

Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal (NI) Ltd
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022

The trustees present the annual report and accounts for the Bishops' Appeal (NI) Ltd for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Objectives and Activities (the wording supplied for Charitable Objectives and Activities was approved by the Bishops' Appeal Board in 2016.)

Charitable Objects

(1) to secure public benefit through the provision of support by means of financial assistance to charitable projects for the relief of sickness, relief of poverty and advancement of education among people in developing countries and for the protection and preservation of health among such people;

(2) to support the charitable work of the Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal for World Development; and

(3) to educate people in Ireland (including those who wish to volunteer in charitable and overseas development projects) about issues concerning poverty and overseas development work and methods of providing aid and assistance to people suffering from poverty or sickness in developing countries.'

The charitable purposes of the Bishops' Appeal (NI) Limited are

- The prevention or relief of poverty;
- The advancement of education;
- The advancement of health or the saving of lives.

Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit

Bishops' Appeal (NI) Ltd collects money in Church of Ireland parishes and contributes through established relief agencies working in the developing world to projects consonant with the charitable purposes of the Bishops' Appeal (NI) Ltd and the Bishops' Appeal World Development Fund. The organisation also raises awareness and educates people in Northern Ireland regarding the challenges facing impoverished people in developing countries. The Bishops Appeal monitors the impacts of its efforts and reports these to the members of the Church.

In 2022, Bishops' Appeal NI raised £305,156 through parish fundraising. Bishops' Appeal NI Contributed this sum to the Bishops' Appeal committee of the General Synod of the Church of Ireland which is a registered charity in the Republic of Ireland sharing the same charitable purpose and objects.

The agencies through which this money was disbursed in accordance with the charitable objects and purposes were:

- Tearfund Ireland – Pakistan, Somalia, Afghanistan, Somaliland, Ethiopia, Lebanon, Ukraine, Jordan
- Christian Aid Ireland – DRC, Burundi, Beirut, Afghanistan, Somalia, Lebanon, South Sudan, Zimbabwe, Haiti, Ukraine, Ethiopia, Honduras
- Fields of Life - Uganda
- Self Help Africa – Burkina Faso, Kenya, Bangladesh
- Habitat for Humanity – Ukraine, Haiti
- Feed the Minds – Pakistan, Tanzania
- Water Drops - Kenya
- CMS Ireland – Nepal
- Motivation – Uganda

Disaster Relief funding:

Significant funds were raised in response to the war in Ukraine and Bishops' Appeal was able to provide funding to Christian Aid Ireland and Habitat for Humanity Ireland as they provided on-the-ground support to those effected.

Christian Aid Ireland utilises the funds to supply hospitals with tens of thousands of medical kits and supplies, as well as providing large shipments of essential items both within Ukraine and to areas of concentrated refugees in neighbouring countries.

Habitat for Humanity Ireland has focused on providing shelter in Poland and Romania, setting up tents with heating and electricity for short term stays as well as converting unused spaces in towns and cities into homes suitable for stays of approximately six months. They have also liaised with local governments to secure longer-term housing.

Additionally, we supported Tearfund Ireland to send 76 shipments of essential food and non-food items to warehouses within Ukraine to support internally displaced people in multiple districts throughout the country.

Sustainable Development Funding (a sample)

- Over the Summer of 2022, Bishops' Appeal funded a Feed the Minds education and agriculture project that worked to improve the quality of life for 1,776 rural women and their families in Tanzania.
- Bishops' Appeal has continued its partnership with Tearfund in working with the most vulnerable women and People with Disabilities to establish Self Help Groups, and to introduce organic agriculture and conservation agriculture in districts throughout Ethiopia. The project is multifaceted and includes the introduction of the macadamia nut and Disaster Risk Reduction training.

Diocesan Link Projects:

- Cork, Cloyne and Ross continued to support Christian Aid cooperatives in Burundi, enabling maize farmers to process their own maize, gain access to national markets and strengthening their harvests and their bargaining position for a decent price for product.
- Down and Dromore launched its Lenten appeal the "Bishop's Big Bike Ride", highlighting the work of Bishops' Appeal. The campaign supporting two projects in partnership with Bishops' Appeal, one in Honduras through Christian Aid and the other in Jordan through Tearfund.

Public Benefit

Public benefit was delivered to the recipients of assistance in the projects supported through the oversight of the Agencies running these projects. No instance of harm was recorded in the delivery of these benefits. The public benefits delivered during 2022 included the advancement of education, relief of poverty and the advancement of health. In addition, Bishops' Appeal representatives were present at a number of meetings in Ireland to provide development education and/or to increase awareness of global justice issues and needs. The Education Advisor participated in a number of other awareness-raising culminating in representing the work of the Bishops' Appeal at the General Synod of 2022. All of the Agencies through whom the Bishops' Appeal works have confirmed safeguarding policies in respect of children and vulnerable adults. Bishops' Appeal (NI) Limited has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the actives entered into during the year have helped to achieve the Appeal's objectives and activities, as well as providing public benefit.

Going Concern

The Directors are satisfied that the Bishops' Appeal (NI) Ltd will continue as a going concern. They have reviewed the Bishops' Appeal goals for the year ahead and are satisfied that adequate funds will be available to ensure that the Bishops' Appeal can continue its activities and the financial statements for the year end 2022 can be signed off as a going concern.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity

The Articles of Association and Memorandum of Bishops' Appeal (NI) Ltd are the governing documents for the charity.

Recruitment and Appointment of Directors

Directors of Bishops' Appeal (NI) Ltd are elected from the membership of the Bishops' Appeal Advisory Committee, which is, in turn, elected by the General Synod of the Church of Ireland.

Pay and remuneration

No Director is paid in respect of their work for the Appeal. The Bishops' Appeal (NI) Ltd has no employees.

Organisational Structure

The Bishops' Appeal (NI) Ltd raises funds from parishes in Northern Ireland and works together with the Bishops' Appeal Advisory Committee to direct those funds to projects in accord with its charitable purposes through agencies working in the field. The Directors are responsible for ensuring the proper recording and administration of funds raised and for reporting on the activities and finances to Companies House Belfast and the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland. The chair of the Directors is elected by the Directors'. The Director's meet regularly during the year (generally 6 -8 times annually). Special meetings may be convened at any time by the chairperson.

On Behalf of the Trustee Body

Trustee Reverend Glen Field

Position Chairman

Date 19.6.23

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