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WORLD TOILET DAY – CARITAS MADDO CELEBRATES

As a way of raising community awareness on the significance of a clean latrine in ensuring a healthy population, Caritas MADDO celebrated World Toilet Day on the 19th November at St. Augustine Bulando school, one of the CEHEWA project schools.

The celebrations started with a 2km march through the two villages surrounding the school. School teachers and pupils from Bulando, Butenzi, Narozari, and Kasozi schools took part, led by a brass band; they carried placards with key messages promoting good sanitation and hygiene practices.

Later on, everyone stopped at Bulando School for an inspection of the WASH facilities, teacher’s house, school gardens and flowering trees. The inspection was followed by speeches, poems, and dancing by the teachers and pupils.

Several important people were in attendance including representatives of school management committee and the PTA, Buwunga government representatives, Masaka District Education Office, and Caritas MADDO staff.

In his presentation, the MADDO Water & Sanitation Officer John Muwonge reiterated the significance of the latrine and other WASH facilities in schools. Fr. Raphael the director of MADDO, made a brief speech about the contribution the CEHEWA program had made in supporting the 17 schools in three sub-counties of Buwunga and Lwankoni & Kyanamukaaka. He called upon all stakeholders to join together with the school administration to sustain the WASH facilities and also asked pupils to share their knowledge with their siblings at home.

Front Cover: Students from Inkorkidinga Primary School, Kajiado County, Kenya

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

2013 ANNUAL REPORT



Despite the continuing economic challenges facing the charitable sector in Ireland, Aidlink has been able to maintain its commitments to partners and programmes in 2013.

Although revenue generated in 2013 shows a slight decrease (from €1.074m to €0.945m), Aidlink's year on year income has remained relatively stable and in line with expectations. The drop in 2013 can mostly be attributed to the absence of a schools immersion programme, rather than any significant cuts in funding. Our thanks go to Irish Aid for their grant of €0.548m which represents 56% of our total income. This is consistent with the amount received in 2012 and represents year 2 of a guaranteed 4 year funding programme. Despite this, the recent announcement of further cuts to the Irish Aid budget in 2014 and the continuing challenges of generating capital in the sector, have highlighted Aidlink's need to strengthen and diversify its funding sources. As a result, Aidlink has recently conducted a Fundraising Review and developed a Fundraising Strategy in line with the revised Strategic Plan 2013-2015. We are hopeful that this will enable us to increase our capacity and enable us to do more in the future.

We remain extremely grateful for the number of grants received from Third World Groups (TWGs), as well as our private donors who together contribute the rest of our income.

2013 marked the mid-way point of Aidlink's Integrated Rural Community Development Programme (2012-2015), and as such, our work continued to focus on basic needs provision of Water, Sanitation, Health, Education and Agriculture/Food Security. As with previous years, around 97% of our programme funds were allocated to Kenya and Uganda, with the remainder attributed to Ghana. Programme expenditure is in line with budgets. Total reserves currently held by Aidlink are €0.314m of which €0.179m is committed to projects and programme costs. The outstanding balance of €0.135m is the non-committed reserve available to Aidlink at year end.

Operating in Kenya, Uganda and Ghana often presents significant political, environmental and cultural challenges to carrying out our work. In both Kenya and Uganda, changes to national health policy and the deregulation of Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) has impacted on the health outreach programmes of our partners, in some cases leading to the restructuring of programme activities and the retraining of TBAs. Similarly, the ongoing drought in Turkana means almost 600,000 people are thought to be at risk of starvation. This places additional pressure on the ability of our partner, the Diocese of Lodwar (DoL) to provide for the basic needs of the population and Aidlink has already responded by reallocating a budget of approximately €10,000 to be used for the DoL's emergency relief programme. We will continue to monitor the current situation in order to ensure that it does not escalate into a humanitarian crisis. In Uganda, the passing of the Anti-Homosexuality bill and the Pornography bill by Parliament not only promise increased scrutiny of NGOs working in Health and Education in the country, it also highlights the cultural challenges for Aidlink partners overtly working through a human rights based approach to development.

Despite such challenges, our partners continue to make significant progress towards targets agreed in our results framework. For example, of all our partners have achieved or exceeded the 2013 targets on access to clean and safer water and increasing awareness of personal hygiene and sanitation. In Uganda, 20,000 people have benefited from our programme interventions, and all three partners have contributed to the approximate halving of the number of children reporting diarrhoeal disease from 2011/2012. An Irish Aid monitoring visit to Uganda in March 2014 highlighted the excellent work carried out by our partners and the effectiveness of our programmes in delivering value for money by working through the partnership approach.

Central to Aidlink operations is a commitment to building the capacity of our partners, and we have therefore initiated work on documenting our approach to Capacity Building, and developing a formal plan which we believe will result in stronger organisations and better programme results.

Aidlink continued its commitment to development education in Ireland through www.developmenteducation.ie, contributing to the profile of the organisation and raising awareness amongst young people of the causes of, and the challenges facing people living in poverty in Africa. Building on the success of last year, 7 Irish schools took part in the global solidarity campaign 'Walk for Water', walking 6km in order to raise awareness of water and sanitation issues in the developing world. With no student immersion programme in 2013, we are very much looking forward to 2014 when over 60 boys from St Mary's College in Rathmines will once more be hosted by The Spiritan Province of Ghana and St. James Seminary Senior High School in Sunyani. Planning is also underway for a new immersion visit to Ghana in 2015 involving girls from Seamount College in Kinvara. The aim of this programme is to contribute, in the longer term, to increased knowledge and understanding of global justice issues and increased engagement and action by students as active global citizens.

On behalf of the Board I would like to express our deep gratitude to all the people who supported Aidlink throughout the year. The constant support of so many, despite the continuing economic difficulties and the negative media coverage of salaries and misspending in the charity sector, is a reassuring acknowledgement of our work in seeking to improve the lives of people living in poverty. Aidlink remains committed to transparency and accountability in our work, for both donors and beneficiaries. We continue to publish all audited accounts on our website and abide by a number of sector-wide codes of conduct. The Board carefully monitors expenditure both at home and abroad, and no member of staff is paid over 70k. In addition, we do not offer additional payments for health insurance, pensions or top-ups of any kind.

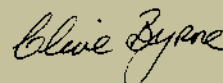
I would particularly like to thank our donors for their continued support and express our gratitude to the public and private institutions operating through their various voluntary staff schemes. I would also like to thank the many private individuals who provide significant support, enabling Aidlink and our partners to carry out vital development projects.

My sincere thanks go to the staff and board for all their hard work, commitment and support. In July, the board and staff of Aidlink were invited to a garden party for International Social Justice Agencies, hosted by President Higgins at Áras an Uachtaráin, where the President recognised the commitment of volunteers and staff in seeking to improve the lives of the world's poor.

Thank you also to Martin Tormey who stepped down from the board this year for his contribution during his time with us. We are delighted that Martin has agreed to continue his association with Aidlink by becoming a member. In Martin's place, we are pleased to announce the appointment of Gemma Grimes.

2013 saw the appointment of Claire Lynch as Administrator, and I take this opportunity to welcome her to Aidlink under the guidance of our Executive Director, Anne Cleary.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the on-going work of our partners. Through them, Aidlink continues to prioritise its commitment to those people living in greatest poverty and can bring about real and sustainable change to some of the most marginalised in Africa.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Clive Byrne'.

Clive Byrne
Chairperson

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT (2013)



“MUCH OF AIDLINK’S WORK WILL NEVER MAKE THE HEADLINES BUT THE QUIET, LONG-TERM WORK OF IMPROVING WATER, HEALTH AND EDUCATION SYSTEMS AND INCREASING THE CAPACITY OF INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES TO COPE WITH EXTREME POVERTY IS THE FOUNDATION OF LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT AND THE ESSENCE OF AIDLINK.”

This year's report once again shows the great strength of Aidlink and our partners' work in Kenya, Uganda and Ghana. We continue to be inspired and guided by our values of working to improve the lives of the poorest people, whilst respecting the dignity of each individual person having the right, the duty and the means of self and community development.

As Executive Director, I have had the privilege of visiting our programme countries regularly. Of particular mention this year was a meeting with primary school students Peter, Emmanuel, Eunice and Sharon of Inkorkidinga PS, Kajiado County, Kenya. These four young people are Rights of the Child (ROC) Club members, trained back in 2009 – they demonstrated, without fear or hesitation, their learning and how that learning and understanding is translated into reality. Now in their mid-teens, they are still in school and together are supporting their sisters, cousins and friends in staying on too. They are saying no to early marriage and FGM and are making plans for secondary school and dreaming dreams for their future. I couldn't help but feel that the future of Kenya will be brighter in their hands.

We continue to work in partnership with the Girl Child Network and the Diocese of Lodwar amongst the unique Maasai and Turkana communities in Kenya; focusing on improving educational environments, child rights and access to primary health care. Together with Voluntary Action for Development, EMESCO and Caritas MADD0 in Uganda, and the Spiritans in Ghana, we have helped more than 17,000 people and 32 primary schools access improved water and sanitation facilities; 18,000 people access community health care and 880 families increase food production. Even in these financially challenging times, extraordinary work with lasting impact is being carried out.

To all the people who continue to support Aidlink, we thank you for your trust and encouragement.

I also want to acknowledge the volunteer Board of Aidlink. Their commitment, professionalism, and support are sincerely valued. I also want to thank my colleagues in Dublin for their contribution to making a real and lasting impact on the lives of the poor.

THANK YOU!


Anne Cleary
Executive Director



Students from St. Peter and Paul's Primary and Junior Secondary School, Fumbisi, Ghana

VISION

Aidlink has a vision of a world that recognises the dignity of each individual person having the right, the duty and the means of self and community development

MISSION

Aidlink exists to improve the lives of those living in poverty in Africa. We realise this by supporting the capacity of partners to mobilise local communities to:

- Participate in their development process
- Access their basic needs
- Demand their fundamental human rights

This is further enhanced through development education in Ireland to promote an understanding of poverty and inequality in Africa.

APPROACH

Central to Aidlink's practice is a partnership model based on a shared vision and commitment to work together to bring real and sustainable benefits to poor and marginalised people. Harnessing the unique contribution and strengths of each partner, Aidlink believes that a strong civil society can influence long-term, sustainable change.

Working with 6 partner organisations across 3 African countries: Kenya, Uganda and Ghana; our programmes focus on the basic needs of targeted communities as identified by them. Aidlink also supports partners to build their own capacity so that they can manage their organisations in a professional manner and deliver their programmes to a high standard, with maximum benefit for the programme beneficiaries.

THE WORK WE DO

WHAT WE DO . . .

Our mission is to improve the lives of people living in poverty in Africa.

The overall programme goal is to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life for the rural poor, particularly girls and women; and to build the capacity of local partner organisations in delivering their development programmes.

HOW WE DO IT . . .

Aidlink's work is founded on a rights based framework which identifies the root causes of poverty, empowers rights holders to claim (demand) their rights and enables duty-bearers to meet their obligations. Aidlink and our partners' programmes are based on core values which recognise that every person should be treated with dignity and that they have the means and right to engage in self and community development.

All our partners recognise the importance of working within a rights framework, and actively engage in advocacy work designed to inform people in the target communities of their rights and help them to demand them. Examples of our partners' advocacy work are shown in the section on contributing to long-term change. Our partners also



Diocese of Lodwar parishioner, Turkana County

Parents and staff at a Kajiado primary school, July 2013



SPOTLIGHT ON NOMADIC AND SEMI-NOMADIC PASTORALISTS

Aidlink works with the Maasai and the Turkana – both nomadic and semi-nomadic pastoralist communities in Kenya – through the Girl Child Network and the Diocese of Lodwar respectively. Both communities are among the most marginalised, poor and vulnerable in Kenya, facing numerous social, economic, political, cultural and environmental challenges. As staunchly patriarchal societies, women and girls are particularly vulnerable. Early marriage is a norm and, although illegal in Kenya, Female Genital Mutilation is still practiced by the Maasai. The Girl Child Network works with the Maasai to challenge these traditional cultural practices and campaign for behavioural change within the community.

As nomadic pastoralist communities, traditionally the Maasai and Turkana move with their livestock from pasture to pasture depending on the availability of water. Their livelihoods rely upon their herds of livestock and for both communities their animals are their primary source of food – milk, blood and meat forms their main diet – and also their store of wealth. Dependency on their livestock leaves both communities particularly vulnerable to the effects of drought. Both Kajiado and Turkana were severely affected by the drought that ravaged the Horn of Africa in 2011 and Turkana County once again finds itself under threat as we enter 2014.

work to support local government structures, ensuring that they meet their obligations as duty-bearers and ensuring the long-term sustainability of interventions.

In Kenya, Aidlink's work with the Girl Child Network is founded on the principles of the rights of the child, with a special emphasis on the girl child. Through advocacy, education, and the provision of child-friendly schools, our work aims to tackle the socio-cultural factors such as early marriage, pregnancy, and female genital mutilation (FGM) which violate children's rights in the community.

WHERE WE WORK . . .

Aidlink works with 6 partners in rural communities across 3 African countries. These partners are profiled on page 12. 2013 marked the mid-way point of Aidlink's 4 year **Integrated Rural Community Development Programme (ICDP) 2012-2015**.

The communities in which we work are active participants in the development process; interventions are based on their identified needs and adapted to the local environment.

WHO WE WORK WITH . . .

Aidlink works with poor people, many of whom are subsistence farmers and nomadic pastoralists living in rural parts of Uganda, Kenya and Ghana.

Along with our partners, we target people who are: without access to clean and safe water; unable to access health facilities due to distance and means; and have a low level of educational attainment. The stories included throughout this report highlight the participants in Aidlink's programmes and their lives.

The most vulnerable members of the communities in which we work include: women and girls; people living with HIV/AIDS; the elderly; and the disabled. Aidlink and our partners ensure that these individuals are provided with items such as water jars in order to restore their dignity and standing within the community. All leadership committees and structures established by the programmes are gender balanced to ensure the involvement of women in the decision-making process.

In Kenya, Aidlink works with the Maasai and the Turkana, both nomadic and semi-nomadic pastoralists in arid and semi-arid lands.

Aidlink and our partners' work is composed of interventions in the following sectors:

WATER AND SANITATION

Access to clean and safe water for target communities means more than just safe drinking water, it is the realisation of a basic

human right and is the foundation on which all Aidlink's interventions are based. The availability of this vital resource within target communities has significant benefits for people's health, their education, and their food security; and therefore Aidlink and partners focus on the provision of clean, safe water in both the local community and primary schools.

A protected spring means access to improved water, which results in a reduction in water-borne disease. With better health, children can attend school and parents can attend work. When children are in school, their educational performance improves. Children have proven to be great teachers and they bring their hygiene and sanitation learning home into the community. When adults can work, food security and incomes are improved. Clean water close to home and or school reduces the time that girls and women spend in search of water, leaving them free to engage in education or new opportunities to improve their families' lives.

Our partners train Water User Committees in the maintenance and appropriate usage of the new well or pump, as well as educating the community on health issues including water and sanitation training; thus ensuring the long-term sustainability of the programme. In 2013, over 17,000 people in Uganda were provided with access to clean and safe water.



Students from St. Peter and Paul's Primary and Junior Secondary School, Fumbisi, Ghana



Diocese of Lodwar medical outreach programme, vaccinations centre

HEALTHCARE

Water and sanitation interventions are complemented by a strong community-based health care programme. Our partners focus on training front line medical staff in rural communities that have limited access to health care facilities. In Uganda, Aidlink and our partners train community health workers and village health teams to provide basic curative services to local people, whilst their role also heavily incorporates health education and the promotion of good hygiene and sanitation aimed at changing behaviour within the community. In Kenya, Aidlink supports the Diocese of Lodwar in operating primary health care facilities which focus primarily on Mother and Child Health (MCH), including infant vaccinations. As a result of our support, there has been a 55% increase in the number of births in Diocese of Lodwar facilities, despite medical coverage in Turkana County standing at around 40%.

All partners work to achieve local Ministry of Health objectives and coordinate their activities closely with the local authorities. Changes to the national health policy in both Kenya and Uganda, including the deregulation of Traditional Birth Attendants have seen our partners adapt their programmes in 2013 while maintaining the number of trained frontline medical staff and continuing to meet the needs of the targeted communities.

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

In Uganda and Kenya, food security and nutrition remains high on the development agenda and Aidlink's programmes support isolated rural farming communities to prevent hunger at the household level. By integrating an agricultural component within the programme, and targeting resources on training rather than materials, we continue to have a strong impact on the communities with which we work. By making use of the safe and clean water provided, farmers can both diversify and increase their crop yields; providing them with additional income, and a balanced diet to improve their general health and nutrition.

In Uganda, both VAD and Caritas MADDO work closely with rural communities to establish farmers groups. By training these groups in improved agricultural practices; as well as marketing and agronomics, the programmes encourage farmers to be goal-orientated, and to work together in order to achieve both food and economic security. As a result of our programme activities in 2013, over 5,000 more people in Uganda have increased food production and can be classified as food secure.

As the communities with whom we work in Kenya are particularly vulnerable to drought, the programme also incorporates 'Disaster Risk Reduction' activities including: basic agricultural training in schools, the development of school gardens and food security projects. Furthermore, partners work alongside local government in building community resilience to drought and planning drought management strategies.



Plant nursery, Masaka, Uganda

IMPROVED EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

The provision of water and sanitation facilities and appropriate hygiene training in 42 primary schools is contributing to an improved teaching and learning environment for over 12,000 children across Kenya, Uganda and Ghana.

Improved water and sanitation facilities help to fulfil every child's right to health and education.

These interventions provide safe and healthy school environment for pupils and staff alike with increased participation of children in school, especially girls

who might otherwise have to trek for water or would remain absent during their menstrual cycle. Sickness is reduced; attendance of all children is increased resulting in improved performance.

Children, in taking health and hygiene messages home, are making a significant contribution to improved health outcomes in their families and communities.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Aidlink is committed to supporting our partners' organisational development and capacity-building through mentoring and accompaniment as they grow and develop. This is in order to improve the quality and the delivery of development programmes for poor and excluded people in the targeted communities.

SOME KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2013

UGANDA

- 63 shallow wells constructed, improving access to community-managed clean and safe water for over 17,000 people
- 80 water jars provided to the most vulnerable members of society; the elderly, disabled and people living with HIV/AIDS
- 16 primary schools provided with improved water and sanitation facilities and health clubs
- A 6% increase in the number of households adopting recommended hygiene and sanitation practices
- A 50% reduction in the number of children reporting diarrheal diseases
- Over 18,000 people in the 2013 targeted communities accessing quality community-managed healthcare and health education through Community Health Workers (CHWs), Community Health Committees (CHCs) and Village Health Teams (VHTs)
- 880 farming households trained on best farming practice, marketing and agronomics
- Over 880 new households (over 5,000 people) have increased average food production and can be classified as 'food secure'.

GHANA

- 2 primary schools, in Fumbisi and Yapei, equipped with improved water and sanitation facilities, providing a clean and safe learning environment for over 700 children and their teachers

KENYA

- 10 more primary schools in Kajiado County now meet the UNICEF definition of 'children-friendly', providing a safer learning environment for over 1,000 girls
- 10 more Rights of the Child (ROC) clubs (making a total of 84) established and trained, and members spoke up for the rights of their peers who dropped out of school early or who never enrolled.
- A 5% average increase in the enrolment of girls and boys in target schools
- 0% absenteeism related to difficulty in managing menstruation in target schools
- In Turkana, where the average distance to a health facility is 50km, 3,485 children under the age of one were fully immunised at Diocese of Lodwar outreach facilities, a 61% increase on 2012
- A 55% increase in the number of births at Diocese of Lodwar healthcare facilities since 2011
- 50 Community Health Workers trained in Turkana County
- 69 Core Health Programme Staff provided with in-service training to improve the quality of care provided
- The Diocese of Lodwar signed an MOU with the County government to agreeing medical supplies, staff, and training for their programme.

COUNTRY PROFILES

	Ireland	Uganda	Kenya	Ghana
Population	4.48 million	34.5 million	41.6 million	24.9 million
HDI (Human Development Index) ranking out of 186 countries	7th	161st	145th	135th
Mortality rate for under 5s per 1,000 births (World Bank)	4	69	73	72
Percentage of population with access to clean, safe water (World Health Organisation)	99.9%	74.8	61.7%	87.2%
Proportion of the population using improved sanitation facilities	99%	34%	32%	14%
Percentage of girls not attending primary school (World Bank)	na	15.2%	19.5%	24.7%
Percentage of population living on less than \$1.25 per day (World Bank)	na	38%	43.4%	28.6%

OUR PARTNERS



Mr. Emely Kugonza, Executive Director (front row, fourth from right), and staff of EMESCO



Mr. Benedict Male, Executive Director (first from right), Ms. Mabel Mirembe Agnes, Programme Manager (third from left), and the VAD management team



Fr. Raphael Ssemenda, Director MADD0 (seventh from left), with Anne Cleary, Director Aidlink, and senior staff during a monitoring visit in May 2013

UGANDA

The **EMESCO Development Foundation** is a local non-governmental organization (NGO) formed in 1998 by concerned local community members to improve the living standards of poor and disadvantaged communities in Kibaale District, mid-western Uganda. The mission and vision of EMESCO strongly emphasises the empowerment of poor rural communities and local participation.

Aidlink and EMESCO have been working together since 2002 on community development initiatives in the areas of water and sanitation, health and agriculture. 26% of all funds on-granted by Aidlink to local partners in 2013 were directed to EMESCO.

Voluntary Action for Development (VAD) is a non-profit making indigenous civil society organization founded in 1996 which aims to improve the living conditions and quality of life of the poor and disadvantaged communities in Wakiso District, Uganda.

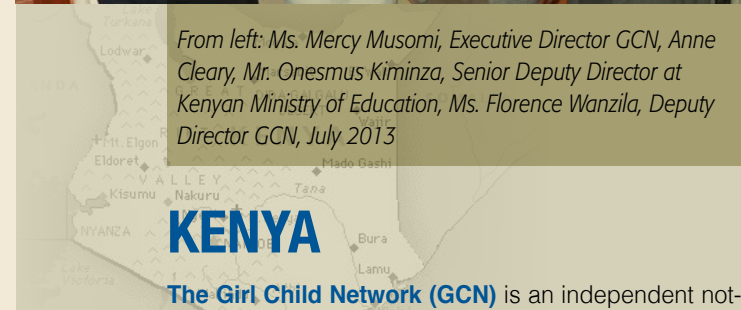
Aidlink and VAD have been working in partnership since 2003 on projects incorporating water, hygiene and sanitation improvement, healthcare, increased household food security and income, and family economic empowerment. 25% of all funds on-granted by Aidlink to local partners in 2013 were directed to VAD.

Caritas MADD0, founded in 1981, is the development office of the Diocese of Masaka and aims to address the social and economic needs of people in the Diocese in order to improve their quality of life, regardless of their religious affiliation.

Aidlink and Caritas MADD0 have been working together since the year 2000 on community development focusing on community empowerment, health, the environment, water and agriculture (CEHEWA). 11% of all funds on-granted by Aidlink to local partners in 2013 were directed to Caritas MADD0.



From left: Ms. Mercy Musomi, Executive Director GCN, Anne Cleary, Mr. Onesmus Kiminza, Senior Deputy Director at Kenyan Ministry of Education, Ms. Florence Wanzila, Deputy Director GCN, July 2013



The **Girl Child Network (GCN)** is an independent not-for-profit organisation which aims to improve the status of children in Kenya with a special emphasis on the education of the girl child. In existence since 1995, GCN's primary purpose is to mainstream children's activities in the development sector through advocacy, information sharing and strengthening of children's programming in Kenya. 23% of all funds on-granted by Aidlink to local partners in 2013 were directed to the GCN.

Aidlink and the GCN have been working together since 2003 on a number of projects focused on the participation of girls in education and the eradication of Female Genital Mutilation in Kajiado County, Kenya.

Bro. Constant Tagyang C.S.S.p., First Assistant Spiritans Province of Ghana, with Mr. Clive Byrne, Chairman Aidlink, during a visit to Ireland in December 2013



From left: Mr. Boniface Gakuya, Senior Accountant, Ms. Sandra Villegas, Development Co-ordinator, Sr. Veronica Kibe, Medical Co-ordinator, with Mr. Stepano Korir and Mr. Jim Wallace, Diocese of Lodwar Senior Management Team

The Diocese of Lodwar (DoL)

The Diocese of Lodwar, through its development office, delivers development projects that cater to the needs of the Turkana people in Northern Kenya. The Turkana desert, home to over 900,000 people, is one of the harshest and most isolated regions of Africa and Aidlink have been supporting the Diocese there for over 10 years.

Aidlink focuses support on the DoL's healthcare programme, as well as continuing to support the second chance education initiative. 12% of all funds on-granted to local partners in 2013 were directed to the Diocese of Lodwar.

GHANA

The Spiritans, Province of Ghana

The Spiritans, Province of Ghana is a circumscription of missionaries dedicated to working with the poor and most marginalized in the most remote, rural, less developed areas of Ghana. Aidlink and the Province of Ghana have been working together since 2004.

In the name of their commitment to education, the Spiritans facilitate Aidlink's school immersion programme, and Aidlink supports the Spiritans' schools water and sanitation projects. 3% of all funds on-granted by Aidlink to local partners in 2013 were directed to the Spiritans.



VAD staff and a Water User Committee celebrating their protected spring, Wakiso District, Uganda

WATER AND SANITATION

ACCESS TO CLEAN AND SAFE WATER IS A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT AND REPRESENTS THE CORNER STONE ON WHICH ALL OF AIDLINK'S INTERVENTIONS ARE BUILT. WITH THE AVAILABILITY OF CLEAN AND SAFE WATER, SIGNIFICANT SUSTAINABLE PROGRESS ON PEOPLE'S HEALTH, THEIR EDUCATION, AND THEIR FOOD AND INCOME SECURITY IS BEING ACHIEVED.



Latrine (toilet) block with rainwater-harvesting and handwashing facilities at St. Kizito Bembe Primary School, Wakiso, Uganda

Interventions in Uganda and Ghana are founded on increasing access to improved water at community or village level and targeted primary schools; programme activities and achievements are detailed below. Water and Sanitation as a means of promoting the girl child's right to education is a vital component of the Girl Child Network's Schools Sanitation Improvement Programme (SSIP) in Kajiado, Kenya. This is further detailed later on page 22.

Voluntary Action for Development (VAD)

The construction of 22 shallow wells in Namayumba Subcounty, Wakiso District is providing 6,300 people across 16 villages with access to cleaner safer water. The improved water sources are within 1-2km of beneficiaries' houses, in line with Ugandan government targets. In addition, 20 elderly people and people with disabilities had concrete water jars built at their homes. As a result of the intervention, the average time spent by women and children collecting water has now reduced from around 2 hours to less than an hour, leaving them more time to engage in productive activities for income generation and education.

Community participation and ownership contribute to the sustainability of the programme after the initial intervention. Community members are involved and active at all stages of the project's implementation, right from the provision of sand and unskilled labour. On completion of the construction works, Water User Committees are established – made up of both men and women –and trained in the maintenance and repair of the wells and pumps; and in water management.

Sanitation facilities, including gender segregated latrines, and accompanying water storage facilities were constructed in 3 primary schools; directly contributing to improved teaching and learning environment for over 1,000 school children and their teachers. In addition, the successful training of school health committees to promote hygiene and sanitation practice has resulted in reduced sickness and improved attendance in school. These positive health trends are being reflected in the wider community, with the incidence of water-borne diseases significantly reduced among the target communities. The school children, in bringing health and hygiene messages home, have demonstrated time and time again their valuable role as health promoters and 'agents for change' in the community. The result: a 14% reduction in the reported incidence of diarrheal disease amongst children under 5 in the targeted communities.



Children at St Peter and Paul Primary School enjoy their new water tank

CHANGING LIVES WITH WATER AND SANITATION – FUMBISI, GHANA

In 2012, a storm hit Fumbisi in the Builsa District of Upper East Ghana, destroying the basic latrine block which existed at St. Peter and Paul Primary School. 278 pupils and 13 teachers were left without access to water and sanitary facilities as a result.

Left without water facilities, teachers and pupils often had to leave class in order to fetch water from local houses causing huge disruption and missed learning opportunities. Without toilet facilities, pupils and teachers relieved themselves in the bush surrounding the school. As well as the negative effect on education, the poor sanitation led to absenteeism from diarrhoea and malaria.

In 2013, the Spiritans, in partnership with Aidlink, were able to repair and renovate the existing latrine in order to provide gender sensitive sanitation facilities for the youngest students. A newer, larger block was also built with separate facilities for older boys, girls and teachers. A new borehole was also drilled to provide water to both the school and the wider community. In keeping with the spirit of community empowerment, all facilities are managed and maintained with funding by the Parent's Association at the school. 2 Health teachers also offer training to the pupils on sanitation and how to protect themselves from illness.

Because of the new latrine, pupils now have no excuse for missing class. The level of absenteeism due to sickness is also reduced. Clean, safe water and a new latrine can and does make all the difference.

THE DIFFERENCE A LATRINE MAKES

NAKAJAKO MAUREEN, A 12 YEAR OLD PRIMARY 6 PUPIL AT GGULWE PRIMARY SCHOOL IN NAMAYUMBA SUB COUNTY IN UGANDA, TELLS US ABOUT THE DIFFERENCE A NEW LATRINE MADE AT HER SCHOOL.



"Before VAD came, the school only had a very small latrine with 2 open cubicles. It was being used by all the pupils at the school, as well as the 8 teachers. The older pupils wouldn't let the youngest use it though. They would push us from the line and tell us to go to the nearby bush."

"I and many other pupils didn't wear shoes and therefore diseases like diarrhoea were very common. The head teacher used to send over 50 young children home every week due to disease. Nearly half the girls in Primary 6 and 7 used to stay home during their menstruation periods because the boys used to laugh at them."

"Life changed for the better when Aidlink's partner VAD constructed a new 10 cubicle latrine in the school. The new latrine separates the boys and girls and the young pupils from the older ones. The school is now very clean and free from smell. Attendance has increased amongst the younger pupils and also the older girls. The whole school is happy and the new latrine has instilled good behaviours, practices, and dignity, especially for the teachers who no longer have to queue with the children. The new latrine has not only improved the health of the pupils at our school. It has improved our academic performance too."

EMESCO Development Foundation (EMESCO)

EMESCO extended their water and sanitation programme in in Buyaga County with the construction of 35 new wells in 15 communities, benefitting over 1,500 households (approximately 9,000 people). A further 20,000 more people benefitted from the rehabilitation of 55 wells previously constructed in the region which had been left to fall into disrepair. The importance of establishing community based structures to manage the upkeep and maintenance of wells and protected springs is highlighted by the need for rehabilitations. Water User Committees have been put into place for all 90 new and rehabilitated wells to ensure that they continue to function for the benefit of the entire community into the future. In addition, 60 elderly and disabled people living in the targeted communities received water jars, enabling them access to clean safe water and reducing their dependence on neighbours to care for them.

Latrines were constructed in 10 primary schools in Buyaga County, with accompanying hand washing facilities, and a water storage tank, facilitating a cleaner, safer school environment for over 4,700 pupils and their teachers. Hygiene and sanitation workshops and the training of School Sanitation Cubs are a core element of this programme with students leaders trained and motivated to keep new facilities clean and tidy and to encourage all children to put their learning into practice.

The home improvement scheme programme is a vital contributor to the overall goal of improved health and hygiene in the community. VAD and EMESCO facilitate workshops for children and their families who are instructed and supported in the construction of: a latrine and hand washing unit or 'tippy tap'; bathing shelter or shower room; and dish racks for drying the dishes in their own homes using local available materials. These improvements are positively impacting on families, creating a sense of pride and dignity, and contributing to on-going best practice in household hygiene and sanitation. The Home Improvement programme is also contributing to wider public health targets with results in target communities showing a 45% reduction in the number of reported cases of diarrheal disease in children under 5.

Caritas MADDO

In Masaka District, 2,100 people, including 1,071 children under 5 years of age now benefit from

improved access to clean and safe water as a result of the construction of 6 new wells. Water User Committees and School Sanitation Clubs are created and trained to ensure that the new facilities are maintained in a good working condition.

Water storage tanks were installed at 2 targeted schools, whilst one of the wells is situated close to the local primary school for the convenience of the children, ensuring they spend more time learning and less time searching for water. A new latrine block was built at one school; hand washing facilities at 8 schools and sanitary clubs sensitized pupils in good hygiene and sanitation behaviour were established at 17 schools. There are plans to ensure that all 17 schools have adequate Water and Sanitation facilities over the next two years.

MADDO's programme, integrated in nature has a significant food security component establishing and training farmers groups in best agricultural practice. This is discussed later in the food security section.

Furthermore, Village Health Teams trained by Maddo provided community hygiene and sanitation training for 750 households, approximately 5,250 people. The impact of both this training and the Village Health Teams will be further examined in the section on health care.

Spiritans Province of Ghana

The Spiritans Province of Ghana facilitate Aidlink's Immersion programme and in return, Aidlink contributes towards The Spiritans' water and sanitation projects

TARGETING THE POOREST - GODFREY AND HIS GRANDMOTHER

Godfrey is 11 years old and lives with his 85 year old grandmother. Here, he tells the story of how Voluntary Action for Development (VAD) has changed both their lives:

"Last year, when VAD came to my village, I was the only person who could represent my grandmother at the community meetings that were taking place. From attending the hygiene and sanitation education sessions and taking part in the demonstration sessions on building dish racks and tippy taps, I was identified as a hard working young boy and elected to the Water User Committee to take care of other children in the community.

Since my grandmother was helpless and had no water in her home and a broken latrine, she was selected by the community to benefit from a water jar and an improved latrine. Our lives have changed beyond belief. Now we have plenty of water at home while the improved latrine means my grandmother and I no longer get sick so often. Where I used to buy drugs to treat stomach ache almost every week, now we no longer suffer from diarrhoea and sickness and I am able to devote most of my time to studying and regularly attend school."



Household water jar, installed as part of EMESCO's Integrated Community Development Programme in Kibaale, Uganda

HEALTHCARE



Diocese of Lodwar staff at Lakori Primary Health Care Laboratory, Turkana County, Kenya

The remoteness of the targeted communities means that access to formal healthcare facilities is often not possible. Aidlink implements a community-based healthcare programme with EMESCO and Caritas MADDO in Uganda and the Diocese of Lodwar in Kenya which aims to provide access to trained, front-line health workers in rural communities.

In Uganda, Aidlink and our partners train community health workers and village health teams to provide basic curative services, health education and hygiene and sanitation promotion. Health education activities targeting the whole community carried out by Water User Committees and school sanitation clubs complement the new wells and access to clean safe water. In Kenya, Aidlink supports the Diocese of Lodwar's medical programme which operates 9 stationary primary health care facilities and over 75 outreach clinics – bringing primary health to some of the poorest people in the world. The medical programme focuses primarily on Primary Health Care (PHC) and Mother and Child Health (MCH).

The deregulation of Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) in both Kenya and Uganda resulted in partners adapting their projects and community health worker training programmes. Although committed to health for all; and the vision of all deliveries in a clinic under the care of a qualified midwife – we remain concerned and committed to women who live too far away from any such facilities. Although no TBAs were trained, plans were adjusted to ensure training targets for front-line staff were achieved.



CARITAS MADDO

Village Health Teams (VHT) are 2-3 member teams in each community who take responsibility for engaging the community in preventing ill health and improving hygiene and sanitation. VHT's are part of the government's community health policy structure and Aidlink's partner, Caritas MADDO provided training for the Village Health Teams in Masaka District.

Trained Village Health Teams visited 750 households (approximately 5,250 people) with their primary health care message: providing basic hygiene and sanitation training; avoiding preventable diseases; advising those seeking medical care and re-iterating the importance of ante- and post-natal care from trained personnel. As a result, there was an increase in the number of pregnant women registered with trained professionals. This has not always translated into an increased number of births at health clinics; MADDO reports that those who attend health clinics for ante-natal care are routinely tested for HIV. Those who test positive are more likely to deliver in the clinic in the interest of the child's health; those who are HIV negative are likely to return home.

EMESCO DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (EMESCO)

A total of 5,613 households (approximately 33,000 people) benefited from EMESCO's programme in 2013. The Healthcare interventions take place in the same 15 communities as the water and sanitation programme in Buyaga County.

15 Community Health Workers are equipped with bicycles as a means of transport and essential drugs kits (containing basics such as analgesia and antibiotics to treat most common illnesses) to facilitate their role in the community. Trained Community Health Workers offer first aid and mobilize communities for health education and homestead improvement. 315 health education sessions were carried out across the 15 communities where new latrines, tippy taps (a locally made hand washing facility), energy saving stoves, drying racks and bath shelters were constructed. This led to a 6% increase in the number of households adopting recommended hygiene and sanitation practices, plus an improvement in the general health of those in the



Madame Beatrice demonstrating her tippy-tap, following her participation in EMESCO's home improvement programme

community. Finally, EMESCO also trained 15 gender-balanced Community Health Committees to lead the communities in action planning for health promotion including health competitions aimed at encouraging good hygiene and sanitation behaviour. With the profile of primary health care changing in both Kenya and Uganda, the government's deregulation of Traditional Birth Attendants meant that EMESCO instead trained 15 Maternal Health Agents (1 per community) to support pregnant women, through the ante-natal phase of pregnancy and mobilise them to deliver at the nearest health facility. While Aidlink welcomes the Ugandan government's aspiration to have every woman deliver in a healthcare facility, working in isolated rural communities we recognise that this is not always possible and there remains a gap in service provision for pregnant women. In this regard, the Maternal Health Agents represented a transition and attempt to fill the gap. After consideration and dialogue with other practitioners and partners, EMESCO have opted into the Village Health Teams model from 2014.

DIOCESE OF LODWAR

The Turkana desert, home to over 900,000 people, most of whom are semi-nomadic pastoralists, is one of the harshest and most isolated regions of Africa with the near continual threat of drought and famine. With 93% of the population classed as living in poverty and literacy at less than 18%, the Turkana are not only among the poorest people in Kenya and Africa, but the world. The Diocese of Lodwar operates outreach clinics to provide primary health care to the Turkana, focusing especially on maternal child health and nutrition.

As part of the decentralisation process in Kenya, a county medical coordinator was appointed to Turkana who opted to carry out a strategic review of medical services in the county, including a mapping exercise of where populations are located. Following this review, the government decided that no outreach facilities should operate within a 5km radius of a static health facility. This, along with security concerns, on-going drought and famine and financial limitations meant that the number of Diocese operated

facilities was reduced from 120 to 75. Despite this, 2013 still saw a 55% increase in the number of births at Diocese-run healthcare facilities and a 40% increase in the number of children who were fully immunised, although this can partly be attributed to food being available at clinics as part of the Diocese's emergency feeding programme.

In response to the deregulation of Traditional Birth Attendants, the Diocese of Lodwar incorporated the position into the Community Health Worker (CHW) structure resulting in the training of more than 50 CHWs to provide basic curative care and wider education on health issues amongst the semi-pastoralist communities. The Diocese has also improved its strategic dialogue and planning with the Ministry of Health in order to improve the quality and extend the reach of its service in Turkana.

SANYU ROSEMARY – A COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER

Sanyu Rosemary, who earns her living as a farmer, is a 30 year old Community Health Worker (CHW) volunteering in Kikomagwa Village in Kibaale District. Although Rosemary dropped out of school in senior two, she has proved to be a valuable resource in her village.

Through EMESCO's Community Development Programme supported by Irish Aid, Rosemary was trained as a CHW in 2013. She has helped in improving the health of people in her community through community mobilization, health education and first aid services.

“At the start, I would receive 20 patients everyday but presently I get only 3 to 5 patients a week,” She said. She notes that diseases like malaria, diarrhoea and skin infections are a thing of the past.

Rosemary adds: *“the positive change has resulted from good health, hygiene and sanitation practices”*

Rosemary's commitment to achieving better results for her community members keeps her motivated.



AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

FOOD SECURITY

Taking advantage of improvements in the areas of water and health in target communities, the Integrated Rural Community Development Programme also works with subsistence farmers – those who grow enough to provide for their family's basic needs – to improve their food and income security.

Learning from previous years of the programme has demonstrated that focusing on training rather than actual inputs is more effective in reaching the targets set out by this programme: to strengthen the ability of rural subsistence farmers to become food and income secure.

OUR WORK WITH FARMERS:

Voluntary Action for Development (VAD)

130 farmers and their families, totalling 780 people, benefited from VAD's agricultural interventions in 2013 and can now be classified as food secure.

VAD's approach involves the selection and training of Community based Agricultural Trainers (CATs) who ensure that the farmers (as well as 3 schools in 2013) within their communities are equipped with skills in sustainable agriculture and best agronomic practices and methods, acting as an example to follow and ensuring the sustainability of the programme in the community. Farmers are also trained in group formation and marketing and business skills in order to aid their progression to becoming income, as well as food, secure. These activities achieved significant success in 2013, with one group of farmers starting an outside catering business whilst others received loans to boost their agricultural production.

Although the number of inputs was reduced in order to focus on training, 14 farmers were selected by the CATs to receive 2 hybrid pigs (1 male, 1 female) each and an additional 5 received 2 hybrid goats. This scheme is established on a revolving basis to ensure that the offspring are passed onto other farmers in the programme, allowing everyone to benefit from the scheme.



Zero-grazing practice

SCHOOL GARDENS – IMPROVING HEALTH AND EDUCATION

The day to day struggle to meet basic needs means that the poorest communities, such as those in Kajiado County, Kenya, give little attention to the quality of the food they eat. As a result, public primary school students often lack the ingredients needed for a balanced diet.

This was the case in Maparasha Primary School until the Girl Child Network (GCN), with support from Aidlink, introduced the School Sanitation Improvement Project. The new school garden provides a vital resource to meet the demands of feeding pupils at the school and as a result, the number of children attending has increased.

By feeding pupils and keeping them in school, the school gardens help to facilitate the GCNs other activities which aim to improve the participation, retention and attainment of girls in education. By providing students with a balanced, nutritious diet, the school gardens improve the pupils health, reducing sickness and absenteeism, as well as improving their ability to concentrate and participate fully in the learning environment. In addition, school gardens have been incorporated into drought risk reduction strategies.



Pupils working in their school garden



A FARMER AND A TEACHER – MUSOKE NOAH'S STORY

Musoke is 27 years old and is one of the farmers trained by VAD to help their communities to develop better farming practices. Here, he tells his story:

When VAD introduced the agricultural project into my village, I volunteered to become the community based trainer and luckily I was seconded by the leaders and community people. I knew that I wasn't the best farmer, but I was willing to learn and become the best.

Different trainers from universities, agricultural research institutes and VAD technical staff trained us in all aspects of farming practices and animal husbandry, and afterwards I went back to my home and practiced what I had learnt. My wife and I improved the way we tended to our garden, increased our banana stools from 15 to 50 and another acre of maize, cassava and some vegetables around the house.

As the community trainer, I taught other farmers in the village the same skills which I had learnt from VAD and they too started to practice sustainable agriculture and the techniques I had shown them. Now, everyone in my village respects me and calls me a teacher. I am proud and happy that my family now has enough food to eat and even some extra which I can sell to raise money. Thanks to VAD, my family lives a happy life.



Musoke Noah

CARITAS MADDO

In 2013, Caritas MADDO formed 25 farmers groups (a total of 750 people) in the same communities where the water and sanitation interventions took place, ensuring the integrated nature of the programme. Having selected both subsistence and cash crops to grow, and been trained in sustainable agriculture, the groups were tasked with establishing both short term and long term goals that recognise the need to mitigate climate change induced water vulnerabilities. To help them achieve these goals, each group establishes 3 sub-committees to establish stronger administrative structures.

There are now 102 demonstration farms where group members, as well as local schools, can participate in learning. All farmers were additionally trained in business skills such as book keeping and basic marketing including post-harvest planning. The marketing sub-committees took responsibility for sourcing opportunities for the groups to sell their produce and negotiating the best price for the whole group. The project has achieved initial success with a 75% increase in the yield of beans, maize and the size of a bunch of bananas compared to when the project started in 2011. Monitoring groups are reporting high rates of adoption of improved practices and are providing on-going support to farmers in the programme.

CONTRIBUTING TO LONG-TERM CHANGE

Aidlink believes that a strong civil society can influence long-term and sustainable change. A central dynamic of Aidlink's rights based framework is about identifying root causes of poverty, empowering rights holders to claim (demand) their rights and enabling duty-bearers to meet their obligations. Recognising the complexity of poverty, Aidlink perceives its existence within the structures of power and inequality that is embedded in the local, national and global context.

Our programmes recognise the particular vulnerabilities of some people within targeted communities and include strategies to ensure the inclusion and the realisation of human rights for women and girls, people living with HIV/AIDS, the elderly and the disabled. Crude analysis of this activity might suggest it is relatively more expensive and targets fewer people than a protected spring, however, the action is easily justified by the recognition of the beneficiaries right to water, basic medical care and food.

All of our partners are involved in advocacy work designed to inform people of their rights and help them to demand that the duty-bearers meet their obligations. EMESCO use a weekly radio broadcast to over 3 million people to promote their water and sanitation activities, raise awareness of rights and as a tool for transparency. Both VAD and the Girl Child Network participate in Walk for Water, mobilising local communities to demand that the government tackles the water and sanitation crisis. Their participation in this event provides a connection between Irish students participating in Walk for Water and the beneficiaries of Aidlink's interventions. Caritas MADD0 lead a campaign to reduce corporal punishment in schools in the District whilst the Diocese of Lodwar's peace and justice programme tackles issues such as gender-based violence.

In Kenya, the Girl Child Network's (GCN) entire programme is founded on the promotion and realisation of the rights of the child, especially the girl child, in Kajiado County. Although the programme contains water and sanitation interventions, these are a means to the realisation of children's rights, both in school and in the community.

PROFILE: GIRL CHILD NETWORK

The Schools Sanitation Improvement Programme (SSIP) focuses on removing barriers preventing girls from accessing education. Activities carried out include: constructing girl-

ROC CLUBS

The Girl Child Network (GCN) has established Rights of the Child (ROC) clubs in all 84 schools which participate in the Schools Sanitation Improvement Programme. Their aim is not only to raise awareness of children's rights, but also to change behaviour and attitudes in Maasai society.

10 Rights of the Child (ROC) clubs were trained in 2013. The members of these clubs are expected to be able to articulate their rights, as well as inform their peers of them and act as positive social deviants, challenging negative cultural practices such as FGM and sexual violence against girls, which have become embedded in society over time.

Although the GCN places a special emphasis on the challenges facing the girl child, Maasai boys, also have difficulties in accessing education. The programme therefore doesn't aim to protect girls rights over boys, but to promote the rights of all children, building a more equal future for both boys and girls.

Evidence has demonstrated increasing confidence amongst ROC club members, and the wider community to discuss traditional cultural practices and the challenges facing the girl child in society. Nevertheless, there remains much work to be done and both Aidlink and the GCN recognise the need to further facilitate expansion of these clubs beyond the school compound and into the community.



Peter, Emmanuel, Eunice and Sharon (from left to right), members of the ROC club at Inkorkidinga primary school talking to Anne Cleary, Executive Director, Aidlink



Kaimoy with her baby and her mother

KEEPING GIRLS IN SCHOOL- KAIMOY'S STORY

"Kaimoy is 13 years old and lives in Kajiado County in Kenya. She is the 7th and last born girl in a poor family of 11 children. The family lives in a Manyatta with a small window for ventilation. Her father, mother and the other two wives of the father are all illiterate and have never been to school. Whilst some of her siblings attend school, others look after the family's goats and cows.

Up until last year, Kaimoy attended Isilale primary school, one of the GCN project schools, where she was considered a bright pupil who was very active in both class work and outdoor activities. She was also a member of the GCN's Rights of the Child club at the School. When she was 12 years old, Kaimoy was circumcised but was allowed to go back to school after pleading with her parents and the school teacher.

Recently, Kaimoy dropped out of school after falling pregnant. Kaimoy spends her days caring for the child but hopes to go back to school. Her mother is supportive of Kaimoy's ambitions to continue her education but her father prefers marriage [as he believes her to be] a disgrace to the family.

With the support of the GCN, Kaimoy will be allowed to go back to school, where her mother hopes she will study hard to become a teacher. Since Kaimoy comes from a very disadvantaged family, the GCN will support her back in education with all levies she is required to pay, school uniforms and all stationery required. The school will provide her a flexible programme in order to attend to her baby."

friendly latrines in schools; training boys and girls on the rights of the child, sexual maturation and HIV/AIDS; and developing the capacity of school management committees to tackle the socio-cultural factors which hinder girls' education.

Girls in Kajiado are liable to drop out of school early as a result of early marriage, early pregnancy and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). The programme aims to ensure that: firstly, school is a safe environment for girls by providing appropriate toilet facilities, sanitary towels, changing rooms and water on site; and secondly, the staff, parents and students are sensitive to the issues faced by girls in schools, Maasai culture and general life. It aims to ensure that those who are enrolled are retained, perform well and transit to higher institutions of learning. Maasai girls who complete primary school are less likely to undergo FGM, marry young and have early pregnancies. Girls who complete primary school are more likely to understand and demand their Rights.

In 2013, the project was implemented in 10 new schools, taking the total number of schools included in the SSIP programme up to 84. All these schools now meet the UNICEF standard of a 'child-friendly' school and continue to receive on-going mentoring as part of the programme. There has been an average increase of 5% in enrolment rates at SSIP schools since 2012 as well as an increase in the number of girls taking the Kenyan Certificate of Primary Education and an 8% reduction in absenteeism. Rights of the Child (ROC) clubs are established in all 84

schools, educating schoolchildren (boys and girls) on their rights and how to lobby for them. ROC clubs are vital to changing behaviour and traditional cultural practices in both schools and the wider community.

The success of the GCN programme has seen this learning transferred to Uganda where the construction of new water and sanitation facilities in school recognises the specific needs of girls and therefore includes female changing rooms as part of the latrine construction.

AIDLINK IN IRELAND



Students from Loreto College, St. Stephen's Green, Walking for Water in solidarity with their peers in Kenya and Uganda, March 2013.

DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION

Aidlink takes an active role in development education in Ireland through our role on the management consortium for www.developmenteducation.ie. This website acts as a valuable education resource for teachers and students alike, engaging them on a range of development issues and increasing their knowledge and awareness of Ireland's international development agenda. Aidlink's development education programme, including the student immersion programme in Ghana, aims to contribute to increased knowledge and understanding of global justice issues and increased engagement and action by students as active global citizens. Aidlink is also actively engaged in social media, on both Facebook and Twitter, raising awareness of our work and that of our partners and contributing to discussion and debate around wider global development issues.



**DEVELOPMENT
EDUCATION.IE**

WALK FOR WATER

For the second year running, Aidlink led the Walk for Water campaign in Ireland, increasing awareness of international water and sanitation issues in Irish secondary schools. Walk for Water is a global solidarity event demanding action across the world to address the water and sanitation crisis in developing countries. In 2013, Aidlink mobilised more than 1,000 Irish students from 7 schools to walk 6km whilst carrying water in solidarity with their peers in Kenya and Uganda. We are proud to have participated in this event in partnership with VAD and GCN, who lead this campaign in their own communities. Our sincere thanks to all the schools, teachers and students involved, for their commitment and support and for their determination to take part despite truly awful weather in March 2013: Loreto Abbey, Dalkey; Seamount College, Kinvara; Cabinteely Community School; Loreto College, St. Stephen's Green; Mount Anville Secondary School; Loreto High School, Beaufort; and Newtown School, Waterford



Anne Cleary and Ms. Mary Mc Keown, Chief Executive Foundation Nepal, with President Michael D Higgins

On Thursday 4 July, 2013, President Michael D. Higgins hosted a Garden Party for International Social Justice Agencies in Áras an Uachtaráin to celebrate the contribution of Irish development organisations to international social justice issues and in particular to acknowledge and thank volunteers for their contribution to the success of these organisations and their development goals. Aidlink Executive Director Anne Cleary, Programme Officer Frances Wallace and Board Members Elaine Brennan, Mick Dunne, Philip Owende, Stephen Ranalow, Mary Scully and Martin Tormey were delighted to be present on this very special occasion.

"Ireland's official development aid programme, Irish Aid, and our NGO development agencies have earned a deserved international reputation for their transparency, their technical effectiveness and their human compassion and it is a reputation of which I, as President of Ireland, am extremely proud and for which I wish to thank you all."

**President Michael D. Higgins
Speech honouring the work of
Development NGOs, July 2013.**



Thank

St. Patrick's Day Badge Campaign

2013 marked the 25th anniversary of Blackrock College's St. Patrick's Day Badge campaign. Since 1988, transition year students have been selling shamrock badges in the run up to St. Patrick's Day in order to raise vital funds for development projects supported by Aidlink and Goal. The boys manage all aspects of the project from design to advertising and have sold over 3.5 million badges, raising over 2 million euros.

To celebrate the 25th anniversary, over 800 boys from Blackrock College and Willow Park donned green t-shirts created a giant human shamrock, successfully breaking the Guinness World Record for forming the largest human shamrock.



Blackrock College and Willow Park students form the largest human shamrock to break the Guinness World Record

AIDLINK RECEIVED GRANT SUPPORT FROM:

ACC EMPLOYEES' FUND FOR THIRD WORLD AID

ASTI DEVELOPMENT AID FUND

ASOCIACION PARA LA SOLIDARIDAD

BANK OF IRELAND EMPLOYEES' GROUP FOR THIRD WORLD AID

ELECTRIC AID

IRISH AID

RTE ONE WORLD FUND

ROTARY CLUB THURLES

STAFF OF HSE (CORK AND KERRY)

ASSOCIATION FOR THE RELIEF OF POVERTY

THE TONY RYAN TRUST

METHODIST CHURCH OF IRELAND WORLD DEVELOPMENT & RELIEF COMMITTEE (WDRC)



Run-a-muck Challenge

We'd like to say a big thank you to the 20 brave souls who 'Ran a Muck' in Kildare in 2013 – they demonstrated incredible determination and perseverance in the cold and mud to raise more than €2,000 for Aidlink.

You

Aidlink and our partners would like to thank all of our donors whose support in 2013 enabled us to make a lasting difference in the lives of people living in poverty in Kenya, Uganda and Ghana. In addition to the organisations listed here; our sincere thanks goes to our Regular Givers and to those who wish to remain anonymous.

THANK YOU TO ALL THE SCHOOLS THAT SUPPORTED OUR WORK

MOUNT ANVILLE SECONDARY SCHOOL, DUBLIN

CABINTEELY COMMUNITY SCHOOL, DUBLIN

LORETO ABBEY, DALKEY

ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE, DUBLIN

NEWTOWN SCHOOL, WATERFORD

LORETO COLLEGE, ST. STEPHEN'S GREEN SEAMOUNT COLLEGE, KINVARA

BLACKROCK COLLEGE, BLACKROCK

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE C.S.Sp. RATHMINES

Flora Women's Mini Marathon

Aidlink is incredibly grateful to all the women who have taken part in The Flora Women's Mini Marathon since 2006. This is the biggest all-women's event of its kind in the world and has become a regular feature on the Aidlink fundraising calendar with participants; running, jogging, walking and sometimes falling over the finish line on behalf of and in solidarity with the communities with whom we work across Kenya and Uganda! In June 2013, 30 women once more challenged themselves, raising over €4,500. A huge big THANK YOU to everyone who took part!



Photo: Some of Team Aidlink 2013



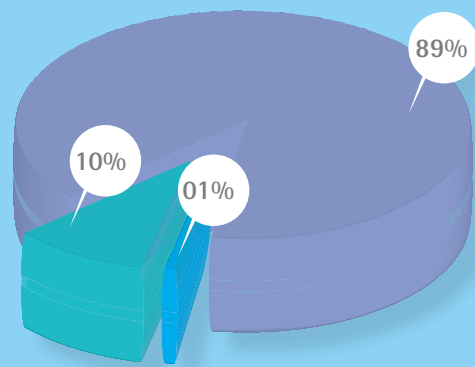
(Left) Adrian McGoldrick, Ger Kissane and Niamh Murphy

(Right) Carl Mullen, Eoin Lynagh and Brian Hamond, past pupils of Templeogue College and St. Mary's College. Ghana Immersion participants 2006

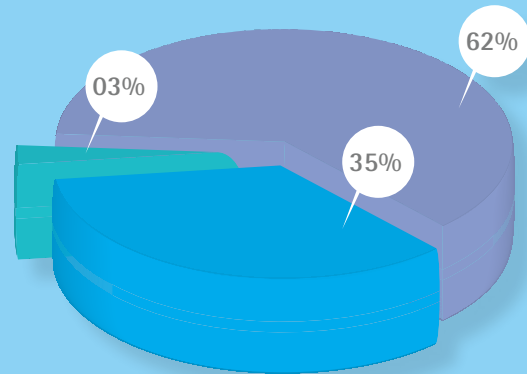
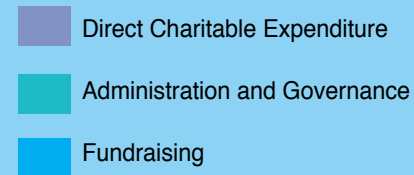


ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

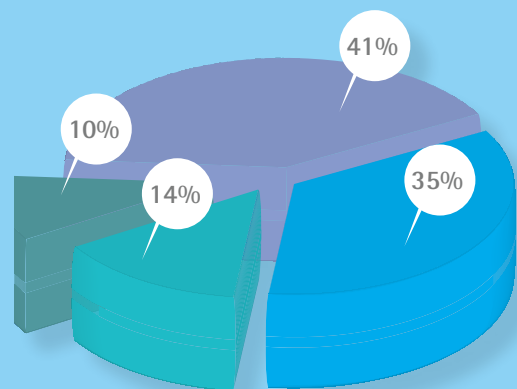
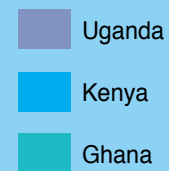
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013



TOTAL PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE



BY COUNTRY



BY OUTCOME



REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

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AIDLINK DIRECTORS AND OTHER INFORMATION

DIRECTORS	Mr Clive Byrne (Chairperson) Mr Kieran Cooney (Treasurer) Ms Elaine Brennan Mr Mick Dunne Dr Philip Owende Fr Gerard O'Connor C.Ss.R. Dr Stephen Ranalow Ms Mary Scully Mr Martin Tormey (resigned 18th June 2013) Ms Paula McGovern (resigned 11th February 2013) Ms Gemma Grimes (appointed 15th April 2013)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Ms. Anne Cleary
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AUDITORS	Deloitte & Touche Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm Deloitte & Touche House Earlsfort Terrace Dublin 2
BANKERS	Bank of Ireland Blackrock Co. Dublin
CHARITY NO	CHY 9078

DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements of Aidlink for the year ended 31 December 2013.

LEGAL STATUS

Aidlink is a company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital, incorporated in Ireland in 1982 under the Companies Acts, 1963 to 2013, registered number CHY 9078.

ACTIVITY AND REVIEW

Aidlink is a registered charity, the objective of which is to relieve poverty in the third world. A detailed review of the aims and activities of Aidlink for the year is set out in the Chairman's Statement included in the Annual Report 2013. The Annual Report 2013 can be accessed by visiting Aidlink's website at www.aidlink.ie.

RESULTS

	31/12/2013	31/12/2012
	€	€
Net movement for the year	<u>(10,432)</u>	<u>(147,937)</u>

The deficit of €10,432 reflects the timing of income and expenditure. Projects previously funded by grants and donations in 2012 and prior years, had such funds held back until required in Restricted and Unrestricted Reserves. It was possible to fund these important projects during 2013 from the reserves maintained. The future financial support of Aidlink depends on the continued support of government agencies and other donors.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The directors do not envisage any change to the activity of Aidlink. Aidlink has been a recipient under the Irish Aid sponsored multi-annual programme for the 2012 to 2015 period with grant approval of €548,000 per annum. While this grant is a significant reduction from prior years, Aidlink has commissioned and implemented a Fundraising Strategy in order to diversify income streams, and reduce the effect the reduction in Irish Aid income may otherwise have on Aidlink's capacity to deliver programmes.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The directors are committed to maintaining the highest standards of Corporate Governance and they believe that this is a key element in ensuring the proper operation of Aidlink's activities. As part of this policy an effective Board and a competent Executive Director head Aidlink.

The Board is responsible for providing leadership, setting strategy and ensuring control. The Board can comprise of up to 12 non-executive directors and during 2013 there was an average of nine Board members. The Board's non-executive directors are drawn from diverse backgrounds including development, business, education and health, who bring to the Board significant professional and decision-making skills achieved in their respective fields, together with a broad range of experience and views.

There is a clear division of responsibility at Aidlink with the Board retaining control of major decisions under a formal schedule of matters reserved to the Board for decision, with the Executive Director responsible for devising strategy and policy within the authorities delegated to her by the Board.

Aidlink has a comprehensive process for reporting management information to the Board. The Board is provided with regular information, which includes monthly management accounts. The Board meets regularly as required and met seven times during 2013.

All non-executive directors are appointed for an initial three year term, which may be renewed for one further three year period, giving a maximum of six continuous years for any director. Directors may if eligible offer themselves for re-election at the end of the first term. The role of Chairman and Executive Director are separate and all directors are independent of the management of Aidlink.

As a member of Dóchas, Aidlink subscribes to the principles contained in the Irish Development NGOs Code of Corporate Governance. In line with stipulation 2.1.F.1 of the Code, Directors are precluded from making any personal profit from their roles as Board members in the form of remuneration or service contracts.

INTERNAL CONTROLS

The directors acknowledge their overall responsibility for Aidlink's systems of internal control and for reviewing its effectiveness. They have delegated responsibility for the implementation of this system to the Executive Director. This system includes financial controls, which enable the Board to meet its responsibilities for the integrity and accuracy of Aidlink's accounting records.

The Board has established a process of compliance which addresses the Boards wider responsibility to maintain, review and report on all internal controls, including financial and operational.

Key elements of internal control systems:-

1. Aidlink has strict policies and procedures in place for the receipt, recording and control of donations received from private individuals and the corporate sector.
2. Procedures and control systems are formally documented in a series of partnership and project agreements that are reviewed bi-annually on a project by project basis.
3. There is a formal organisational structure in place with clearly defined lines of responsibility, division of duties and delegation of authority.

- 4. A detailed budget is prepared annually which is in line with the strategic plan and approved by the Board. Actual results and service outcomes are compared regularly against budget and prior year to ensure alignment with budget, tight administration control and value for money.
- 5. The Audit Committee reports independently to the Board on all aspects of controls and risks.
- 6. The Board maintains a reserve policy that exceeds the minimum recommended for charities (three months reserves) to mitigate the increasing risks of the uncertain economy and to ensure sustainability of our services. Our actual reserves would not have been less than six months during 2013.

BOARD COMMITTEES

1. AUDIT

The Audit Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities by independently reviewing financial statements. The function of the Audit Committee also is to review internal financial controls and processes. It liaises with external auditors and monitors the effectiveness of the external audit function. The Audit Committee reports directly to the Board.

The Audit Committee members were Kieran Cooney, Martin Tormey and Mary Scully. Martin Tormey resigned during the year and was not replaced on the board.

2. RISK MANAGEMENT

The directors on the Risk Management Committee examine the major risks that Aidlink faces. Systems and processes are then developed to monitor and control the risks in order to mitigate the potential impact that they may have on the future development of the organisation. The directors have set out below what they consider to be the principal risks impacting on Aidlink and the steps taken to address these risks:

- 1. **Partner/Programmes Risk:** A partnership approach is central to Aidlink's work. The Board reviews monitoring and evaluation procedures inclusive of field visit reports and assesses dependency on Aidlink routinely and supports partners to source new streams of income.
- 2. **Financial Risk:** The Board's appointment of an Audit Committee ensures that financial control procedures are in line with best practice and monitor them for accuracy and compliance.
- 3. **Employee Risk:** The Board constantly reviews the development of strategies to ensure the sustainability of the organisation and minimise any overdependence on any individual staff member.
- 4. **Funding Risk:** In the current economic recession Aidlink faces challenges in the key area of fundraising and pressure on income is likely to continue. Aidlink has worked hard at reducing costs to ensure that our donors get best value for monies contributed. Furthermore, a Fundraising Strategy has been agreed, details of which are evident in the Aidlink 2014 Risk Register, in order to drive income-generation from diversified sources. The Board monitors dependency on any one donor and is working to build up the current level of reserves as a protection against economic fluctuations.
- 5. **Child Protection Risk:** Aidlink has adopted Children First Ireland's National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children. The Board has facilitated the training and the development and upgrading of child protection for all partners. All 6 partners have child protection policies in place. Immersion programmes are governed by the participating schools' Child Protection Policy

- 6. **Reputational Risk:** Aidlink's reputation could be damaged due to fraud or other breakdowns in our own or partner financial controls. The Board monitors the quality and performance of staff and partners to ensure maintenance of a positive reputation and is satisfied that recent external monitoring and evaluation reports support this belief.
- 7. **Immersion Programme Specific Risk:** Aidlink is responsible for ensuring the health and safety of secondary school students travelling to Africa on an Aidlink-facilitated programme, and for delivering experiential development education outcomes. The Board is strengthening partnerships with participating schools and with hosts, delineating roles and responsibilities, and ensuring adequate leadership and supervision. A pre-departure country risk assessment is carried out. Vaccinations and insurance are arranged beforehand, and appropriate steps are taken to ensure adequate health and safety standards are maintained in all accommodation, travel and daily activities.

The Risk Management Committee members were Fr Gerard O'Connor C.Ss.R., Mick Dunne, Stephen Ralalow and Kieran Cooney, who met once during the year.

3. REMUNERATION COMMITTEE

The responsibility of the Remuneration Committee is to conduct all employee performance reviews and to make recommendations to the Board regarding salaries.

The Remuneration Committee members were Clive Byrne, Elaine Brennan, Philip Owende and Stephen Ralalow, who met once during the year.

4. DIRECTOR PERFORMANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

The responsibility of the Director Performance Review Committee is to assess the performance of the Board members individually and as a body, to identify current and future expertise requirements and to conduct assessment of potential new Board candidates.

The Director Performance Review Committee members were Clive Byrne and Mick Dunne, who met once during the year.

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising is the responsibility of the whole Board, who oversee all funding aspects of Aidlink's operation and performance to ensure short- and long-term viability. The Statement of Guiding Principles for Fundraising has been adopted, and this informs the new Fundraising Strategy. The Board has decided to devote additional staff resources to fundraising activities, with the introduction of a part-time role with responsibility for fundraising and implementing the fundraising strategy.

DIRECTORS

The current membership of the Board is set out on page 31.

POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There have been no significant events affecting Aidlink since the year end.

BOOKS OF ACCOUNT

To ensure that proper books and accounting records are kept in accordance with Section 202 Companies Act, 1990, the directors have engaged appropriately qualified accounting personnel and have maintained appropriate accounting systems. The books of account are located at Aidlink's premises at 34 Greenmount Office Park, Harold's Cross, Dublin 6.

RESERVES

At the end of 2013, Restricted and Unrestricted Reserves were €314,232 down from €324,664. The net movement in the reserves for the year of €10,432 reflected the timing of income and expenditure. Of the available resources, €179,113 was held for restricted purposes, as the funds were donated for specific areas and programmes. Projects previously funded by grants and donations in 2012 and prior years, had such funds held back until required in Restricted and Unrestricted Reserves. In 2013, despite the reduction in current revenue, it was possible to fund these important projects from the reserves maintained. A portion of both Restricted and Unrestricted Reserves are used to cover Aidlink’s operating expenses. The balance in Unrestricted Reserves of €135,119 will be used to cater for partner emergencies and to allow Aidlink to respond rapidly in such circumstances.

The minimum recommended level of Reserves to be maintained by charities is three months’ expenses. The Board believes that this is too low a level to maintain in the current economic climate and throughout 2013, the level of Unrestricted Reserves maintained by Aidlink was a minimum of six months. It is Aidlink policy to maintain Reserves by means of operating surpluses and judicious management of expenses and by general purpose appeals from time to time. It is the policy of Aidlink to distribute Restricted and Unrestricted Reserves to specified projects as quickly as possible. Delays in aid projects occasionally arise which necessitate the holding back of remittances. At the year end all Restricted Reserves were committed in full to selected overseas projects.

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS’ RESPONSIBILITIES

Irish company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of Aidlink and of the surplus or deficit of Aidlink for that year. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

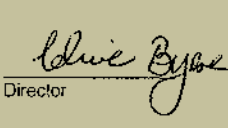
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that Aidlink will continue in business.


The directors are responsible for keeping proper books of account which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of Aidlink and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting standards generally accepted in Ireland and comply with Irish statute comprising the Companies Acts, 1963 to 2013. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of Aidlink and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

AUDITORS

The auditors, Deloitte & Touche, Chartered Accountants, continue in office in accordance with Section 160(2) of the Companies Act, 1963.

Signed on behalf of the Board:


Director


Director

Clive Byrne

Stephen Randalow

Date: 19 May 2014

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AIDLINK

We have audited the financial statements of Aidlink for the year ended 31 December 2013 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Accounting Policies, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes 1 to 13. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish law and accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council and promulgated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland (Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland).

This report is made solely to Aidlink's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 193 of the Companies Act, 1990. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to Aidlink's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Aidlink and Aidlink's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS AND AUDITORS

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements giving a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with Irish law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

SCOPE OF THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to Aidlink's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2013 to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

OPINION ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, of the state of the affairs of Aidlink as at 31 December 2013 and of the net outgoing resources for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Acts, 1963 to 2013.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY THE COMPANIES ACTS, 1963 TO 2013

- We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.
- In our opinion proper books of account have been kept by Aidlink.
- The financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.
- In our opinion the information given in the directors' report is consistent with the financial statements.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

We have nothing to report in respect of the provisions in the Companies Acts, 1963 to 2013 which require us to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions specified by law are not made.



Thomas Cassin
For and on behalf of Deloitte & Touche
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm
Dublin

Date: 19 May 2014

AIDLINK STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The significant accounting policies adopted by Aidlink are as follows:

BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting standards generally accepted in Ireland and Irish statute comprising the Companies Acts, 1963 to 2013.

In preparing the financial statements, Aidlink has referred to guidance included within the following Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), Accounting and Reporting for Charities, 2005, and has adopted best practice to the extent that requirements contained within the aforementioned SORP is applicable to Aidlink.

ACCOUNTING CONVENTION

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

INCOMING RESOURCES

Income is accounted for when amounts receivable on grant and funding applications are approved or paid. Investment income is accounted for on a receipts basis. Public donations and similar income arising from fundraising events are accounted for when received.

As with similar charitable organisations, independent groups from time to time organise fundraising activities. However, as amounts collected this way are outside the control of Aidlink, they are not included in the financial statements until received by Aidlink.

Restricted funds

Income received by Aidlink, the application of which is restricted to a specific purpose by the donor, is treated as restricted funds and any unspent amounts as restricted assets.

Such specified purposes are within the overall aims of the organisation.

Unrestricted funds

Other income, apart from restricted funds, is used by Aidlink in the furtherance of its work and objectives. Such funds may be held in order to finance administration expenses or may be used at the discretion of the organisation for specified purposes that are within the aims of the organisation.

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Resources expended is analysed between direct expenditure and administrative expenditure. Direct expenditure is accounted for when applications are paid. Administrative expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis.

JOINTLY-FUNDED DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Certain development projects undertaken by Aidlink in overseas centres are co-funded by other development agencies. These co-funding agencies send money either to Aidlink's office in Dublin or directly to the overseas centre, where the project is being implemented. Where the money is received in the Aidlink office it is treated as revenue in the period in which it is received. Where the money is sent directly to the overseas centre by the co-funding agency, the joint funding is excluded from both the income and expenditure of Aidlink.

FOREIGN CURRENCIES

Revenues and costs arising from transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Euro at the rates of exchange ruling on the date on which the transaction occurred.

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Euro at the rates of exchange ruling on the balance sheet date. The resulting surplus or deficit are dealt with in the statement of financial activities.

FIXED ASSETS AND DEPRECIATION

Fixed assets are recorded at cost.

Depreciation is provided so as to write off the cost of fixed assets over their expected useful lives at the following annual rates:

Office equipment 10% straight line

Computer equipment 20% straight line

OPERATING LEASES


Annual operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities in the year that they are paid.


AIDLINK
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

INCOMING RESOURCES		Restricted Funds 2013	Unrestricted Funds 2013	Total Funds 2013	Total Funds 2012
	Notes	€	€	€	€
Incoming Resources from Generated Funds					
Voluntary Income	1	800	99,002	99,802	256,912
Activities for generating funds	1	-	15,005	15,005	20,000
Investment Income	1	-	2,421	2,421	7,991
		800	116,428	117,228	284,903
Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities					
Irish Aid	1	548,398	-	548,398	548,398
Other Grants	1	279,480	-	279,480	241,145
		827,878	-	827,878	789,543
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		828,678	116,428	945,106	1,074,446
Resources Expended					
Cost of Generating Funds -					
Costs of Generating Voluntary Income	2	(7,621)	(3,613)	(11,234)	(6,013)
Charitable Activities -					
Programme Costs	2	(809,027)	(33,437)	(842,464)	(1,072,140)
Governance Costs	2	-	(4,734)	(4,734)	(5,785)
Other Resources Expended	2	(5,000)	(92,106)	(97,106)	(138,445)
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	4	(821,648)	(133,890)	(955,538)	(1,222,383)
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources	9	7,030	(17,462)	(10,432)	(147,937)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	9	172,083	152,581	324,664	472,601
Total funds carried forward	9	179,113	135,119	314,232	324,664

There is no recognised surplus or deficit other than the net outgoing resources arising from continuing operations disclosed.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 19 May 2014 and signed on its behalf by:


Director


Director

AIDLINK
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2013

		2013	2012
	Notes	€	€
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	6	3,474	1,939
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	8,205	15,976
Cash at bank and in hand		328,369	315,910
		336,574	331,886
CREDITORS:	8	(25,816)	(9,161)
(Amounts falling due within one year)			
NET CURRENT ASSETS		310,758	322,725
NET ASSETS		314,232	324,664
REPRESENTED BY:			
Accumulated funds - Restricted	9	179,113	172,083
Accumulated funds - Unrestricted	9	135,119	152,581
		314,232	324,664

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 19 May 2014 and signed on its behalf by:


Director


Director

AIDLINK
CASHFLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

		2013	2012
	Notes	€	€
NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	10	12,295	(189,628)
RETURNS ON INVESTMENT AND SERVICING OF FINANCE			
Interest received		2,421	7,991
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL INVESTMENT			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(2,257)	-
INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND		12,459	(181,637)
ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND			
	31/12/13	Cashflow	1/1/2013
	€	€	€
Cash at bank and in hand	328,369	12,459	315,910

AIDLINK
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

1. INCOMING RESOURCES

	Restricted Funds 2013	Unrestricted Funds 2013	Total Funds 2013	Total Funds 2012
		€	€	€
Incoming Resources from Generated Funds				
a) Voluntary Income				
Ghana Immersion Programme	800	-	800	165,692
Other Donors and Standing Orders	-	99,002	99,002	91,220
	800	99,002	99,802	256,912
b) Activities for Generating Funds				
St Patrick's Day Badge campaign	-	15,005	15,005	20,000
c) Investment Income	-	2,421	2,421	7,991
Total	800	116,428	117,228	284,903
Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities				
Irish Aid				
Kenya – Health	100,000	-	100,000	100,000
Kenya – Education	100,000	-	100,000	100,000
Uganda – Water, Sanitation and Health	300,495	-	300,495	300,495
General Programme Quality	15,000	-	15,000	15,000
Ireland-Programme Support Costs	32,903	-	32,903	32,903
Total Irish Aid	548,398	-	548,398	548,398
Third World Groups	279,480	-	279,480	241,145
Total	827,878	-	827,878	789,543
Total Incoming Resources	828,678	116,428	945,106	1,074,446

All Incoming Resources excluding Irish Aid income were Domestically Generated Voluntary Income.

AIDLINK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

2. RESOURCES EXPENDED	Restricted Funds 2013	Unrestricted Funds 2013	Total Funds 2013	Total Funds 2012
Cost of Generating Funds				
Fundraising expenses	(7,621)	(3,613)	(11,234)	(6,013)
Charitable activities				
Irish Aid co-funded activities	(548,398)	-	(548,398)	(553,937)
Third World Group programmes	(223,754)	-	(223,754)	(291,157)
Ghana Immersion Programme	-	-	-	(124,123)
Other Aidlink co-funded programmes	(2,500)	-	(2,500)	(27,490)
Programme staff salaries	(34,375)	(33,437)	(67,812)	(75,433)
Total	(809,027)	(33,437)	(842,464)	(1,072,140)
Governance Costs				
Professional and Audit Fees	-	(4,734)	(4,734)	(5,785)
Other Resources Expended				
Salaries	-	(46,731)	(46,731)	(55,295)
Printing, stationery, light, heat and telephone	-	(15,143)	(15,143)	(16,242)
Office rent	(5,000)	(10,500)	(15,500)	(32,000)
Strategic planning	-	-	-	(8,707)
Rates	-	(5,024)	(5,024)	(5,048)
Partner field visits and travel	-	-	-	(3,356)
Insurance	-	(3,404)	(3,404)	(3,105)
Website and computer expenses	-	(1,067)	(1,067)	(2,174)
Repairs and maintenance	-	(6,276)	(6,276)	(2,907)
Depreciation	-	(722)	(722)	(687)
Subscriptions	-	(90)	(90)	(200)
Bank interest and charges	-	(177)	(177)	(346)
Sundry other expenses	-	(2,972)	(2,972)	(8,378)
Total	(5,000)	(92,106)	(97,106)	(138,445)
Total Resources Expended	(821,648)	(133,890)	(955,538)	(1,222,383)

AIDLINK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

3. EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION	2013 Number	2012 Number
The average numbers of persons employed by the company during the year were:		
Administration	3	3
The staff costs are comprised of:		
	2013	2012
	€	€
Salaries	111,058	118,151
Social welfare costs	11,106	12,577
	122,164	130,728

There are no employees with emoluments above €70,000 in the year.

4. NET OUTGOING RESOURCES	2013	2012
	€	€
Net outgoing resources is stated after charging:		
Directors’ remuneration and emoluments	-	-
Depreciation	722	687
Auditors’ remuneration and after crediting:	4,736	4,736
Interest income	2,421	7,991
Auditors’ remuneration disclosure (excluding Value Added Tax)		
- Audit	3,850	3,850
- Tax advisory services	-	-
- Other assurance services	-	-
- Other non audit services	-	-

5. TAXATION

There is no charge to taxation in respect of the organisation as Aidlink has been granted charitable status under Section 207 of the Consolidated Tax Act, 1997, therefore no provision for taxation has been made.

AIDLINK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013 (CONTINUED)

6. FIXED ASSETS

	Office equipment	Computer equipment	Total
	€	€	€
Cost:			
At 1 January 2013	8,621	10,953	19,574
Additions	-	2,257	2,257
At 31 December 2013	8,621	13,210	21,831
Depreciation:			
At 1 January 2013	6,682	10,953	17,635
Charge for year	422	300	722
At 31 December 2013	7,104	11,253	18,357
Net Book Value:			
At 31 December 2013	1,517	1,957	3,474
At 31 December 2012	1,939	-	1,939

7. DEBTORS:
(Amounts falling due within one year)

	2013	2012
	€	€
Debtors and accrued income	8,205	7,976
Rent deposit	-	8,000
	8,205	15,976

8. CREDITORS:
(Amounts falling due within one year)

	2013	2012
	€	€
PAYE/PRSI	3,760	-
Accruals	22,056	9,161
	25,816	9,161

AIDLINK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013 (CONTINUED)

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Restricted Funds 2013	Unrestricted Funds 2013	Total Funds 2013	Total Funds 2012
	€	€	€	€
Accumulated funds -:				
Balance at 1 January	172,083	152,581	324,664	472,601
Income	828,678	116,428	945,106	1,074,446
Expenditure	(821,648)	(133,890)	(955,538)	(1,222,383)
Balance at 31 December	179,113	135,119	314,232	324,664

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Restricted Funds 2013	Unrestricted Funds 2013	2013	2012
	€	€	€	€
Tangible fixed assets	-	3,474	3,474	1,939
Current assets	195,651	140,923	336,574	331,886
Current liabilities	(16,538)	(9,278)	(25,816)	(9,161)
Balance at 31 December	179,113	135,119	314,232	324,664

10. RECONCILIATION OF NET OUTGOING RESOURCES TO NET CASH INFLOW/ (OUTFLOW) FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2013	2012
	€	€
Movement in funds	(10,432)	(147,937)
Interest income	(2,421)	(7,991)
Movement in funds before financial activities	(12,853)	(155,928)
Depreciation charge	722	687
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	7,771	(5,629)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	16,655	(28,758)
NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	12,295	(189,628)

AIDLINK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013 (CONTINUED)

11. LEASE COMMITMENTS

Operating lease commitments:

At 31 December, Aidlink had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below:

	2013	2012
	€	€
Premises:		
Operating leases which expire:		
Within one year	-	8,000
In the second to fifth years inclusive	-	-
Over five years	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>8,000</u>

The office space lease lapsed in April 2013. No new lease has been signed by the company as at 31 December 2013. There was a €Nil lease commitment at 31 December 2013 (2012: €8,000). Negotiations with the landlord for a new lease of the office space were ongoing as at 31 December 2013. No formal commitment to a lease existed at that date.

12. STATUS

Aidlink is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. Every member of Aidlink undertakes, if necessary on a winding up during the time they are a member or within one year after they cease to be a member, thereafter to contribute to the assets of Aidlink an amount not exceeding €1.27.

Under the provision of Section 24 of the Companies Act, 1963, Aidlink is exempt from including word 'Limited' in its name.

13. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Comparative figures for the Programme Staff Salaries and Salaries designated under 'Other Resources Expended' have been re-classified on the same basis as current year figures.



ANNUAL REPORT 2013

Aidlink has signed up
to the Dóchas Code of
Corporate Governance



Aidlink has signed up to the Dóchas Code
of Conduct on Images and Messages



**DEVELOPMENT
EDUCATION.IE**

ICTR
the Statement of Guiding
Principles for Fundraising

aidlink
Third world development through partnership

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