrysalis Trust	Iringa ASTC
Danske Bank Charity	Refurbishment of new building
Ferguson Trust	Iringa ASTC
Halifax Foundation	Training Coordinator
Irish Aid	ESD Coordinator
Irish Society	Refurbishment of new building
NIPSA	Njombe ASTC
Rank Foundation	Refurbishment of new building
Roger Waters	Education for Sustainable Development
Souter Trust	Refugee and Asylum Seeker Programme
St James Place Foundation	Supported Volunteer Programme
Ulster Garden Villages	Refurbishment of new building
Unicorn Coop	Iringa ASTC

The Fundraising committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all the organisations listed above, and the many individuals and donors who have so generously supported the work of Tools for Solidarity during the year. We rely entirely on your support to be able to continue our life changing work.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

Company Number: NI52306 (Northern Ireland)

Registered Charity Number: NIC100614

The Financial Year 2022-23 saw a return to profit after two years of losses. This was largely due to the significant rise in non EVS Grants received which rose from £16,861 in 21-22 to £73,687 in 22-23. In addition a final payment of £26,761 was received from EVS. Other Income streams were similar to the previous year with the exception of an increase in income from Sewing Machine Sales and Repairs.

There was a noticeable increase in the purchase of Parts and Material compared to the previous year; this was largely due to requirements for the new workshop as well as rising prices.

Overhead Expenditure was almost exactly the same as the previous year. The loan received to assist in the purchase of the new workshop is now at an advanced stage of being repaid.

Shipping and Legal & Professional costs rose but this was offset by a drop in Volunteer expenses. Uncertainty over Shipping costs remains a cause for concern. Going forward it is projected we will either break even or make a small operating loss in 23-24.

Additional streams of income will almost certainly be required. In the short term the sale of yarn may well be enough to mitigate losses in the coming year.



# FINANCIAL REPORT

Overall we have a very good year financial due to a significant increase in income. However going forward it is not realistic to expect receiving such a high level of Grants year on year. The expectation remains that we will have a small, but significant, shortfall year on year without identifying new income streams.

<b>Current Account</b>	£ 8,855
Building Society	£ 91,443
<b>Petty Cash</b>	£ 149
Paypal	£ 833
<b>Net Financial Assets</b>	£ 101,280

A full breakdown of the finances. **Income 2022-23:**

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2022- 23</b>
Buiding Society/Bank Interest	£ 965
<b>Donations</b>	£ 19,600
Grants (EVS)	£ 26,761
<b>Grants Other</b>	£ 73,687
Rent Income	£ 9,760
<b>Scrap Metal Sales</b>	£ 1,054
VAT Refunds	£ 2,958
<b>Sewing Machine / Tools sales</b>	£ 4,698
Gift Aid	£ 989
<b>Foreign Payments</b>	£ 365
Fund Raising	£ 620
<b>Energy Savings</b>	£ 2,404
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>£ 143,861</b>



# FINANCIAL REPORT

A full breakdown of the finances. Expenses 2022-23:

EXPENDITURE	2022-23
Direct Expenses	
Purchase, Parts, Material	£ 16,404
Fixed Assets	£ 2,080
Total Direct Expenses	£ 18,484



Figure 12: Picture of a shipment 2023



# FINANCIAL REPORT

EXPENDITURE	2022-23
	Overheads
Financial Fees	£ 12
Field Trip Costs	£1,486
Insurance	£ 3,725
Fund Raising Expenses	£ 0
Legal & Professional Costs	£ 1,545
Loan Repayment	£ 5,000
Light & Heat	£ 3,960
Overseas Payments	£ 2,218
Rent, Rates & Water Charges	£ 5,286
Salary	£ 29,798
Shipping	£ 4,902
Stationary & Postage	£ 89
Sundry	£ 335
Telephone	£ 1,016
Travel & Subsistence	£ 4,490
Vehicle Fuel/Motor Expenses	£ 6,251
Volunteer Expenses	£ 16,217
Total Overhead Expenses	£ 86,330
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£ 104,814</b>
Profit/Loss	£ 39,047

# EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (ESD) PROGRAMME REPORT

This report provides information regarding Tools For Solidarity's Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) programme for 22/23. The work of the ESD group during this period was funded by Irish Aid, the Ultach Fund and Community Foundation and Roger Waters. We are very grateful for their support.

The **objectives** of the ESD programme include:

- Raising awareness of the issues of inequality, poverty, climate change, exploitation of natural resources and overconsumption
- Promoting sustainability
- Encouraging everyone to reflect on how our lives and actions impact the world and others
- Engendering the ability to think critically and enact solutions to these issues and changes to our lifestyles.

## PRIMARY SCHOOLS

In the academic year 2022-23 Tools For Solidarity (TFS) delivered its ESD programme to 20 primary schools, reaching a total of 1,182 pupils. Most of the schools that our Education group visited were located in Belfast, but the programme was also delivered in Lisburn, Downpatrick, Crossgar and Lurgan. The programme was offered in Irish to 183 pupils in 5 Gaelscoileanna. TFS are pleased to report that more children than ever before benefited from the programme. We offered 8 sessions for Key Stage 2 pupils (aged 8-11) which tie in with The N.I. curriculum areas 'The World Around Us' and 'Personal Development and Mutual Understanding'.



# ESD PROGRAMME REPORT

For the first time, the Education group offered 2 sessions on the topic of climate change to primary pupils. The new workshops received positive feedback overall and we will continue to incorporate this topic in future years.



# ESD PROGRAMME REPORT

## ESD FOR ADULTS

This year saw TFS continue to implement its ESD programme for adults. This was the second year of running the programme and we worked with four groups: Greenway Women's Centre; Falls and Glenbank Women's Centres (combined) and County Down Rural Community Network (Downpatrick and Clough groups). Groups chose the sessions that were of most importance to them (see the overview of the programme in the next section). In all of the sessions, adults were encouraged to identify tangible actions they could take to create a fairer, more sustainable world. TFS is delighted to report that a beneficiary of last year's programme, Footprints Women's Centre, put their knowledge and skills into action by organising a 'Women's Fashion Exchange'. The event brought together ideas regarding alternatives to dumping clothes, an issue we discussed in the Fashion Industry session.

Footprints Women's Centre took part in the ESD workshops last year and was keen to organise an event highlighting alternatives to the overconsumption of clothing.



Figure 13: Clothes Swap at the Footprints Women's Centre

# ESD PROGRAMME REPORT

The event started with a discussion with input from Nicola Foster of Footprints and TFS members, Solène, Aurelia and Róisín. They talked about sustainability and human rights issues relating to the fashion industry and the value of long-term usage of clothes and repairing. There were 15 participants. They were invited to swap their clothes with each other and thanks to Pat and Roz from the Belfast Repair Cafe, it was even possible to amend and repair some items of clothing. Belfast City Council also promoted buying fewer new garments and offered ideas for repurposing old clothes. We would especially like to thank Nicola and Footprints Women's Centre, as well as the Repair Cafe and Belfast City Council for their collaboration.



# ESD PROGRAMME REPORT

## ESD FUTURE PROJECTIONS

TFS looks forward to continuing and building on the work achieved through the ESD programme as we look to the academic year 2023-24. Notably, the ESD programme will be carried out under the auspices of a new Education Officer and a new cohort of European volunteers. We are sure that they will all bring their own particular skills, knowledge and experience to ensure a successful continuation of the programme. We will also be glad to welcome Noel and Sam back as Lead Volunteers. TFS will continue to strive to provide quality ESD to children, young people and adults. Over the past year, we have refined materials on our new primary school topic, Climate Change. In the coming year, we will continue to offer the 2 new sessions we created on this topic. Significant progress was yet again made on the ESD website, which now offers a wide range of pedagogical materials for primary children in both English and Irish.

In February 2023 TFS became a member of the Irish Development Education Association (IDEA) Code of Good Practice and submitted its first self-assessment of the organisation's ESD work. This has allowed for reflection on strengths and areas to be approved upon in the future.



# ESD PROGRAMME REPORT

In March-June 2023 the ESD programme underwent an external evaluation which highlighted several areas of good practice. Areas for improvement were:

- Monitoring and evaluation;
- Accessibility of the website;
- Peer review and involvement of other organisations / practitioners

The evaluation report stressed that the programme provides a well-designed curriculum delivered through active learning methods. TFS will continue to review the report and implement improvements over the coming months.



Figure 14: Volunteers posing with the ESD Activity book

# REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS PROGRAMME REPORT

Tools for Solidarity started the first Refugee and Asylum Seeker programme (RASP) in 2018 but had to stop for two years because of the pandemic. This year's programme took place in March. Like the previous ones the course was designed for five participants and consisted of three days of basic learning on sewing machine refurbishing and sewing. The aim is to support refugees and asylum seekers in feeling welcomed in the local society, encourage their participation, and provide them with new skills for their future. The training was completely free of charge for the participants, who have also been reimbursed for the transport costs to the Belfast workshop. At the end of the three days they also received a plastic sewing machine, some sewing material and a certificate of completion. Unfortunately this year, due to unforeseen circumstances, only two participants attended the training until the end: Folake, coming from Nigeria and Omar, coming from Sudan.



Figure 15: Volunteers and RASP participants during the RASP Training 2022



# REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS PROGRAMME REPORT

The three-day training was mentored by John, with the support of the sewing section volunteers: Lois, Judith, Astrid and Ruben. The volunteers provided individual support to each participant during the training. A wonderful occasion for them to share the knowledge they acquired since the beginning of their volunteering. On the third day, thanks to Janeth from Flourish NI, the participants had a sewing course to learn how to use their new machine. The participants enjoyed both repairing the sewing machines and trying their hand at some simple sewing projects.

This year, the German volunteers Judith and Christian and the French volunteer Solène managed the organisation and logistics of the course. This proved to be very educational as they learnt to take care of all the practical aspects of the programme (call for participants, selection process, bus ticket reimbursement, certificates emission). Regarding the selection process of the participants, it was very hard to choose only five people among so many motivated candidates which is why we asked the candidates to write a few lines of motivation. To encourage cultural exchange, we tried to create mixed groups, selecting people of different nationalities as well as genders.



# REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS PROGRAMME REPORT

Despite a minimum language level being required, one of the goals of the training was to give the people an opportunity to meet and talk together in English. Overall, this aspect was achieved because, especially during the breaks and lunchtime, the participants chatted and shared. We value also the fact of having encouraged some of the people to try something new, not only in terms of manual skills but also in increasing their confidence in moving through the city to find the workshop, interacting with some local and international volunteers, communicating in person, by phone and through the emails. The feedback we received from Folake and Omar has been very positive.



# PUBLICITY GROUP REPORT

At the beginning of 2022 the TFS Publicity Team was restructured with new volunteers: Léna, Sofia and Astrid. They successfully took over from Daria the responsibility for creating content to share on the social network and advertise TFS activities among the local community.

Despite the absence of a person in charge of coordinating it was possible to maintain a stable weekly presence on the various social media channels (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn). The content of the posts has been equally divided among ESD, day-to-day life in the Belfast workshop, volunteers and supported volunteers updates, grass-roots campaigns, RASP, fundraising events, progress of the projects in Tanzania, etc. TFS posts are followed by a small but stable number of people based in and around Belfast.

The publicity group is not restricted to social networks and uses various communication tools:

- The Publicity Team produced a **video for the Lions Club** as a call for the sewing machine collection:  
<https://youtu.be/EN19aT9ydes>.

It has worked very well with 150 sewing machines collected by the Lions up to now.

- They also produced a **video introducing the Njombe Artisan Support and Training centre** to NIPSA's members:  
<https://youtu.be/SLcxglolD3g?feature=shared>  
and wrote an **article for their Ezine magazine** to call for donations.



# PUBLICITY GROUP REPORT

- They created a **poster** for the **Movie Night** event organised by the **Fundraising group** on the 24th of June 2022:  
<https://rb.gy/59oyu6>
- Just before she left Léna made a wonderful **video** of all the volunteers in the Belfast workshop as a **Happy New Year message** from TFS:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iy2Z3wljEWU&t=16s>.
- She also handcrafted a beautiful **patchwork banner** for TFS.



Tools for Solidarity needs donations of tools and funds to keep refurbishing tools and send them to Tanzania. Publicity is an important part of the process of expanding the geographical area for collection.

# SPECIAL THANKS



We appreciate all the help our supporters provided to us during the last year, especially next organisations and individuals:

Archer Trust

Danske Bank Charity

Irish Aid, Department  
of Foreign Affairs

Fachstelle Internationale  
Freiwilligendienste

Pam and Tara  
Patchwork Goose

Visa-AD

South Belfast Quakers

SIDO

Mr R. Waters

Belfast Tool Library

Peter Rooney

Céline Persico

Mr and Mrs Finney

Belfast Repair Cafe

International Synergies NI

PHJ Wills Trust

Ferguson Trust

Rank Foundation

Workaid

All Schools and Colleges  
in the ESD programme

Belfast Health and Social  
Care Trust

Emma Duncan and the  
Global Concerns Trust

NIPSA

Belfast City Council  
Recycling Centres

Mwanza Sewing and  
Training Centre

Friends of Mourne Grange

Colm Gallagher

British Council

A E Harvey

Charitable Trust

Halifax Foundation NI

Jaap Prins

Roy Blair

Unicorn Food Coop

TFS Volunteers

Northern Ireland Resource  
Network

Portview Fit-Out Limited

Souter Trust

Phillip Allen

Chrysalis Trust

North Down Recycling  
Centres

North Belfast Quakers

Ralg Zeigler and Eirene

St Malachy's Old Boys  
Association

Grace Canham

Geoff and Tina Claxton

Julian Sanders

Ecorys

Jenny Groves

Tools for Self  
Reliance Garvald

Ms Y Coyle and  
Mr R Eastwood

Ulster Garden Villages

Arnold Clark

R Tweed

Irish Society

St James Place Foundation



**Tools For Solidarity**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100614

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# Annual return

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Tools For Solidarity Charity Number 100614

Unqualified report for a charity and has an income of £250,000 or less

I was asked by the charity to act as independent examiner of the Charities Accounts in December 2018 (email request available). I agreed providing I had the standing to act as examiner. I confirmed eligibility by satisfying the following conditions

- The Charity had an income of less than £250000 but is a company thus allowing accruals accounts that can be independently examined
- The constitution of TFS allowed for the appointment of an independent examiner

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Tools For Solidarity

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 03 to 05.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

□ examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act □ follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act □ state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act

2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records

3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

CCNI ARR07 – supporting document 5 August 2016

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Name: Diarmuid Moore

Relevant professional qualification or body: Not applicable

Address: 22 Thirlmere Gardens Belfast BT15 5EF

Date: 4/1/23