

ANNUAL REPORT 2012



Matebe Margate, Wakiso District, Uganda, receiving a bicycle:
her transport to deliver her 'on farm' training to other farmers in her community



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Front cover photo: Community in Buyaga County, Uganda celebrating their newly protected shallow wells

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT 2012



In the context of the on-going economic turbulence in Ireland, Aidlink has maintained and consolidated partnerships and programmes through another difficult year.

Revenue generated for the year was in line with expectations and on par with the previous year at just over €1 million. Aidlink is included in Irish Aid's programme funding for the 4 year period 2012-2015. In 2012 actual income from Irish Aid amounted to €0.548m. Given cutbacks in the Irish Aid budget, there was a material cut from the previous multi-annual block grant scheme with the current year allocations down 43%. As the cash flow impact of this had already been reflected in the timing of funding from Irish Aid, we had already taken measures to inform and work with our programme partners on reduced budgets going forward and to reduce our own cost base in providing services. Aidlink continues to focus on our core values, such as meeting the basic needs of the poor.

The number of grants received from Third World Groups (TWG), a group of public and private organisations' voluntary staff schemes, has been maintained and for that we are most grateful. Actual income is down slightly on 2011, in part due to timing of income and in part due to some reduction in size of actual grants in line with general national economic situation. Asociacion para la Solidaridad, Spain is a welcome new partner donor for the first time in 2012 with additional funding committed for 2013.

Programmes and budgets were reviewed with existing partners. 95% of programme funds allocated to Uganda and Kenya, the remaining 5% to Ghana. Aidlink's strategic focus was maintained on its core priority issues of (i) water, in particular community water and sanitation, integrated water and health programmes, and integrated water in education activities; (ii) agriculture and food security, though the emphasis was reduced in 2012, particularly in Uganda (iii) health, with a focus on Primary Health care activities in Turkana, Kenya. The cuts in budget has resulted in some cuts in programmes, agriculture as already stated and the capacity building of members programme Girl Child Network.

The deficit of €147,937 reflects the timing of income and expenditure. Projects, previously funded by grants and donations in 2011 and previously, had those funds accounted for as Aidlink's Revenue in prior years with the unspent programme expenditure carried forward as Restricted and Unrestricted Reserve. The deficit in the current year reflects the programme expenditure catching up with the unspent reserves. Reserves at year end include €324,664 of which €172,083 is committed to projects either not commenced or completed by year end. The balance of €152, 581 is the non committed reserve available to Aidlink at year end.

Aidlink celebrated its 30th Anniversary in 2012 and a number of events were held to mark the occasion. International Women's Day was marked by a lunch in Head Office attended by Her Excellency, Catherine Muigai Mwangi, the Kenyan Ambassador to Ireland.

A reception was held in the former House of Lords building on College Green, Dublin for founder members and many current benefactors with special guest and keynote speaker being Minister of State in the Department of Trade and Development Mr Joe Costello T.D.

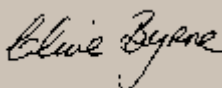
Aidlink's development education programme through our on-going membership of www.developmenteducation.ie contributes to the profile of the organisation and increases awareness among young people of the causes and challenges facing people living in poverty in Africa. 2012 saw another successful immersion programme with 56 students and their teachers from St Mary's College, Rathmines, hosted by St James's in Sunyani and the Spiritan Province in Ghana. Despite the economic recession, the commitment of the staff and students in St Mary's to the immersion programme is exemplary. 2012 saw Aidlink join the international campaign to Walk for Water with eight schools and nearly 1,000 students from Dublin, Cork, Waterford and Galway participate on the day.

On behalf of the Board I would like to express deep gratitude to all the people who supported Aidlink throughout the year. The constant support of so many, even in difficult economic times, is a reassuring acknowledgement of our work in seeking to improve the lives of people living in poverty.

Irish Aid facilitates much of our work and the results of their Monitoring & Evaluation emphasises the value for money provided by Aidlink's partners. I would particularly like to thank our donors for their continued support and to express our gratitude to the public and private institutions operating through their various voluntary staff schemes and the many private individuals who provide such significant support, which enables Aidlink and our partners to carry out vital development projects.

The Board acknowledges the continued hard work of our staff working under the guidance of our Executive Director, Anne Cleary. Board members are assiduous in their work for Aidlink and my sincere thanks to them for their on-going commitment and support. Fr. Brian Starken CSSp resigned last August after his second term on the Board of Aidlink, Ms Paula McGovern who joined our board in 2011 resigned in January 2013 due to other work commitments, and we are grateful to both for their contribution during their time with us. We are delighted that both Brian and Paula will continue their association with us and have agreed to become Members of Aidlink.

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 means we can bring about real and sustainable change to some of the most marginalised in Africa.



Clive Byrne
Chairperson

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR STATEMENT (2012)

The global recession continues to impact developing countries and disproportionately on the poor. But there is some good news. By almost every measure of health, wealth and education – and for most of its people, life in Africa is getting better. For decades the UN has measured health, education and poverty indicators across the world to assess people's quality of life. Since the turn of the century, human development has not only improved in every one of sub-Saharan Africa's 45 countries but gains were bigger in the 2000s than in any previous decade. Despite this and positive growth rates of 6 – 8 % in our countries of operation; this continental and national picture hides the many development challenges and inequalities within. Looking at Kenya for example, while the main two cities of Nairobi and Mombasa are home to about 10% of the population they account for 50% of the country's GDP. Outside of the main cities in the rural areas, the personal economic situation is much worse. The poverty headcount in Turkana is 93%, and whereas in parts of Kenya there is one nurse for 1,000 people, in Turkana it is one to 14,000!

Aidlink has had to respond to the cut in Irish Aid funding and a very challenging fundraising environment to maintain vital programmes including support to the Diocese of Lodwar Primary Health Care programme in Turkana. There have been some cuts to programmes but we have worked hard to minimise the impact on the poor. Aidlink remains committed to all six partners across Kenya, Uganda and Ghana. In the latter half of 2012 we undertook a strategic review and have set out priorities and plans for the next three years. As part of

this process Aidlink adopted a Rights Based Framework to our work. This approach is one that regards poor people not simply as beneficiaries, but as active rights-holders with responsibilities and duty-bearers as those states and other actors whom corresponding rights claims can be made against. We believe the formal adoption of this rights framework will further strengthen our programmes, their sustainability and the capacity of our partners and beneficiaries.

It is our great pleasure and privilege to continue working in partnership with Voluntary Action for Development (VAD), EMESCO and Caritas MADDO in Uganda, the Girl Child Network and the Diocese of Lodwar in Kenya and the Spiritans in Ghana. Even in these testing times, extraordinary work with lasting impact is being carried out on the ground.

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.

Highlights from 2012 include the protection of 40 shallow wells in Uganda providing clean potable water to over 13,000 people; the installation of water and girl-friendly latrines in Kenya benefiting approximately 3,000 children in 8 primary schools and the training of 150 community health care personal in Turkana contributing to the safe delivery of over 700 healthy new babies at health care facilities and the vaccination of over 5,000 children under 5.

During 2012 we maintained income at 2011 levels despite the significant cut in Irish Aid funding. We are grateful to be part of Irish Aid's 4 year funding programme and to the Minister of State in the Department of Trade and Development, Mr Joe Costello T.D. for his commitment to review the Aidlink programme and progress in last quarter of 2013.

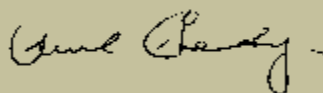
Our sincerest thanks for the continued support of the public whether through direct action, participation in fundraising events and through voluntary staff deduction schemes.

The 30th anniversary of our foundation provided the opportunity to raise the profile of our work, our partners and the challenges they face. It also provided the opportunity to acknowledge the vision of the founding members who we were delighted to celebrate with in the former House of Lords building on College Green, Dublin in November. Events to mark International Women's Day and Walk for Water were a great success and an opportunity to engage with our supporters here in Ireland, update them on our work and what's working and to garner support not only in fundraising but in solidarity. We were delighted with the participation of almost 1,000 students from Dublin, Cork, Waterford and Galway in our inaugural participation in the Global Walk for Water campaign.

It was my privilege to again be part of the leadership team accompanying 56 students from St Mary's College Rathmines to St James's SSS, Sunyani and St Anthony's PS, Kumasi. Sincere thanks to the students, their families and to our hosts in Ghana.

In these challenging times I want to acknowledge the volunteer Board of Aidlink. Their commitment, professionalism and support are sincerely valued. Special thanks to Fr Brian Starken C.S.Sp who retired towards the end of 2012 after his second term of service and Ms Paula McGovern who resigned early in 2013. We are delighted that both Brian and Paula have agreed to continue their involvement as Members of Aidlink. I also want to thank my colleagues for their contribution to making a real and lasting impact on the lives of the poor.

All of us in Aidlink are sincerely grateful to all of you who support our work.



THANK YOU!

Anne Cleary

Executive Director

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

More than 60 women joined us for lunch in the Aidlink office on the 8th of March to celebrate International Women's Day. The guest of honour was the Kenyan Ambassador to Ireland, Her Excellency Catherine Muigai Mwangi. She outlined the many challenges faced by women in Africa today and celebrated Aidlink's work in Kenya, which focuses not only on improving educational opportunities for girls, in partnership with the Girl Child Network but also on maternal and child health care, in partnership with the Diocese of Lodwar, in Turkana.

Aidlink was delighted to host this event in the company of our women supporters who continue to demonstrate their commitment to women and children and families across Ghana, Kenya and Uganda. Sincerest thanks to Her Excellency Catherine Muigai Mwangi for being with us.



Aidlink's Executive Director Anne Cleary and Chairman Clive Byrne pictured with Her Excellency Catherine Muigai Mwangi, Kenyan Ambassador on International Women's Day March 2012

ABOUT AIDLINK

AIDLINK'S APPROACH:

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:

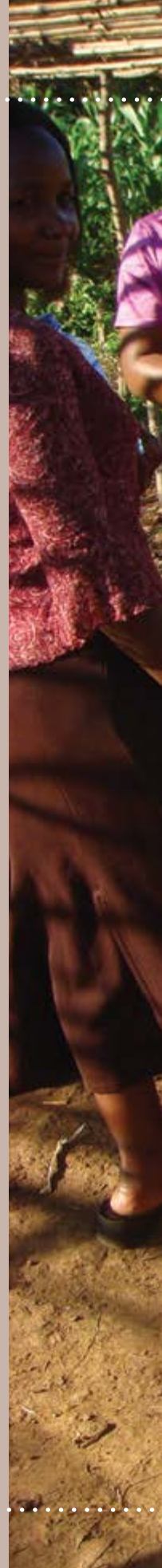
- Development education in Ireland to promote an understanding of poverty and inequality in Africa

Partnership for Aidlink means a shared vision and commitment to work together to bring real and sustainable benefits to poor and marginalised people. Aidlink's partnership approach harnesses the unique contribution and strengths of each partner, working together to achieve shared objectives in an open, accountable and transparent manner to bring about community-owned and sustainable change in the lives of people living in poverty. The programmes supported are grounded in a participatory approach in consultation with local communities, local/district authorities and partner organisations.

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

A RIGHTS FRAMEWORK SUPPORTS AIDLINK'S PARTNERS TO:

- Strengthen their rights focus in programming
- Acknowledge the complexity of poverty and the relationships involved
- Make the right planning decisions when faced with complex problems
- Work with, and build alliances between, communities and policy-makers at all levels to influence change that ensures that public services meet the needs of individual users
- Ensure that decisions arrived at are made objectively and take into account the effect on all the stakeholders involved





Kinder John pumping water from the newly constructed shallow well, Masaka District, Uganda.



Founder Members and long term volunteers Mrs Kay O Loughlin Kennedy, Mr Hugo Macklin, Mr John O Loughlin Kennedy and Ms Catherine Khan Carl pictured with Minister of State at the Department of Trade and Development, Mr Joe Costello T.D. and Executive Director Ms Anne Cleary at Aidlink's 30th Anniversary in the former House of Lords Building, Bank of Ireland, College Green, Dublin, November 2012

2012: AIDLINK'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

Founded in 1982 Aidlink was managed by volunteers for more than 14 years. From its inception, Aidlink's focus has been on working with local NGOs; non-governmental organizations, community based organizations and missionary organisations to ensure local communities participation in their own development. From the early days of a simple financial support model – in 1998, 70 projects in 17 countries were supported; this model progressed into a deeper partnership model over the years and today Aidlink partners with six organisations across Uganda, Kenya and Ghana; partners with whom we share a vision; share values; and the common goal 'to improve the lives of those living in poverty'.

Aidlink's partnership approach harnesses the unique contribution and strengths of each partner, working in an open, accountable and transparent manner to bring about real, community-owned and sustainable change in the lives of those living in poverty.

AIDLINK HAS ACHIEVED MUCH OVER 30 YEARS HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- 100's of 1000's of people across Kenya, Uganda and Ghana have access to improved water. Water is a basic need; a fundamental human right and the basis for improved lives and livelihoods.
- Primary and community health care programmes have contributed to the fall in maternal and child mortality and morbidity in targeted communities in Kenya and Uganda;
- Aidlink is committed to supporting free and universal primary education schemes in our countries of operation. Aidlink provides water and sanitation facilities which contribute to improved teaching and learning opportunities and a safe environment for students.

- In Partnership with the Girl Child Network in Kenya, we are very proud of our association and participation in the Sanitary Towel Campaign as part of the School Sanitation Improvement Programme which commenced almost 10 years ago. Girls' poor attendance in school was attributed to their menses. In order to facilitate the full participation of girls in school, sanitary towels were provided. This programme is part of a wider girl's rights agenda and campaign – with the objective of increasing the enrolment, attendance and performance of girls in school; to delay early marriage and therefore postpone and contribute to the abandonment of FGM. Aidlink and GCN continue to work together in 74 schools in Kajiado County now providing Sanitary Towels. Among our most important achievements in recent years is the contribution to the falling rate of FGM within the communities with whom we work. The rate of FGM in Kajiado District among the Maasai is circa 73% but down at around 62% in the Aidlink / GCN supported schools and declining.
- Working with pastoralist communities the Maasai and Turkana are of special interest to Aidlink; Pastoralists are nomadic livestock herders living in arid and semi-arid lands that constitute some of the harshest and remotest places on earth. Aidlink's work in Turkana started more than 15 years ago initially on significant water projects; rock dams and earth pans. With the arrival of new supporters of water infrastructure we now focus on the Diocese of Lodwar Health Care Programme with the Maasai our focus is on Girl Child education – with both communities we support the response to recurrent drought. The capacity of our partners to scale up to meet the needs of these vulnerable communities in times of extreme drought is worthy of note.
- Since its foundation Aidlink has believed in partnership, we are very proud of our association and partnership with thriving ambitious local organisations VAD (Voluntary Action for Development) EMESCO, and MADDO in Uganda; the Girl Child Network and the Diocese of Lodwar in Turkana and the Spiritan Congregation in Ghana; working together to build local capacity to improve the lives of the poor.

AIDLINK IS GRATEFUL TO ALL OUR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS – OUR SUCCESSES ARE YOUR SUCCESSES. ON BEHALF OF OUR PARTNERS IN KENYA, UGANDA AND GHANA, THANK YOU!

THANK YOU TO:

The Spiritans with whom we share our roots; to Blackrock College who have been with us since the beginning; long may the St Patrick's Badge Campaign continue; to St Mary's College our partner in Immersion for almost 10 years and to Seamount College our newest partner in Immersion. To all the schools who have welcomed us; supported and participated in our education and awareness activities and who have raised funds for our programmes.

THANK YOU!

To the voluntary staff schemes of many Irish Companies, those we refer to as Third World Groups, we thank you for your tremendous loyal support. Special mention goes to the Bank of Ireland Staff Third World Fund and Electric Aid;

To all our dedicated regular givers and fundraisers; to all who wish to remain anonymous; your contribution has been invaluable, we salute you! Sincere thanks goes too, to the Irish Government's Overseas Development Assistance Programme - Irish Aid - for most of Aidlink's



Maasai women's group members and mums of children at Endoinyo Olasho Primary School, Kajiado County, Kenya

existence and for an unbroken period over the past 15 years, Aidlink has benefited from the support of Irish Aid. We are most grateful.

In addition to funding supporters Aidlink has enjoyed a range of partnerships that have enhanced our capacity and our work in particular with the consortium on www.developmenteducation.ie and Dóchas.

OUR PROGRAMME

AIDLINK'S INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Water as a basic human right, is the foundation of the programme and all other activities are harnessed from the availability of safer and clean water within target communities. Communities are active participants throughout the programme cycle, interventions are based on their identified needs and adapted to local environments.

TARGET COMMUNITY

Aidlink targets people living in rural poverty in Uganda, Kenya and Ghana. Aidlink and partners recognise varying vulnerabilities within communities and particularly target women and girls, people living with HIV/AIDS, the elderly and the disabled.

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

WHY WATER?

Inadequate access to safe water supplies throughout Uganda, Kenya and Ghana continues to perpetuate poverty and stifle community development. Although the number of people with access to safe water and sanitation (WATSAN) has improved over the past 10 years, there are still many communities that rely on unprotected, often contaminated, water sources such

as ponds, streams or rivers. Communities do not have access to improved sanitation, sharing overcrowded pit latrines or practicing open defecation impacting negatively on their health.

Access to clean and safer water for target communities means more than safe drinking water. It is the realisation of a basic human right. **A protected spring within a community translates to a decrease in water borne diseases within communities which keep parents from work and children from school. A protected spring within a community reduces time spent walking in search of water, benefiting women and girls particularly, to who, the burden of collecting water usual falls.** With safe water nearby, women are free to engage with new opportunities and improve their families' lives, while the girl child spends more time in the classroom alongside boys, together attaining an education and building a more equal future.

The programme ensures both men and women are elected and trained on Water User Committees who are responsible for overseeing the functionality of the water sources. Water User Committees are often the first chance for a woman to assume a leadership role. This new responsibility can restore dignity and harness initiative for the individual but importantly promote equality within the community.



Before: unprotected spring before programme intervention, Uganda.



After: protected spring after programme intervention, Uganda.

EDUCATION

The programme incorporates school water and sanitation projects ensuring primary school students have adequate access to water and sanitation facilities. Aidlink has evidenced WATSAN facilities in schools boost enrolment, attendance and the retention of children in primary school. The girl child particularly benefits as it would usually fall on her to travel off the school compound in search of water for the school, missing valuable class time.

A particular highlight from the schools component is unleashing a child's ability to act as an 'agent for change'. Children repeatedly bring their WATSAN, health and agriculture learning from school, home, and into their wider communities. This is evidenced across the programme schools in Uganda, Kenya and Ghana.

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

WATSAN interventions are complemented by a strong community based health care component which focuses particularly on maternal and child health. Partners work to achieve local Ministry of Health objectives raising awareness on health issues and also training, and up-skilling, of community health personnel including Village Health Teams, Community Health Workers and Trained Traditional Birth Attendants.

FOOD SECURITY

In Uganda, Kenya and Ghana, food security and nutrition remain high on the countries' development agendas. **Aidlink places great value on food security and the prevention of hunger at the household level.** Water in communities provides the opportunity for irrigation and community members can use the new water source to grow small 'kitchen gardens' near their homes and secure their own food supply.

Participatory approaches ensure that Aidlink and our partners recognise and understand the needs of smallholder farmers and the importance of addressing nutrition through agriculture-related activities.

DROUGHT

Communities in Kenya are vulnerable to drought which has been occurring with increased frequency in recent years eroding target communities' preparedness and resilience to drought. 2012 was a year of recovery in Kenya following the severe 2011 drought in the Horn of Africa. The programme incorporates 'Disaster Risk Reduction' activities:

- At the community level, the programme incorporates basic agriculture training in schools, the development of school gardens and food security projects demonstrating and promoting alternative livelihoods to mitigate the risks of disaster.
- Partners work alongside local government in building community resilience to drought. One example, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Environment is partnering with Aidlink's partner, the GCN, in propelling the school garden concept in Kajiado County as a means of sustaining school feeding programmes and demonstrating alternative livelihoods (i.e. crop farming).

Access to safer and clean water is a catalyst for positive change within communities and once access is established alongside improved sanitation; communities are healthier. Healthier communities are more productive and, as a result, are more food secure with increased income. Experience dictates that healthier communities with increased incomes and food security pave the way to increased participation in education.

Aidlink staff with staff from St. Augustine Primary School, Burlando, Uganda



COUNTRY PROFILES

783 MILLION PEOPLE GLOBALLY ARE WITHOUT ACCESS TO WATER OVER 40% OF WHOM LIVE IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA. AIDLINK TARGETS THOSE COMMUNITIES WITHOUT ACCESS TO WATER IN UGANDA AND KENYA.

Data	Ireland
Population	4.48 million
HDI* ranking out of 186 countries	7th
Life expectancy at birth (years)	81
Mean years of schooling (for adults)	12
Proportion of the population using improved sanitation facilities	99%

*composite statistic of life expectancy, education, and income indices
Source: UND



Uganda	Kenya	Ghana
34.5 million	41.6 million	24.9 million
161st	145th	135th
55	58	65
5	7	7
34%	32%	14%

WATER AND SANITATION

VOLUNTARY ACTION FOR DEVELOPMENT, UGANDA

Aidlink and partner VAD complement government efforts to improve access to water in Wakiso District. The Wakiso District Development Plan (2010 – 2013) aims to improve water coverage from 56% to 66% and effective sanitation from 45% to 85%. Community participation is evident throughout the programme and alongside the infrastructure components, community training and mobilisation is facilitated. Community participation contributes to the maintenance and sustainability of water facilities, and to community empowerment to recognise and demand their fundamental human right to water.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2012:

In 2012 with Aidlink support 4,350 rural poor people have access to safer and clean water in 14 villages across Kyanuna, Lugzzi and Kyampisi parishes, Namayumba sub-county:

- 18 shallow wells were constructed
- 18 'Water User Committees' formed and trained for the ongoing maintenance and repair of the water sources

Prior to the 2012 programme, people from target communities collected water from 'unprotected springs' or had to travel in order to collect safer water. Within target communities the burden of collecting water usual falls on women and girls and so this programme particularly reduces the burden on women and girls. Here one village member, Ms. Harriet Kabanda, explains the difference the protected spring within her village has made to her life:

"Before the construction of Kasibante water source, I used to spend 2 hours and 30 minutes to get the clean safe water, I used to walk a distance of 2km and I would get so tired and unable to do any other work after fetching the water. But now I only walk for 30 minutes. When I come back from the well I go digging in my 'kitchen garden' where I have grown a lot of vegetables. Some of which we eat in my family and the balance I sell and I earn up to 18,000UGX (€5.00) per week which I never used to get before"





Women pumping water from the newly constructed Kisiima shallow well, Kitula village, Wakiso District, Uganda

Aidlink and VAD's programme incorporates school water and sanitation projects ensuring primary school students have adequate access to water and sanitation facilities. In 2012, 506 primary school students and 25 teachers from Kitula and Nagulu Umea primary schools benefited from:

- 10 stance ventilated improved pit latrines (segregated for boys and girls)
- Rain water harvesting tank of 20,000 litres
- Hand washing facilities
- 12 teachers and a School Health Club. Members (30 students in each school) were trained in hygiene and sanitation and on how to promote the same within the school

From experience Aidlink has evidenced the provision of water and sanitation facilities in schools which boost enrolment, attendance and retention of children in primary schools. The girl child particularly benefits as it would usually fall on her to travel off the school compound in search of water for the school, missing valuable class time. Attendance improves as the student populations' health improves with access to clean water and sanitation. As the water and sanitation facilities improve and children spend more time in the classroom and so performance is expected to improve also. In the words of Mr. Micheal Kiwalabye, headteacher at Nagulu Umea primary school:

"The only safe water source the school was using was 2 miles away. The school had a three stance latrine which was even being shared by the teaching staff and the children, and it was nearly filled and very unsafe for use. Every week the school used to register between 20-30 pupils with stomach pains and diarrhoea. The school attendance was far below 60%. We had no foreseeable solution to this situation until chance came to us in October 2012 when we received both this gender friendly latrine and a water tank which both have turned round the life of this school in a very short time. In only 2 months, the school attendance rose to 90% especially among the very young children in lower classes and the girls. The number of children being sent home due to stomach pains and diarrhoea, dropped suddenly from between 20 and 30 to only less than 10 a week"

Hunger is an issue within target communities. As the programme addresses access to water and improved sanitation within target communities, communities recognise the potential of the water applied to agriculture to increase household food production and income, thus contributing to the overall goal of reducing poverty. In 2012, 200 rural subsistence farming households undertook training on sustainable agriculture, using a practical model working in groups on each other's farms. Training was carried out by 16 'Community Agriculture Trainers' who were equipped with bicycles to facilitate farm visits and follow up training. Farmers benefited from the distribution of improved varieties of seeds including; maize, beans, ground nuts, large brown variety, mosaic free cassava and banana.



Communities of Lugungudde, Luwami and other neighbouring villages 'Walk for Water' on World Water Day 2012 in Uganda



VAD "WALKS FOR WATER", IN UGANDA

More than 550 adults/children from schools and communities partner VAD in Wakiso district "Walked for Water" to mark the International World Water day on March 22nd. People walked to highlight the challenges being faced by the majority of women and children in the district. Local government and VAD officials spoke about sanitation promotion and the proper management of structures and sustainability.

Prior to the walk, VAD organised the "sanitation week". This is a learning week with activities focusing on demonstration of best hygiene practises and sanitation structures, dish racks for proper storage of utensils, tippy tap for hand washing after latrine, bath shelter and improved latrines. House to house hygiene and sanitation sensitisations, general cleaning of the protected water sources and follow up visits to check on recently constructed water and sanitation facilities were carried out.

Village hygiene and sanitation competitions are also held among the targeted communities to see which homes have recommended hygiene and sanitation standards. These activities are actively led by the established community structures (Water User Committees, Community Monitoring Teams and the school children).

The sanitation week promotes improvements on the water, hygiene and sanitation good practices in the community, so to reduce the incidences of diseases associated with access to unsafe water and poor sanitation.

WATER AND SANITATION

CARITAS MADDO (MASAKA DIOCESAN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE), UGANDA

Caritas MADDO and Aidlink have worked together in Masaka and Raki Districts for over 10 years implementing the CEHEWA - Community Empowerment, Health, Environmental, Water and Agricultural Programme

During 2012 2,450 people across Masaka and Rakai Districts gained access to safe clean water. 7 shallow wells were constructed and 7 Water User Committees (WUCs) were established and trained. They are responsible for the maintenance, and any minor repairs, of wells and the promotion of improved health and hygiene practices in communities. The wells are positioned close to local primary schools and each WUC committee includes a teacher from the local school and two pupils, one boy and one girl. Engaging children in the community education and health promotion around water and sanitation issues has repeatedly proven successful as children take their learning out of the classroom and into their homes and wider communities. Caritas MADDO trains teachers and the Parent Teacher Associations to ensure project activities are maintained at the school for the next generation of primary school students. In addition to health and hygiene benefits, locating the wells close to schools has reduced the time students spend collecting water and so they spend more time in the classroom learning. Additionally:

- 5 water tanks were constructed at 5 primary schools
- Construction of latrine blocks (including a washroom for girls) at 2 schools and the rehabilitation of a latrine block at 1 school
- Hand washing facilities were installed at 17 primary schools
- WATSAN training for teachers and students

St. Mary's Kasozi Primary School had 280 students enrolled in 2012:

“Before the project intervention, Kasozi primary school, Masaka district, had a high number of children sick caused by poor sanitation conditions, lack of good hygiene practices and lack of access to clean water... Since the project students do not have to spend time collecting water anymore. Thus students increased their regular attendance to classes and better scholar performance is expected. The project has also trained families and pupils about agriculture techniques and children's' rights. Children are empowered since early age with knowledge that can change their vulnerable situation”

Having access to clean water and good hygiene practises can reduce enormously cases of illness in rural communities. Caritas MADDO coordinates Village Health Teams, a concept initiated by the Ugandan Ministry of Health. In 2012, VHTs raised awareness among 600 households, approximately 4,200 people on the interlinked issues of health, sanitation, hygiene and nutrition. Community Health Workers and Traditional Birth Attendants are members of VHTs who are resident in communities and work as health educators, promoters and facilitators. VHTs provide limited but essential first line response, patient care and maternal and child care as appropriate. These community health care workers provide an essential link between communities and health centres.

- In 2012, 180 Community Health Workers and Traditional Birth Attendants received refresher training

Prior to the programme, less than 40% of households within the target community were having 2 meals per day and schools reported the majority of students were attending school without a lunch. Recognising access to water creates the opportunity for greater investment of time and energy to improved farming

practices within communities: the programme aims to increase food production at the household level targeting increased yields and ultimately a better diet and increased household food security. Agriculture interventions are protective of the natural resource base. In 2012:

- 50 Community Based Extension Agents (CBEAs) were trained in agriculture extension practices for community training
- 25 farmers groups were training on sustainable farming techniques and each farmers group established a demonstration plot where participatory training was conducted
- Improved farming inputs were distributed among 25 farming groups

The programme maximises improved agriculture production at the household level by strengthening the capacity of farmers to identify market opportunities and to develop competitive agricultural micro-enterprises.

Water for agriculture was harnessed at target schools too with 'school garden projects' with the

twin objectives of providing a farming demonstration centre for children and growing food for consumption at school. 17 target schools with an enrolment of 6,357 students saw a harvest of vegetables, beans, maize and bananas the produce of which saw children and teachers enjoy healthy school lunches!

AGRICULTURE CLUB

Aidlink staff visited St. Augustine, Bulando where one teacher, Madame Angel explained how the Agriculture Club with its "man power" of "children hand in hand with parents and teachers" has harvested beans, cassava, maize, sweet potatoes, cabbage and passion fruit improving the diet of the 579 enrolled children in 2012:

"Agriculture is direct in the curriculum. Agriculture is not a punishment. We want our students to love it. Children come at holidays and even weekends to water the garden. We don't sell the harvest, we eat during lunch. The maize goes for milling and children eat porridge every day. Parents contribute for the continuation of the gardens and porridge is free twice a week"



**Teddy Kalule, farmers' group member
on her farm, Raki District, Uganda**

WATER AND SANITATION

EMESCO DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

Only 56% of the population of Kibaale District, mid-Western Uganda have access to clean and safer water exasperating poverty levels as the following information from the Kibaale District Planning Office highlights:

- 38% of the people in Kibaale District live on less than half a US dollar a day
- Life expectancy in Kibaale is 49.1 years
- Child morbidity rate for Kibaale is 145/1000 live births

Aidlink and EMESCO have a long standing partnership implementing an integrated programme aligned to the development priorities of the Kibaale District Local Government and the Ugandan National Development Plan. EMESCO, as with all Aidlink partners, work in close collaboration with local sub-county governments and District offices to avoid duplication and ensure sustainability of the project.

In 2012, 15 shallow wells were protected in Buyaga County. The local community identified vulnerable homes and 53 water jars were constructed bringing water to these homes for the very first time. In total 6,300 people from 15 communities gained access to clean and safer water. To ensure the maintenance and sustainability of water sources 15 Water User Committees (WUCs) were formed and trained with a minimum of 50% female representation per committee. The District Water Department showed their support for the programme by training water pump mechanics resident in the local communities.

In addition, the rehabilitation of 98 old, damaged and non-functional water sources in Buyaga, Bugangaizi and Buyanja Counties reconnected 55,950 rural poor people to a safer and clean water supply for domestic use. These water sources were not originally Aidlink supported projects and fell into disrepair as sustainability structures; community

participation, WUCs were not established and there was no community training. WUC have now been established; training carried out in order to secure the long term maintainence of the water sources.

Schools WATSAN activities targeted 5 primary schools with a total student population of 2,656 and each school is now equipped with:

- Ventilated Improved Pit (VIP) Latrines
- Ferro-cement water tanks of 30,000 litres capacity
- 2 hand washing facilities installed

Teachers and students have received training on WATSAN issues and personal hygiene. In addition the 5 schools above hand washing facilities were installed at a further 29 primary schools in the target area in 2012.

Sanitation training occurs in communities too and 60% of target households engaged in a 'Home Improvement Campaign' in 2012. A total of 179 new dish racks, 134 latrines, 248 tippy taps and 186 bath shelters were constructed at homes in 2012. 300 san plats were distributed to households to improve latrines.

Target communities have to travel long distances to health care facilities and if transport is available they often cannot afford it. Aidlink and EMESCO maximise the health benefits of the access to clean and safer water with Community Based Health Care activities and in 2012:

- 15 Community Health Workers (CHWs) resident in target communities were trained and equipped with drug kits and bicycles to facilitate travel to patients. CHWs have adopted improved hygiene and sanitation practices and their homes are serving as learning centres for other community members.

- 15 Maternal Health Workers (traditional birth attendants) were trained and equipped with delivery kits and bicycles. In 2012, a total of 225 pregnant mothers received pregnancy monitoring under the programme.
- 15 Village Health Committees (of 7 members each) were trained on health and hygiene best practice and promotion including HIV/AIDS.

In 2012, 45 farmers' groups comprising 690 farmers were formed and trained in sustainable agriculture

with participatory workshops covering; soil and water conservation measures, composting, use of liquid manures and vegetable production among other improved agronomic practices. Improved farming inputs were distributed also. Testament to the success of the programme in 2012 is that households had an adequate and reliable supply of vegetables for their own consumption and 65% of households targeted are expanding their vegetable production both for home consumption and sale in 2013.



Community members gather at the newly constructed shallow well, Buyaga County, Uganda

VILLAGE HEALTH COMMITTEES MOBILISED FOR ACTION

In July 2012, the Ugandan Ministry of Health confirmed an outbreak of the Ebola Haemorrhagic Fever in Kibaale district posing a major threat to life. EMESCO played a key role in containing the disease and preventing its spread. Village Health Teams, formed and trained under the Aidlink programme in Buyaga County were mobilised and spread key health messages on containing the disease. EMESCO joined other community leaders and used the local radio shows, scheduled as part of the wider programme, to raise awareness and preparedness within the target communities.

Uganda was declared Ebola free at the beginning of October 2012, in the same month EMESCO was awarded a Certificate of Recognition from the World Health Organisation and Uganda's Ministry of Health for their sustained efforts to contain and control the Ebola Haemorrhagic Fever in Kibaale.

The speedy response to the outbreak, the mobilisation of the existing VHTs and the flexibility to incorporate the response into the core programme saved lives. This example highlights the strength and value for money, of working through partnerships with local NGOs with a long term, trusted, presence on the ground.



Monitoring of baby's weight at Nadapal Outreach Clinic, Turkana County, Kenya

HEALTH KENYA

DIOCESE OF LODWAR, TURKANA, KENYA

Turkana is an arid and semi-arid County in far north-west Kenya and home to the Turkana, a nomadic a semi nomadic pastoralist people who have depended almost exclusively on their livestock for survival. The Turkana are not only among the poorest people in Kenya and Africa but the world;

- Poverty headcount of 93%
- Less than 18% of the population are literate
- Whereas in parts of Kenya there is one nurse for every 1,000 people In Turkana County there is one nurse for every 14,000 people

Aidlink recognises health care as a fundamental right of every human being and to this end support is primarily focused on Health with complementary Food Security and Education projects. The Health programme coverage targets 300,000 nomadic and semi-nomadic pastoralists. Aidlink support to the Health programme in 2012 was approximately 20% of the total programme budget. The Health programme faced high demand in 2012 due to the legacy of the 2011 drought leaving communities with food shortages, malnutrition and increased incidences of illness.

The Health programme runs 1 hospital, 2 health centres, 16 dispensaries and over 120 outreach clinics spread across the County. The average distance to a health care facility in Turkana is 50km. The Turkana inhabit extremely remote areas, often away from road access and constantly migrate in search of water. Outreach services are critical as in the words of one Turkana mother without Nadapal PHC Outreach the nearest facility is “more than one sleep away”.

The programme delivers Primary Health Care with a particular emphasis on Mother and Child Health and in 2012:

- there was an 11% increase in the number of deliveries at health care facilities
- 2,161 children under-1 completed immunisations

The programme incorporates 'Child Health Improvement' with 213 schools visited and 31,453 children examined during school visits;

- 280 children immunised during the visits
- 28,272 children received de –worming treatment
- 2,784 children treated during the visits
- 116 children referred to health centres for further treatment

The DoI invests in community training and information sharing to raise awareness and promote health education among the Turkana. Almost 50,000 people attended health talks at static facilities and outreach clinics in 2012.

OUTREACH CLINIC

Ipeeta is a 12 year old primary school student at a school 40kms away from his home. During the December 2012 holiday, he couldn't afford the fare for transport and started to walk the long distance home. When he was half way through his journey he was bitten by a hunting spider:

"I was alone on my journey and carried out the first aid I was taught in school but this did not help because the spider's poison was in my blood stream, I had no other alternative thing to do but to sit and wait for any vehicle".

Luckily Ipeeta was helped and directed to the Lowarengak outreach just half a kilometre ahead, where he received emergency treatment from the nurses. He was then referred to the dispensary 10kms away for further treatment. Ipeeta has recovered and fully appreciates and advocates the outreach services

"I got well after three days, thanked the staff for their kind support and treatment they offered me. I hope Aidlink continues to support the team and the facility with funding to enable them reach areas and save people like me in the outreach clinics".



Determining the HIV/AIDS prevalence rate in Turkana is challenging with various estimates around 7%. HIV prevalence in Kenya is higher among women than men. Women's greater vulnerability to HIV stems not only from greater physiological susceptibility to transmission, but also to severe social, economic and legal disadvantages. HIV/AIDS activities include Provider-Initiated Testing and Counselling, Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission, Voluntary Counselling and Testing, Home Based Care services and provision of antiretrovirals (ARVs). In 2012:

- 11,796 people counseled
- 421 new patients diagnosed
- 4,235 continuing on ARVs
- 5,551 clients on chemoprophylaxis

Capacity building of health programme staff is key to the delivery of quality health care and staff up-skilling and training is inbuilt into the programme.

The Health programme works in line with Ministry of Health policies and the government of Kenya are taking increasing responsibility for the provision of health care services to the Turkana. This is welcomed by the DoL and Aidlink.

Food Security

Food shortages and malnutrition compound health issues in Turkana. Aidlink also works in Turkana to improve food security which also increases communities' resilience to recurrent drought, a harsh reality for the Turkana. 800 target households in Turkana were organised into farmers' groups and trained on improved agro-practices, setting up 'shambas' (vegetable plots) along fertile land of dry river beds. Small - scale irrigation schemes were completed to ensure a water supply. Crops produced reduce the risk of sole dependency on livestock for food and have improved the nutritional status of communities.

Second Chance Education

Literacy rates in Turkana are alarmingly low, circa 18% for the County. DoL has broad involvement in education; with Aidlink support it runs a 'second chance education' programme which provides the opportunity for adults who had previously dropped out of school to return and complete their primary cert (KCPE). 30 students sat their primary cert in December 2012.

SCHOOL SANITATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, KENYA

THE GIRL CHILD NETWORK



Maasai primary school children at Oltenyani
Primary School, Kajiado County, Kenya

The Girl Child Network (GCN) is a network of over 300 organisations committed to advancing the rights of girls in Kenya. Aidlink and the Girl Child Network work together with the aim of allowing the Maasai girl child realise her right to education. The programme targets the Maasai, who are nomadic pastoralists, in Kajiado County, Kenya, an arid and semi-arid land where drought is a recurrent reality.

The patriarchal nature of Maasai society favours boys, and direct abuse of girls' human rights are all too common; through harmful cultural practices such as early marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM).

GCN and Aidlink's work focuses on creating a 'girl friendly' learning environment in primary schools,

promoting the girl child's right to education. Keeping girls in primary school not only improves the educational attainment of girls but delays early marriage and early pregnancy. Keeping girls in primary school affords the girl child access to better opportunities in life including economic empowerment that benefits her generation and generations to come.

Key achievements 2012:

Aidlink and the GCN targeted 8 primary schools to create a 'girl friendly' learning environment. Access to clean water and appropriate sanitary facilities improves the girl child's attendance at schools. It also prevents girls missing class time collecting water.

Last year 2,758 students (1,479 boys and 1,279 girls) benefited from the programme:

- Girl Friendly Latrines were constructed at 7 schools.
- Rain water harvesting tanks were installed at 5 schools.
- 8 Rights of the Child (RoC) Clubs were formed and trained. RoC Clubs provide an opportunity to promote child participation and empowerment to facilitate their active engagement in their communities.
- 29 members of 8 School Management Committees were trained on socio-cultural factors affecting girl child education.
- 320 pupils (200 girls and 120 boys) from the 8 schools were trained on sexual maturation, health and nutrition.
- 1,000 copies of 'Binti' magazine were distributed. Binti magazine targets school children and has a strong Children's Rights focus.

The programme engages multiple key stakeholders; students, teachers, School Management Committees, parents and guardians and local leaders. Critically reflect on the barriers girls face with regards to education and encourages the abandonment of FGM and early childhood marriage.

In addition to the 8 new schools reached in 2012, there is on-going support to 66 primary schools from previous years' interventions making a total of 74 primary schools in Kajiado County under this project. As a result of a strong advocacy programme, to which the GCN was a key contributor, in the 2011-2012 fiscal year the government of Kenya provided sanitary towels to 485,000 needy girls nationally. The Maasai girls in the 74 target schools received sanitary towels from this government programme and Aidlink/GCN complemented this by providing underwear to the girls. In 2012, 4,255 menstruating girls from the 74 programme schools were given 3 pairs of underwear each.

Difficulty in managing the menstruation cycle accounted for 80% of total girl child absenteeism in the 8 target schools prior to programme intervention. As of December 2012, no girls in the 2012 target schools missed school due to difficulties in managing their menstrual cycle in these schools

RIGHTS OF THE CHILD CLUBS

Raising all community members' awareness on their rights is core to the success of the programme. 8 RoC Clubs were formed and trained in 2012. These clubs and sensitisation forums have enabled girls to challenge negative cultural practices which have over time become embedded in their society including FGM and all other forms of sexual violence against girls.

The mandate of the GCN is clearly targeting the girl child however Maasai boys, particularly morans, face challenges in education too. The programme does not 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.

Drought is a recurrent reality in Kajiado County. To help build communities resilience to drought schools received seedlings and farming equipment to establish 'school gardens' (vegetable plots). The Maasai are traditionally pastoralist relying solely on their livestock which leaves them extremely vulnerable to drought. The benefits of school gardens are twofold; the harvest is used for a school feeding programme ensuring children eat at least lunch every day. School gardens are also an example to the wider community and encourage agro-pastoralism. The school garden concept has received great support from the Ministries of Education, Agriculture and Water. As of 2012, the local Ministries of Agriculture and the Environment are partnering with the GCN in propelling the school garden concept in Kajiado County as a means of building resilience to drought in Kajiado County.

SCHOOL WATER AND SANITATION

THE SPIRITANS PROVINCE OF GHANA

Education is at the forefront of the Spiritan's work in Ghana and in addition to their focus on improving school infrastructure and quality education; they continue to co host schools immersion programmes.

Projects focus on the North of Ghana as the three regions here remain highly disadvantaged. 2012 saw the completion of a school water and sanitation project for 450 students at St. Francis Xavier's Primary School, Yapei, Northern Region, outputs include:

- A 10 stance Kumasi Ventilated Improved Pit Latrine
- The installation of a rainwater harvesting tank
- Formation and training of a Water User Committee comprising two teachers, two parents and a health volunteer who will monitor the maintenance and cleanliness of the facility
- Teacher and student training on WATSAN issues and best practice

Prior to the project, there was no onsite access to water and sanitation facilities at the school were inadequate. The school population were forced to relieve themselves in bushes around the school compound. Miss Cynthia Kuntala Wuro a teacher at St. Francis Xavier Primary School explains the difference the project has made through her eyes:

"Since the toilet and water facilities were installed in the school last year the teachers and students have benefited greatly. The teachers and pupils no longer have to relieve themselves out in the open. Wasting of class time is now reduced as teachers and students no longer have to search for places to go to the toilet. The facility has helped to reduce sickness among the children. Before the children would get bitten by mosquitoes as they searched for a place in the bush to relieve themselves and would miss school because of malaria. Many children were also becoming sick with diarrhoea. But now that we have proper facilities and have taught the children about hygiene, less children are absent because of diarrhoea."

Appropriate sanitation facilities at primary schools not only improve enrolment and attendance at schools; Enrollment is up 13% on 2011 and absenteeism is down to 5%. In addition it can boost children's confidence, helping to build self-esteem as children involved participate actively in the projects and are proud of what they are achieving.



School children outside their newly constructed VIP (ventilated improved pit) latrines, St. Francis Xavier, Primary School, Yapei, Ghana

Schools water and sanitation projects help children to understand basic hygiene and sanitation practices to help protect themselves from illness, so that they have the capacity to lead healthier and happier lives as children and later as adults. Children transfer learning's from the classroom and promote new ideas to their peers, family members, and the general population in the community.

The project is compatible with the local Ministry for Education priorities and the two staff members have attended a sanitation course run by the district assembly on how to maintain KVIP facilities.

The last quarter of 2012 saw the start of a second school water and sanitation project at St. Peter and Paul Primary School, Fumbisi, Upper East Region work is progressing as planned and this will be reported on in full in 2013.

HAND WASHING

Hand washing is a relatively simple and extremely effective shield against bacteria and so can significantly reduce diarrhoea, respiratory infections, skin infections and trachoma. Studies show that hand washing with soap, can reduce diarrheal incidence by up to 47%. Hand washing is a simple behaviour change that is proven highly effective. Hand washing is promoted across Aidlink school water and sanitation projects. In addition the 5 schools above hand washing facilities were installed at a further 29 primary schools in the target area in 2012. Last year, hand washing was promoted in more than 60 schools across Kenya, Uganda and Ghana.

DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION

Aidlink engages in development education in Ireland to increase knowledge and awareness of Ireland's international development agenda among targeted secondary school students. Our programme includes participation on the global "walk for water" campaign, membership of the consortium www.developmenteducation.ie and school immersion.

AIDLINK WALKS FOR WATER

We joined forces with the global solidarity campaign Walk for Water. World Water Day is held annually and calls attention on the critical global water challenges and the impact that lack of access to safe and sustainable water supplies has on many developing countries. Engaging in this global campaign, students all over the world walk together as an act of solidarity to those ones without access to clean water.

Aidlink mobilised and facilitated the engagement of Irish students in the "The World Walks for Water and Sanitation" campaign with a special focus on the challenges facing Pastoralist girls in Kenya. Approximately 1,000 students around Ireland including schools in Dublin, Cork, Waterford and

Galway took part in the campaign and walked circa 5km carrying water as an act of solidarity during the week of March 22nd, marking World Water Day.

Our sincere thanks to all schools, teachers and students for their commitment and support: St. Vincent de Paul Girls Schools, Griffith Ave; St. Andrews College, Loreto Abbey, Loreto College on the Green and Loreto Beaufort (Dublin). Ursuline Convent and Newtown School (Waterford); Midleton College (Cork); Seamount College and St. Josephs National School, Kinvara (Galway). Also, thanks to the media that covered this important campaign.



Students from Loreto Abbey, Dalkey, Dublin.

Aidlink is part of the consortium that maintains www.developmenteducation.ie



Jenny Kinane, from Seamount College Kinvara Co Galway collecting water at the start of "walk for water" 2012



Students from Seamount College and Loreto Beaufort with John Murray in RTE's studios launching "walk for water" 2012

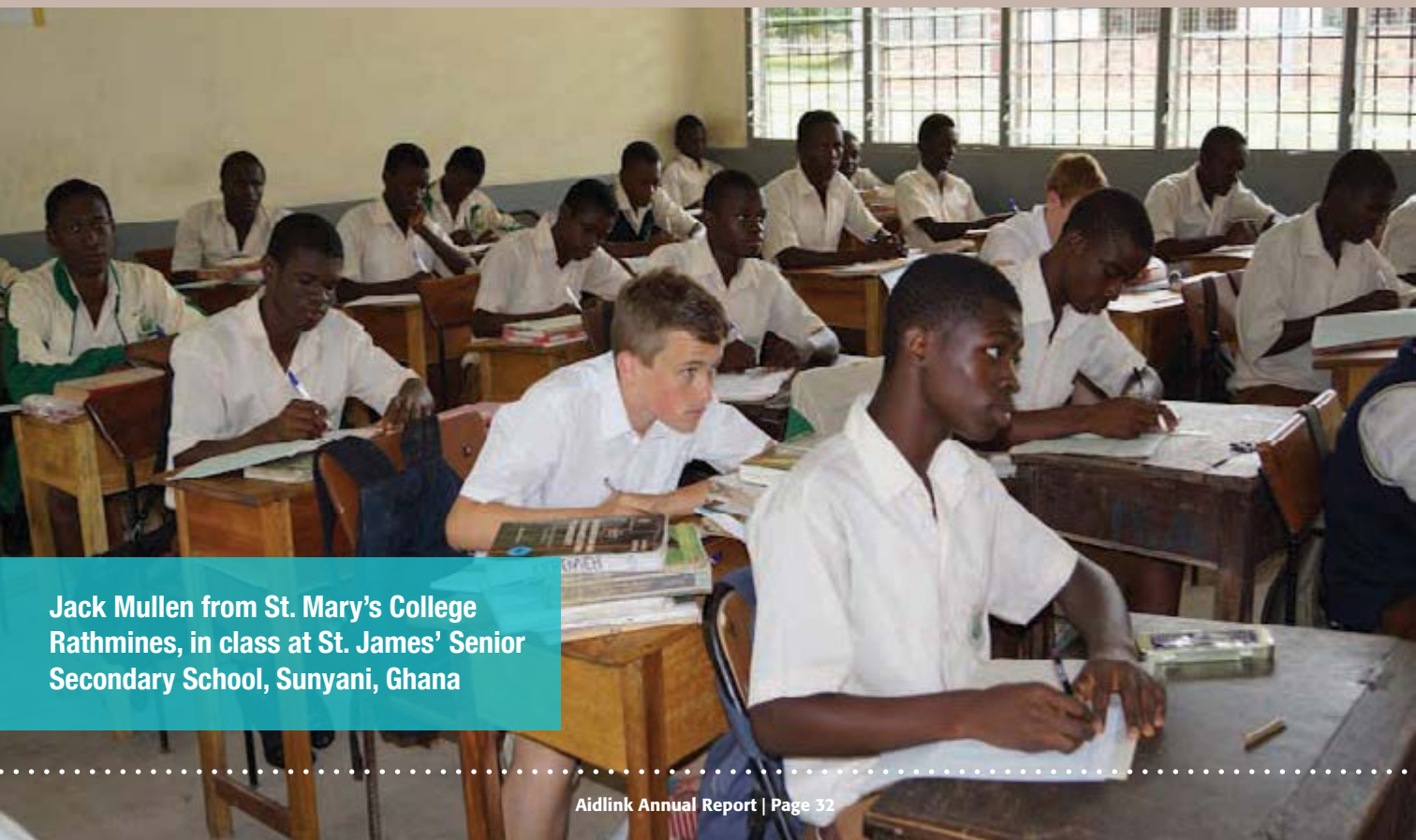
SCHOOLS IMMERSION PROGRAMME

The aim of this programme is to 'immerse' students in the culture and day-to-day life of their peers in the developing world. Students' perception and attitude of the developing world is often challenged and students critically reflect on their experience and consider their potential role as 'agents for change'.

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE IMMERSION TO GHANA

St. Mary's College, Rathmines, has been participating in the immersion programme since its inception in 2004, traveling bi-annually to Ghana. On 22 June 2012, 56 students from St. Mary's travelled to Ghana on a two-week immersion trip, accompanied by their teachers and Aidlink staff members.

The boys spent one week attending St. James' Secondary School, Sunyani, where they joined in with the regular school day, attending classes and getting to know their Ghanaian peers. A second week was spent working on an after-school language programme in St. Anthony's Primary School, Bantama, Kumasi, where the Irish students led Ghanaian school children in activities designed to build their English language confidence. As well as experiencing school life, the students also visited local communities, visited a cocoa farm, and took on their new Ghanaian classmates at football!



Jack Mullen from St. Mary's College Rathmines, in class at St. James' Senior Secondary School, Sunyani, Ghana



Students from St. Mary's College Rathmines participate in an after school club with students from St. Anthony's Primary School, Bantama, Kumasi

REFLECTIONS FROM THE 2012 LEADERSHIP TEAM

"The school's attitude is refreshingly blasé; put two or three visitors in each class and continue as normal. There's some hilarity at our accents, especially when the Irish students are asked to read in class, where they're being told by their new teachers to "slow it down and speak clearly, please". It's an unusual situation for a white European. How many of us are ever in a minority, where the teasing is tilted in favour of the black, rather than the white?" "

The students probably learned most from each other, and host communities grabbed the opportunity to educate their Irish peers in the positive things that are happening at their community and national level, covering topics from education, to the elections at the end of the year, to emigration. They did not shy away from discussing the challenges their communities and government face..."

"This was the first exposure to Africa for the vast majority of students. They were in some cases surprised not to meet their idea of the continent formed mostly from Western media and charity advertisements. By the end of the two weeks, students began asking critical questions and considering their potential role in promoting social justice."

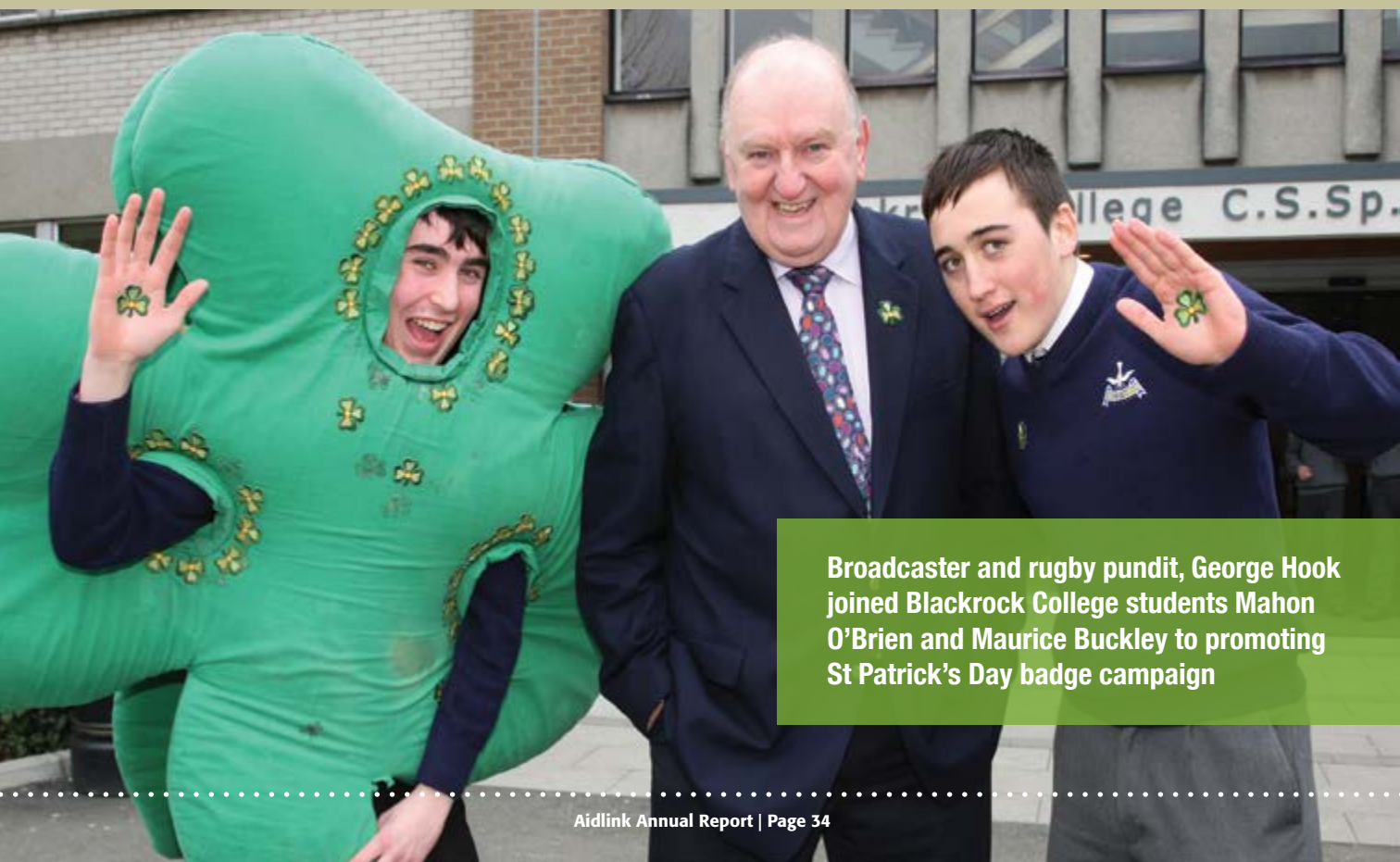
"There's profound satisfaction, for example, that since 2004 St. Anthony's in Bantama has turned from a group of semi-collapsed sheds into a simple but magnificent school, with its blocks of busy classrooms. For the 2012 Irish boys, it's the way it is; for us who've been fortunate enough to watch it grow from 2004 it's a miracle"

FUNDRAISING

HIGHLIGHTS 2012

ST. PATRICK'S DAY BADGE CAMPAIGN

Blackrock College has been Aidlink's longest term fundraising partner. For over 24 years staff and transition year students at Blackrock College have championed Aidlink works and have raised an incredible amount of funds through the sale of St. Patrick's Day Badges – over 2m all told. This programme started out as a transition year 'mini company' that has out grown and out lasted many other projects of this nature. Students, under the guidance of their teachers are responsible for all the areas of the project from design to sales. This initiative has contributed to the personal and leadership development among Irish students, and a vehicle to raise awareness of global development issues. The funds donated are shared equally between Aidlink and GOAL. In 2012, St Patrick's Day Badge Campaign donated € 20,000 to Aidlink, Thank you Blackrock College!



Broadcaster and rugby pundit, George Hook joined Blackrock College students Mahon O'Brien and Maurice Buckley to promoting St Patrick's Day badge campaign

THE MINI MARATHON

Flora Women's Mini Marathon is the biggest women's event of its kind in the world. Aidlink is proud of the fantastic women who have participated on behalf of Aidlink over the years. In June 2012, more than 40 women participated in Mini Marathon and raised over €8,000. It was a tremendous success! This event has proved to be an ideal opportunity to connect women in Ireland with women in the developing world. Aidlink is very grateful to the women who challenged themselves, to raise vital funds for our work, by 'doing' the mini marathon!



Aidlink team at Flora Mini Marathon 2012



TUBBERCURRY CYCLE

Aidlink is grateful to the Elaine Brennan and South Sligo Spokes who organised the Tubbercurry Cycle in Sligo last September. In total, participants raised over €1,500.



UCD AIDLINK CUP

Our thanks to Martin and Oliver Tormey who for the second year in a row hosted the Aidlink Cup in UCD - €2,000 was raised on the day - sincere thanks to all involved.

BIRR GOLF

Aidlink is grateful to the Family and Friends of Brian Starken C.S.Sp. for the donation of €2,500 proceeds of Birr Golf outing May 2012.



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

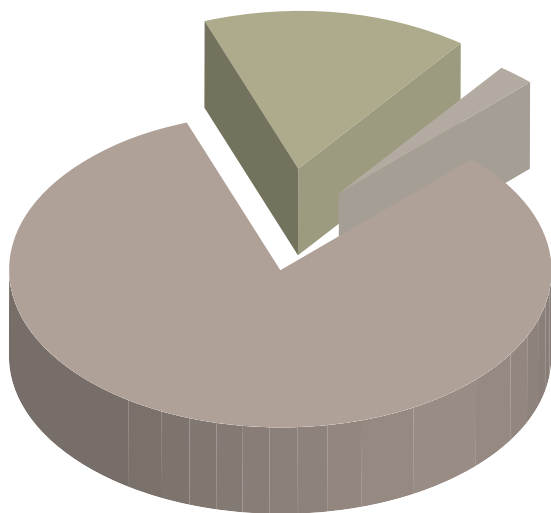
Aidlink and our six partners would like to thank all of our donors whose support in 2012 enabled Aidlink to make a positive difference to the lives of many people living in poverty in Uganda, Kenya and Ghana. Donors included Irish Aid, Voluntary Staff Funds, the corporate sector and many individuals. Thank you to all of the organisations listed below; to our individual donors and donor groups who wish to remain anonymous.

IN 2012 AIDLINK RECEIVED DONATIONS FROM

- ACC Employees' Fund for Third World Aid
- Asociacion Para La Solidaridad
- Association of Secondary Teachers, Ireland (ASTI)
- Bank of Ireland Group Staff Third World Aid
- Birr Golf Day
- Blackrock College
- Church of Ireland Bishops Appeal
- Dublin City Council Staff World Development Fund
- Electric Aid
- Irish Aid
- Irish Dairy Board Staff Developing World Fund
- RTE - One World Fund
- Staff of HSE (Cork and Kerry) Association for the Relief of Poverty
- St Mary's College, Rathmines
- Strike Films

**ALL THE SCHOOLS WHO SUPPORTED OUR
WORK DURING 2012. THANK YOU!**

**Immunisations at Nadapal
Outreach Clinic, Turkana
County, Kenya**



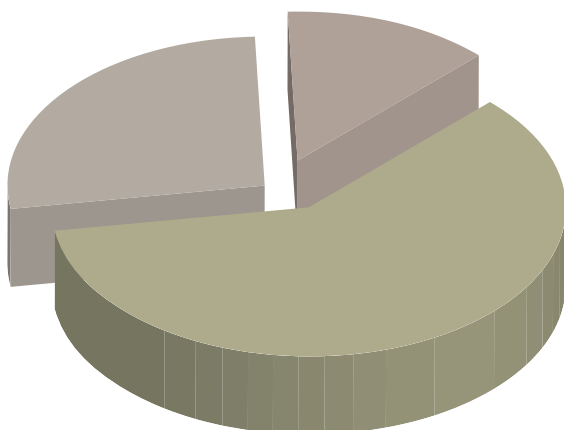
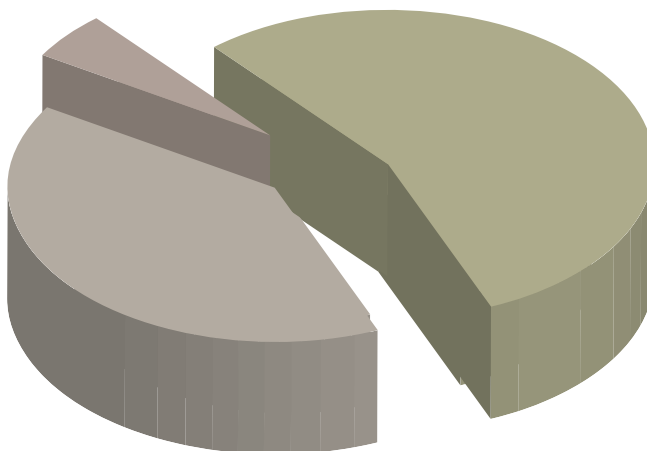
TOTAL PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE

- 2% Fundraising
- 16% Administration & Governance
- 82% Direct Programme Cost

NOTE: the term Administration & Governance incorporates all operational costs and all Aidlink salaries.

BY COUNTRY

- Uganda (55%)
- Kenya (40%)
- Ghana (5%)



BY THEME

- Water and Sanitation with Health & food security (60%)
- Water and Sanitation in Education (27%)
- Primary Health Care (including HIV and AIDS) (13%)



ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

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AIDLINK DIRECTORS' AND OTHER INFORMATION

DIRECTORS

Mr Clive Byrne (Chairperson)
Mr Kieran Cooney (Treasurer)
Ms Elaine Brennan
Mr Mick Dunne
Mr Philip Owende
Fr Gerard O'Connor C.C.sR.
Dr Stephen Ranalow
Ms Mary Scully
Fr Brian Starken C.S.Sp (*resigned 27th August, 2012*)
Mr Martin Tormey
Ms Paula McGovern (*resigned 11th February, 2013*)
Ms Gemma Grimes (*appointed 15th April 2013*)

SECRETARY

Ms Elaine Brennan

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Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
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 2012

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements of Aidlink for the year ended 31 December 2012.

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 2012, 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 2012. The Annual Report 2012 can be accessed by visiting Aidlink's website at www.aidlink.ie.

RESULTS

	31/12/2012	31/12/2011
	€	€
Net movement for the year	(147,937)	(606,472)

The deficit of €147,937 reflects the timing of income and expenditure. Projects previously funded by grants and donations in 2011 and prior years, had such funds held back until required in Restricted and Unrestricted Reserves. It was possible to fund these important projects during 2012 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 was successful in applying for a new 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 and thus will negatively impact on the level of activity that Aidlink can provide, the directors, though disappointed with this reduction in Irish Aid funding, are committed to reducing the impact by fundraising from other sources.

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 2012 there was an average of eleven 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 eight times during 2012.

A new policy was adopted in 2010 whereby 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.

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 2012.

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.

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 below what they consider to be the principal risks impacting on Aidlink and the steps taken to address these risks:

1. **Partner 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. Pressure on income is likely to continue and Aidlink is working to develop new sources of income to replace the cut in the Irish Aid programme grant. Conversely, Aidlink has worked hard at reducing costs to ensure that our donors get best value for monies contributed. 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.

The Risk Management Committee members were Gerry O Connor C.C.sR., 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 adoption of the Statement of Guiding Principles for Fundraising is currently under consideration.

DIRECTORS

The current membership of the Board is set out on page 2. Fr Brian Starcken C.S.Sp resigned as director on the 27th August 2012. Ms Paula McGovern resigned as director on the 11th February, 2013. Ms Gemma Grimes was appointed on the 15th April 2013.

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 2012, Restricted and Unrestricted Reserves were €324,664 down from €472,601. The net movement in the reserves for the year of €147,937 reflected the timing of income and expenditure. Of the available resources, €172,083 was held for restricted purposes, as the funds were donated for specific areas and programmes. Projects previously funded by grants and donations in 2011 and prior years, had such funds held back until required in Restricted and Unrestricted Reserves. In 2012, despite the reduction in current revenue, it was possible to fund these important projects from the reserves maintained. The balance in Unrestricted Reserves of €152,581 will be used to cater for partner emergencies and to allow Aidlink to respond rapidly in such circumstances. A portion of both Restricted and Unrestricted Reserves are used to cover Aidlink's operating expenses.

The minimum recommended level of Reserves to be maintained by charities is three months. The Board believes that this is too low a level to maintain in the current economic climate and throughout 2012, 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 period. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to: select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

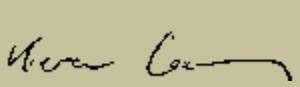
make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that Aidlink will continue in business.

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 2012. 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:



Kieran Cooney, Director



Martin Tormey, Director

Date: 8 May 2013

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AIDLINK

We have audited the financial statements of Aidlink for the year ended 31 December 2012 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 11. 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 2012 to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. 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:

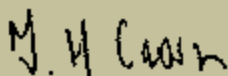
- give a true and fair view, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, of the state of the affairs of Aidlink as at 31 December 2012 and of the net outgoing resources for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Acts, 1963 to 2012.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY THE COMPANIES ACTS, 1963 TO 2012

- 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.
- The net assets of Aidlink, as stated in the balance sheet are more than half of the amount of its called-up share capital and, in our opinion, on that basis there did not exist at 31 December 2012 a financial situation which under Section 40(1) of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1983 would require the convening of an extraordinary general meeting of Aidlink.

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 2012 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: 8 May 2013

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 2012.

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 working capital 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

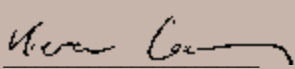
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

		Restricted Funds 2012	Unrestricted Funds 2012	Total Funds 2012	Total Funds 2011
	Notes	€	€	€	€
Incoming Resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds	1	410,057	108,000	518,057	535,696
Incoming resources from charitable activities – Irish Aid		548,398	-	548,398	480,000
Interest income		-	7,991	7,991	28,691
Total incoming resources		958,455	115,991	1,074,446	1,044,387
Resources Expended					
Direct charitable activities expenditure		(996,707)	-	(996,707)	(1,366,536)
Administrative and governance expenses		(52,415)	(173,261)	(225,676)	(284,323)
Total resources expended	3	(1,049,122)	(173,261)	(1,222,383)	(1,650,859)
Net outgoing resources before transfers	8	(90,667)	(57,270)	(147,937)	(606,472)
Transfer					
Transfers between funds		(30,716)	30,716	-	-
Net movement in funds	8	(121,383)	(26,554)	(147,937)	(606,472)
Total funds brought forward	8	293,466	179,135	472,601	1,079,073
Total funds carried forward	8	172,083	152,581	324,664	472,601

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 8 May 2013 and signed on its behalf by:



Kieran Cooney, Director

Date: 8 May 2013



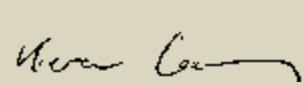
Martin Tormey, Director

AIDLINK

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2012

	Notes	2012 €	2011 €
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	5	1,939	2,626
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	6	15,976	10,347
Cash at bank and in hand		315,910	497,547
		331,886	507,894
CREDITORS: (Amounts falling due within one year)	7	(9,161)	(37,919)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		322,725	469,975
NET ASSETS		324,664	472,601
REPRESENTED BY:			
Accumulated funds - Restricted	8	172,083	293,466
Accumulated funds - Unrestricted	8	152,581	179,135
		324,664	472,601

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 8 May 2013 and signed on its behalf by:



Kieran Cooney, Director

Date: 8 May 2013



Martin Tormey, Director

AIDLINK

CASHFLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

	Notes	2012 €	2011 €
NET CASH OUTFLOW FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	9	(189,628)	(622,156)
RETURNS ON INVESTMENT AND SERVICING OF FINANCE			
Interest received		7,991	28,691
DECREASE IN CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND		(181,637)	(593,465)

ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	31/12/2012 €	Cashflow €	1/1/2012 €
Cash at bank and in hand	315,910	(181,637)	497,547

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012 (CONTINUED)

1. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM GENERATED FUNDS

Income represents donations received from other charitable organisations, general donations, and fundraising activities.

2. EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION

2012	2011
Number	Number

The average numbers of persons employed by the company during the year were:

Administration	3	4
----------------	----------	---

The staff costs are comprised of:

	2012	2011
	€	€
Salaries	118,151	171,455
Social welfare costs	12,577	18,589
	130,728	190,044

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

3. NET OUTGOING RESOURCES

2012	2011
€	€

Net outgoing resources is stated after charging:

Directors' remuneration and emoluments	-	-
Depreciation	687	1,662
Auditors' remuneration	4,736	4,736

and after crediting:

Interest income	7,991	28,691
-----------------	--------------	--------

Auditors' remuneration disclosure (excluding Value Added Tax)

- Audit	3,850	3,850
- Tax advisory services	-	-
- Other assurance services	-	-
- Other non audit services	-	-

AIDLINK
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012 (CONTINUED)

4. 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.

5. FIXED ASSETS

	Office equipment	Computer equipment	Total
	€	€	€
Cost:			
At 1 January 2012 and at 31 December 2012	8,621	10,953	19,574
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Depreciation:			
At 1 January 2012	6,260	10,688	6,948
Charge for year	422	265	687
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 December 2012	6,682	10,953	17,635
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Book Value:			
At 31 December 2012	1,939	-	1,939
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 December 2011	2,361	265	2,626
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

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

	2012	2011
	€	€
Debtors and accrued income	7,976	2,347
Rent deposit	8,000	8,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	15,976	10,347
	<hr/>	<hr/>

7. CREDITORS: (Amounts falling due within one year)**2012**

2011

€

€

Accruals

9,161

37,919

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**2012**

2011

€

€

Accumulated funds - **Restricted:**

Balance brought forward

293,466

858,915

Net movement in the year

(121,383)

(565,449)

Balance carried forward

172,083

293,466

Accumulated funds - **Unrestricted:**

Balance brought forward

179,135

220,158

Net movement in the year

(26,554)

(41,023)

Balance carried forward

152,581

179,135

**9. RECONCILIATION OF NET OUTGOING RESOURCES TO
NET CASH OUTFLOW FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES****2012**

2011

€

€

Movement in funds

(147,937)

(606,472)

Interest income

(7,991)

(28,691)

Movement in funds before financial activities

(155,928)

(635,163)

Depreciation charge

687

1,662

(Increase)/Decrease in debtors

(5,629)

18,085

Decrease in creditors

(28,758)

(6,740)

NET CASH OUTFLOW FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**(189,628)**

(622,156)

10. LEASE COMMITMENTS

Operating lease commitments:

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

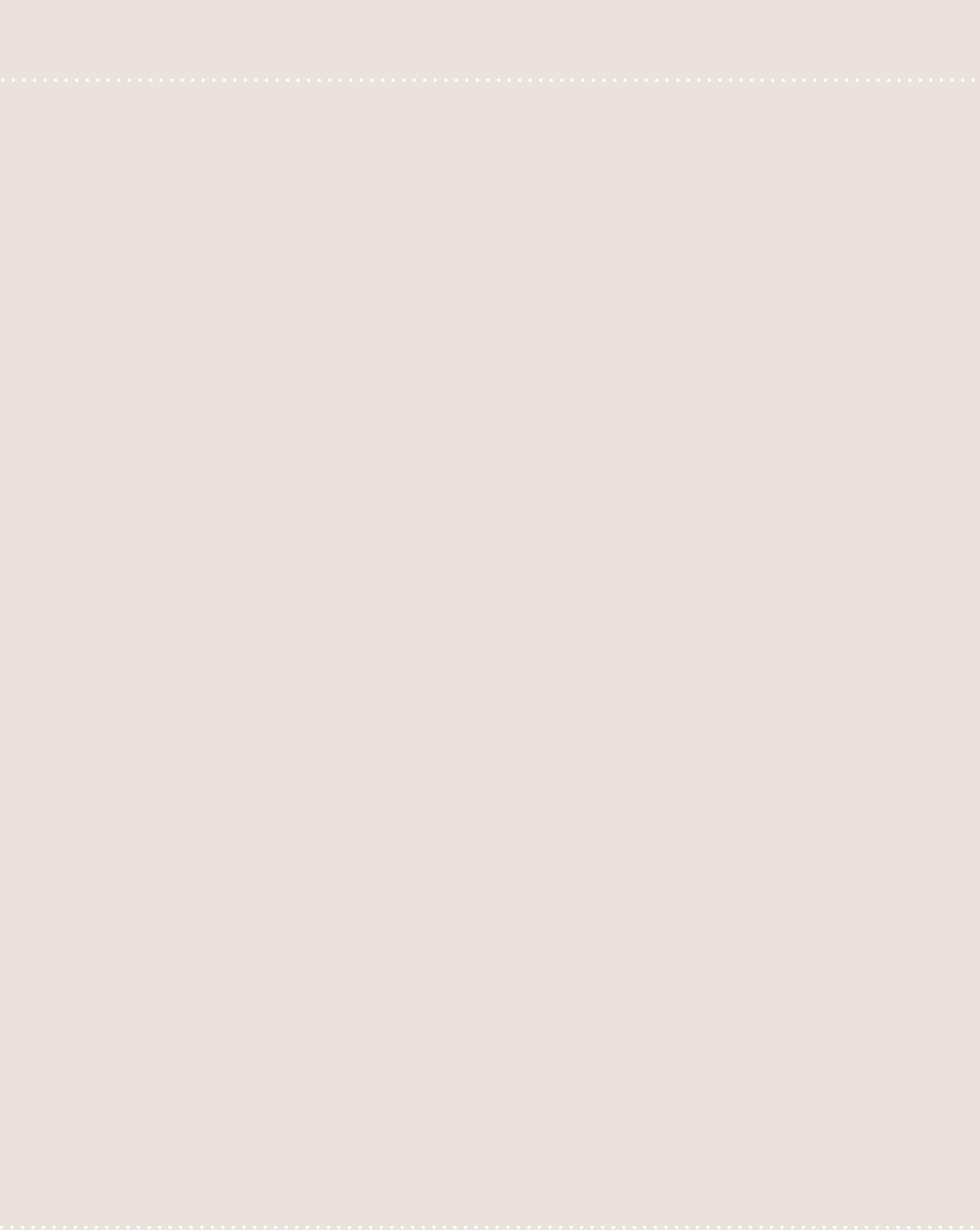
	2012	2011
Premises:	€	€
Operating leases which expire:		
Within one year	8,000	-
In the second to fifth years inclusive	-	32,000
Over five years	-	-
	<u>8,000</u>	<u>32,000</u>

The lease was established on 1 July 2008 for a term of 4 years and 9 months. The remaining commitment over the lease term at 31 December 2012 is €8,000 (2011: €40,000).

11. 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.



SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

(NOT COVERED BY INDEPENDENT
AUDITOR'S REPORT)

AIDLINK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

	Restricted Funds 2012 €	Unrestricted Funds 2012 €	Total Funds 2012 €
Incoming Resources			
Incoming resources from generated funds			
Third World Groups	241,145	-	241,145
Ghana Immersion Programme	129,679	36,013	165,692
Other Donors and Standing Orders	39,233	51,987	91,220
Spiritan Congregation Ireland	-	-	-
St Patrick's Day Badge campaign	-	20,000	20,000
Incoming resources from charitable activities – Irish Aid			
Kenya – Health	100,000	-	100,000
Kenya – Education	100,000	-	100,000
Uganda – Water, Sanitation and Health	300,495	-	300,495
Uganda – Education	-	-	-
Uganda – Food	-	-	-
General Programme Quality	15,000	-	15,000
Ireland-Programme Support Costs	32,903	-	32,903
Interest income	-	7,991	7,991
Total incoming resources	958,455	115,991	1,074,446
Resources Expended			
Direct charitable activities expenditure:-			
Irish Aid co-funded activities	(553,937)	-	(553,937)
Misean Cara grants	-	-	-
Third World Group programmes	(291,157)	-	(291,157)
Ghana Immersion Programme	(124,123)	-	(124,123)
Other Aidlink co-funded programmes	(27,490)	-	(27,490)
Direct charitable activities expenditure – Total	(996,707)	-	(996,707)
Administrative and governance expenses:-			
Salaries	(27,700)	(103,028)	(130,728)
Printing, stationery, light, heat and telephone	-	(16,242)	(16,242)
Office rent	(16,000)	(16,000)	(32,000)
Strategic planning	(8,707)	-	(8,707)
Professional fees	-	(5,785)	(5,785)
Rates	-	(5,048)	(5,048)
Partner field visits and travel	-	(3,356)	(3,356)
Insurance	-	(3,105)	(3,105)
Website and computer expenses	-	(2,174)	(2,174)
Repairs and maintenance	-	(2,907)	(2,907)
Depreciation	-	(687)	(687)
Subscriptions	-	(200)	(200)
Bank interest and charges	(8)	(338)	(346)
Fundraising expenses	-	(6,013)	(6,013)
Sundry other expenses	-	(8,378)	(8,578)
Administrative and governance expenses – Total	(52,415)	(173,261)	(225,676)
Total resources expended	(1,049,122)	(173,261)	(1,222,383)
Net outgoing resources before transfers	(90,667)	(57,270)	(147,937)

AIDLINK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

	Restricted Funds 2011 €	Unrestricted Funds 2011 €	Funds 2011 €
Incoming Resources			
Incoming resources from generated funds			
Third World Groups	265,355	-	265,355
Ghana Immersion Programme	20,000	-	20,000
Other Donors and Standing Orders	90,358	99,483	189,841
Spiritan Congregation Ireland	-	15,000	15,000
St Patrick's Day Badge campaign	-	45,500	45,500
Incoming resources from charitable activities – Irish Aid			
Kenya – Health	50,000	-	50,000
Kenya – Education	110,662	-	110,662
Uganda – Water, Sanitation and Health	244,048	-	244,048
Uganda – Education	25,000	-	25,000
Uganda – Food	16,667	-	16,667
General Programme Quality	20,000	-	20,000
Ireland-Programme Support Costs	13,623	-	13,623
Interest income	-	28,691	28,691
Total incoming resources	855,713	188,674	1,044,387
Resources Expended			
Direct charitable activities expenditure:-			
Irish Aid co-funded activities	(1,022,969)	-	(1,022,969)
Misean Cara grants	(3,502)	-	(3,502)
Third World Group programmes	(215,893)	-	(215,893)
Ghana Immersion Programme	(14,311)	-	(14,311)
Other Aidlink co-funded programmes	(109,861)	-	(109,861)
Direct charitable activities expenditure – Total	(1,366,536)	-	(1,366,536)
Administrative and governance expenses:-			
Salaries	(35,602)	(154,442)	(190,044)
Printing, stationery, light, heat and telephone	(500)	(16,134)	(16,634)
Office rent	(16,000)	(16,000)	(32,000)
Strategic planning	(1,069)	-	(1,069)
Professional fees	-	(8,363)	(8,363)
Rates -	(5,137)	(5,137)	
Partner field visits and travel	-	(119)	(119)
Insurance	-	(2,703)	(2,703)
Website and computer expenses	-	(3,164)	(3,164)
Repairs and maintenance	-	(3,872)	(3,872)
Depreciation	-	(1,662)	(1,662)
Subscriptions	-	(2,035)	(2,035)
Bank interest and charges	(95)	(371)	(466)
Fundraising expenses	(1,360)	(8,593)	(9,953)
Sundry other expenses	-	(7,102)	(7,102)
Administrative and governance expenses – Total	(54,626)	(229,697)	(284,323)
Total resources expended	(1,421,162)	(229,697)	(1,650,859)
Net outgoing resources before transfers	(565,449)	(41,026)	(606,472)

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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



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