

Impact report

Year in review 2021/22



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This is a condensed version of our 2021/22 annual report and accounts. To view the full version, go to:
christianaid.org.uk/resources/our-work/annual-report-2021-2022

Cover: A mother and daughter at Lviv railway station, Ukraine. They fled bombing in Mykolaiv in southern Ukraine and planned to take refuge in Poland. Christian Aid's ACT Alliance partners gave them nappies, food and water and a place to rest.

Photographs: Cover: Antti Yrjönen/FCA/ACT Alliance; p3: Alex Baker; p5: Christian Aid/Mervyn McCullagh; p10: Christian Aid/Silvano Yokwe; p14: KORAL/Christian Aid; p17: Hernado Banquez; p18: Christian Aid; p20: Jess Hurd; p22: Young Christian Climate Network.

Letter from the Chair

To be invited to be the Chair of Christian Aid in November 2021 was an honour and a great delight. Many years ago, when I had just been appointed Assistant Curate at St Andrew, Ham Common, and Chaplain at Latchmere House Remand Centre, I went and delivered those famous red envelopes for Christian Aid Week. It was a wonderful experience. Today, our message remains the same, and the clue is in our amazing name – Christian Aid. We are here to stand together with people living in poverty, and that is what inspires me.

Christian Aid has a strong vision and track record of building the agency of people in poverty, and helping them to transform their lives. We believe in a world where everyone is able to live with dignity, where all can thrive and flourish, and where the voices of people who are excluded, marginalised and unseen are listened to and acted on. This work is rooted in the Christian conviction that all humans are created in God's image and likeness.

I have long admired Christian Aid's commitment to ending poverty and tackling injustice. When I visited Afghanistan in 2004, people told me that it was the only Christian organisation that had remained in the country. I thought how important this was: an organisation that works with people of all faiths and none because of, not in spite of, its Christian identity. It is an organisation that understands its role as being part of a wider movement for justice.

In taking on the role of Chair, I had to fill the shoes of Dr Rowan Williams, the former Archbishop of Canterbury, who stepped down having served two full terms. I would like to express my immense gratitude to Rowan for his commitment and leadership.

I was brought up in Uganda, and I am proud to be the first person of African descent to take up the position of Chair since Christian Aid was founded in 1945. Our organisation and the wider sector continue to journey towards deeper equality. Whoever we are, and wherever we live, we share in a common humanity. Christian Aid's new brand campaign, United By Hope, powerfully conveys what connects people across boundaries of wealth and geography. Our foundation, in response to the humanitarian crisis created in Europe by the Second World War, speaks to this same vision of life in all its fullness, for every person.

Our rapid response to the war in Ukraine, which has forced 12 million people from their homes, echoes that founding work.

The public response has been extraordinary, and we have been able to make a practical difference for thousands of people in Ukraine and neighbouring countries.

The effects of the war are being felt far and wide, most acutely in East Africa where rising food and energy prices have deepened a humanitarian crisis initially triggered by drought and conflict. The United Nations (UN) estimates that 18.4 million people in the Horn of Africa face acute hunger. As countries around the world continue to grapple with the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic, our work is more relevant than ever.



In April, we stood in solidarity with church leaders across the UK and Ireland in an act of witness to pray for the people of Ukraine and an end to the conflict.

Over the past year, Covid-19 continued to affect how we delivered our programmes. It has also changed how we fundraise as more of our activity has moved online. I would especially like to thank all our supporters, staff and volunteers who demonstrated remarkable resilience and commitment to Christian Aid through a difficult period of social restrictions. Our supporters' continued generosity has enabled us to sustain our work and adapt and respond to where the need is greatest.

As the climate crisis intensifies, it deepens poverty and vulnerability for millions of people around the world. We continue to develop our programmes on climate adaptation and resilience, and to campaign for courageous action by governments. We helped to raise awareness with our inaugural Annual Lecture in September 2021, where Sir Partha Dasgupta spoke on the threat facing communities from the climate crisis and ecological loss. On 6 November 2001, Christian Aid supporters were among the many thousands of people who marched in Glasgow demanding climate justice at the Conference of the Parties (COP26).

One of our strengths as a Christian organisation is the ability to bring a distinctive perspective to international development. In our new publication, *The Christian Aid Poverty Report: Reimagining paths to human flourishing*, we set out the state of global poverty and what needs to be done to end it. We have received endorsements from notable figures, including Archbishop Thabo of Cape Town, Gordon Brown, Mary Robinson and Christiana Figueres.

As a Board, we have expressed our personal and collective commitment to ensuring that we address the reality of the human cost of racial inequality. We must do this with urgency, acknowledging our own part in the problem and offering a tangible and meaningful response. As we have done before, we must demonstrate that how we carry out our work fully reflects the values we are committed to upholding.

I want to thank our former Chief Executive, Amanda Khozi Mukwashi, who departed in December to take up a new role with the UN. Since joining Christian Aid in early 2018, Amanda launched a new global strategy, led our work on anti-racism, and weathered the storms of a global pandemic. It was fitting that Amanda's leadership was recognised publicly with the Charity CEO of the Year Award at the 2021 Third Sector Awards.

The process of finding a new Chief Executive was extensive and we had a wide and diverse field of applicants. I was very glad to welcome Patrick Watt as our new CEO in April 2022. Patrick has already proven himself as a leader for both Christian Aid and the international development sector as a whole. He is committed to Christian Aid's strategy of using prophetic voice to confront injustice and working with churches to achieve lasting change.

I look forward to continuing to work with Patrick in our mission to transform situations of injustice into those of hope and to end extreme poverty.



Dr John Sentamu, Chair of the Christian Aid Board of Trustees

Letter from the Chief Executive

I am delighted to be introducing my first Annual Report as CEO of Christian Aid. I already knew something of the great work we do in tackling poverty and its root causes, having worked previously as Christian Aid's Director of Policy and Campaigns. Yet coming into the role of Chief Executive has opened my eyes further to the extraordinary work of our organisation.



I want to thank Amanda Khozi Mukwashi for her leadership and transformational impact on Christian Aid over her four years as CEO. I intend to build on her legacy as I lead us on the next stage of our journey. I also want to thank Dr John Sentamu for his wisdom, support and guidance since I started as CEO.

The issues we work on are enormous and urgent, and the pressures facing development and humanitarian non-governmental organisations are often intense. But I draw confidence from the fact that we are one part of a wider movement, powered by a cause larger than any single organisation, of ending the injustice of extreme poverty. I am privileged to work alongside passionate and dedicated staff, volunteers, supporters, partners and sponsoring churches to realise our vision and mission.

Shortly after my appointment in April, I travelled to Malawi and witnessed first-hand the difference we make in people's lives. I was inspired by smallholder farmers' accounts of how they had become more economically resilient with Christian Aid's support, and by the energy of the women-led cooperatives we helped to establish. Yet it was also sobering to see the scale of the damage caused by Cyclone Ana in January 2022, and to hear from people about how they have been hit by the economic effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine. These economic headwinds are being felt most in the poorest countries. In East Africa, rising food and energy costs are adding to drought to create one of the biggest hunger emergencies of recent decades.

Christian Aid was founded in response to the needs of refugees in the aftermath of the Second World War. More than 75 years on, we have again faced a huge forced movement of people in Europe, following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. I have been impressed by how different parts of Christian Aid have worked together rapidly to mobilise a fundraising and programme response, and encouraged by how our membership of ACT Alliance has allowed us to work effectively across Ukraine and neighbouring countries.

In Ukraine, we are building on our track record of localisation, and of putting survivors at the heart of our humanitarian work, by supporting small community-based initiatives. Our experience in Haiti, for example, has generated evidence that where communities shape our response, it is more effective and sustainable. Our work with our Haitian partner KORAL in helping people to construct stable homes following the 2010 earthquake has proven its worth in the face of more recent disasters.

Building on unexpected success in 2020, Christian Aid Week 2021 again surpassed fundraising expectations, despite Covid restrictions. Christian Aid Week income rose by £1.7 million last year and continues to be a key moment when we engage the wider British public in our cause. Due to our supporters' extraordinary generosity over recent years, we are now seeing a steady recovery in our voluntary income. This is allowing us to increase our programme grants to our partners, and deepen our impact for people living in poverty.

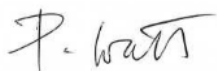
Our supporters and churches act and pray with Christian Aid, as well as giving financially to our work. Last year, we joined with other members of the People's Vaccine Alliance and global faith leaders to call for an end to vaccine apartheid, in the face of hoarding by rich countries and profiteering by pharmaceutical companies. We saw powerful and imaginative campaigning help to influence decisions on debt, and on climate change, including at the UN climate conference in Glasgow in November 2021. We brought together people from faith communities in the UK with activists from the poorest and most climate-vulnerable countries, behind the demand for climate justice. While the final outcome was disappointing, we saw important progress in putting climate loss and damage further up the international political agenda, something on which we will build in the run-up to COP27 in Egypt.

Over the last year, we experienced a substantial fall in our institutional income, and as a result saw an overall drop in our programme expenditure. This decline had no single cause, but the sudden and deep cuts to UK aid that followed the merger of the Department for International Development and the Foreign Office, and the loss of EU funding opportunities following Brexit were important factors. The good news is that our gradual recovery of voluntary income gives us the space to be strategic about how we go about rebuilding our institutional income. Some positive work has already begun in this area, as we sharpen our focus on programme impact and improve our systems.

In January, trustees received Christian Aid's first annual report on race and diversity. It was an important point in our shared journey to becoming an organisation that fully lives up to our values of dignity, equality, justice and love, and actively tackles racism in all its forms. The report showed that we have made many positive steps towards implementing the recommendations in our 2020 external review on race and diversity. Yet there remains much to do, as our organisation works to change our systems, processes and behaviours for the better, and at the same time grapples with the connected challenge of how to redistribute voice and power, and increase accountability within our sector. I am encouraged by the ongoing commitment of staff and trustees to this agenda, and am determined to sustain our efforts.

The last year saw continued challenges as we worked to maintain our programmes, and engage our supporters, in the face of Covid-related restrictions on movement. Towards the end of the year, these restrictions began to be lifted. We adjusted to a new hybrid way of working, aimed at combining the benefits of home working and of being together face-to-face. The fact that many of our colleagues in country offices are working in the context of conflict and political instability, from Afghanistan to Myanmar, and Haiti to South Sudan, adds to the complexity of working life. We continue to look at ways of ensuring that our staff can bring their best work to Christian Aid and are supported and motivated in their roles.

The subtitle of our recently published *Christian Aid Poverty Report* is *Reimagining paths to human flourishing*. We are living in a period when the inequalities of wealth and power are widening, conflict and violence are leading to massive violations of people's rights, and environmental destruction threatens our common home. There is an urgent need to rethink our approaches to poverty, and to restore the relationships broken by it. This demands deep structural change, but also a real change in ourselves. Christian Aid's work is one contribution to that task, of building a world in which every person is able to play their full part in the human family. I look forward to working with people across our networks in the coming year to pursue that vision in practical and effective ways.



Patrick Watt, Chief Executive Officer

Strategic objectives

For 76 years, we have provided long-term development support and humanitarian relief worldwide, highlighting suffering, tackling injustice and championing people's rights.

Our vision

Our vision is a world where everyone has fullness of life; a life lived with dignity, free from poverty and need; where global resources are equitably shared and sustainably used; and where the voice and agency of the poor and marginalised are fully realised.

Our mission

We live in a world where the scandal of poverty, inequality and injustice persists. We act as a global movement of people to respond in practical ways to alleviate suffering; to expose and eradicate misuses of power; to provide humanitarian support in crises and emergencies; and to work for sustainable and long-lasting change.

Our strategic framework

Our global strategy, Standing Together, laid out an analytical framework as our approach to tackle extreme poverty:

Poverty: Reach people living in extreme poverty, challenge structural poverty, and respond to need.

Power: Understand, challenge, shift and build new forms of power across all connected levels.

Prophetic voice: Enact, together with people living in poverty, a shared vision of a just and healed world.

Delivering hope, building a movement

We have an incredible network of supporters, partners and allies across the world, and the total of all our actions is greater than the sum of our parts. To achieve our goals, we need to collaborate with people and organisations of all faiths and none, who share our values and a desire to act with the same courageous hope and conviction. To achieve our vision and mission we need to:

- connect the thousands of churches and supporters who give, act and pray in Britain and Ireland
- connect the hundreds of organisations who partner with us to deliver innovative and effective solutions to eradicate poverty
- connect the voices from every country where we are present to dismantle the systemic causes of poverty and amplify their desire for justice.

Our values

Dignity

Our belief that every human being is of equal worth and should be given the opportunity to realise their potential.

Love

Our cornerstone! Our motivation to love and care for others and Creation by standing alongside those who struggle against poverty, powerlessness and injustice.

Justice

Our determination to empower communities and to challenge the structures and systems that create poverty and prevent people from rising out of it.

Equality

Our conviction that all individuals and groups have the right to equality of voice, opportunity, and outcomes.

The year in numbers



We implemented **257** projects in **14** countries and across two regional programmes.



This work directly reached **2,676,349** people, of whom **54%** were female, and reached another **29,602,785** people indirectly.



The humanitarian needs of **1,419,947** people were met directly through our interventions.



We worked with more than **240** implementing partners.



We welcomed **6,000** new supporters who joined our cause. Additionally, **27,385** people took **33,037** campaign actions, including petition signing, individual actions and movement building.



We raised a total of **£78.4 million** in 2021/2.



We spent **£75.6 million**, with **£34 million** used for humanitarian programming and **£24.1 million** for development programmes.



We distributed **\$5.13 million (£3.9 million)** in cash transfers to **172,273** displaced people in the DRC and Nigeria, through our partnership with the World Food Programme.



We launched the **Christian Aid Poverty Report: Reimagining paths to human flourishing**, which examines the state of global poverty, its causes and effects, and what needs to be done to end it.



Our supporters raised more than **£7 million** to support humanitarian emergencies in Haiti and Afghanistan, and our Global Hunger Appeal.



Our new brand campaign, United By Hope, reached **27 million** people in the UK by April 2022. This aimed to create a connection and sense of collective empathy to show that there is more that unites us than divides us.

Strategic report

Breaking the Barriers

Honduras, Malawi, Burkina Faso and Ethiopia

Breaking the Barriers (BTB) was a four-year EU programme that ran from February 2018 to July 2022. It looked to enhance women's economic empowerment by 'increasing rural women's jobs and income in the sustainable energy sector, improving working and living conditions, promoting gender equality, and strengthening women's social status'. BTB supported women in Honduras, Ethiopia, Malawi and Burkina Faso through Women Led Sustainable Energy Enterprises (WLSEEs). The project set up 207 WLSEEs working with 2,490 people (81% of them women).

In Malawi, Burkina Faso and Ethiopia, the project provided access to finance and training, so that participants could set up small-scale food processing businesses using sustainable energy technologies. In Honduras, women set up WLSEEs to sell renewable energy products. When the project started in Honduras in 2018, 39 WLSEEs were established. These businesses sold eco-friendly cooking stoves, solar driers and solar panels, plus additional accessories and services. By February 2020, these women had more than doubled their monthly incomes, and some were earning the minimum wage through their sales. In addition, 197 jobs have been created for rural women in Honduras.

The BTB programme also aimed to increase women's decision-making power. By the end of the project in Honduras, 57% of women felt they had the power to make their own decisions, as opposed to 43% at the start. Women became more confident about organising and making business decisions. By the end of the programme, women managing WLSEEs were signing contracts with suppliers and other institutions with no support from the project, ensuring the sustainability of their enterprises.

Context-specific design was important to understand and navigate the different social norms and cultural restrictions faced by women. Financial structures in some countries are not committed to the development of rural women. For example, in Honduras, women in remote rural areas with less repayment capacity were initially excluded from the project because banks would not approve their loan applications. This meant that Christian Aid and the partner had to find ways to involve rural women. Therefore, the project designed affordable and flexible loan arrangements (low interest rates, no subscription fees, and group lending to ensure collateral) so that the excluded rural women could benefit financially from the project.

'We have always had the dream of starting a business [and] being able to care for our children at home. But we did not have the opportunity to access credit since we did not meet the requirements set by banks and microfinance companies'

Alma, Honduras

Reducing malnutrition and improving diet diversity

South Sudan

South Sudan has some of the highest malnutrition rates in sub-Saharan Africa. Since July 2018, Christian Aid has been tackling malnutrition in Aweil North and Jur River regions, where few other agencies work. The goal of the £2.6 million, three-year UK aid project was to improve the nutritional resilience of 52,911 women and children by supporting them to increase the amount and the diversity of their diet.

The project focused on the community working together to find solutions to tackle malnutrition so that the impact would continue after the intervention ends. The project reached 67,455 women and girls of childbearing age, and 37,265 children under five. We trained 5,728 farming households (81% women) to improve their crops, and ensured access to maize, peanuts, cowpeas, sorghum and sesame, and vegetable seeds (okra, aubergine, melon, kale and tomatoes).



'With my farming activities, I am able to pay the school fees for my children, buy clothes for them and also pay for their medical treatment'

Adut Anet Achen, participant

Seeing change In Their Lifetime

Nicaragua, Ethiopia and Myanmar

In Their Lifetime (ITL) is a fund that enables Christian Aid to invest in projects that test new approaches to development. Through innovative projects, we collect data and gather knowledge on what works. Learning and evidence from past projects allow us to share our innovations with other organisations, local governments and networks to deliver more impact in vulnerable communities globally.

The Climate Monitoring Action (CLIMA) project in Nicaragua installed five weather stations and trained 121 climate observers (42% women) to gather and interpret locally sourced climate data. The project helps equip families to address the increasing degradation of their agricultural livelihoods.

In Ethiopia, local community and healthcare systems were supported in the development of an early warning system to predict health hazards, design preventative interventions, and act as quickly as possible in health emergencies.

In Myanmar, the ITL project has supported conflict-affected communities to recover from the health, social and economic fallout of Covid-19 alongside the impact of armed groups and conflict. Since it started in August 2021, the project has helped us learn how to better undertake long-term planning in fragile contexts using an approach that combines emergency relief with development actions and peace-building initiatives.

The Global Hunger Appeal: Compassion for people facing famine

Afghanistan, Ethiopia and South Sudan

The Covid-19 pandemic, the climate crisis and continued conflict have exacerbated hunger and food insecurity in many countries, causing more than 30 million people in 20 countries to be at risk of famine and requiring immediate humanitarian assistance. Christian Aid was able to respond in three of these countries through our Global Hunger Appeal.

In South Sudan, the food crisis was caused by severe flooding that covered large areas of land and destroyed crops. The extreme flooding took more than six months to recede, so farmers were unable to prepare their land and sow seeds for the next harvest. In addition, conflict erupted in several places, and people were forced to abandon their land. With stretched coping mechanisms, significant cuts in World Food Programme distributions and little or no services, communities continue to struggle to access food.

The causes of food insecurity in Ethiopia are complex, but include drought, conflict and high global prices of food and petrol as interrelated driving factors of hunger. The south has had more than four failed rainy seasons. Food production, pasture and livelihoods have been compromised. Nearly 1.5 million people are estimated to be displaced due to drought and more than 8.4 million people need urgent food assistance.

In Afghanistan, as a result of insecurity and armed conflict throughout the country, many people fled their homes and need urgent food and other items. The lack of access to food is acute, with 14.5 million people needing food support.

Christian Aid's Global Hunger Appeal met life-threatening needs for food and non-food items to save lives, uphold dignity and support early recovery and more sustainable solutions. The project has made an impact on the lives of 35,288 people (60% women and 10% people living with disabilities). The programme supplied 12,605 people (61% women) with cash for food; 3,775 people (53% women) with standard food packages and 3,634 people (53% women) with nutrition parcels for pregnant and breastfeeding women and malnourished children under five. Hygiene dignity kits (including sanitary pads and soap) were distributed to 1,556 girls and women. Psychosocial support and referral pathways were provided to 27,323 people (62% women). In addition, 3,101 people (58% women) received items such as seeds, tools, fishing gear and jerrycans.

Blessed are the peacemakers

Burundi

For farmers struggling to make ends meet, the slightest shock, such as having crops destroyed by a neighbour's cow, can cause bitter resentment that can spill over into conflict.

Recognising that conflicts at the community level were a significant factor in increasing the vulnerability of families in rural Burundi, the Humanitarian Programme Plan, funded by Irish Aid, included a conflict resolution mechanism in its humanitarian response. Christian Aid partner Conseil National des Églises du Burundi provided dispute management and resolution training to members of disaster management committees.

Reaching out to a committee for help with resolving a dispute is beneficial in many ways. The court system is expensive and can take a very long time. The outcome often involves people paying fines, but does not usually resolve the conflict. The services provided by disaster committee members are free, which also allows vulnerable people to access them.

In total, 105 people (34% women; 9% aged over 60) from disaster committees were trained in conflict analysis. A further 550 people (47% women; 18% youth; 3% people living with disabilities and 18% aged over 60) in 11 communities took part in a conflict analysis and conflict resolution process at the community level. This resulted in 79% of conflicts presented to disaster management committees being addressed and resolved through conflict resolution mechanisms.

One example of a conflict resolved is the story of Ezekiel and Simon, who live in a village in Makamba Province in southern Burundi. Ezekiel is a farmer and Simon keeps a cow on a rented plot of land near Ezekiel's.

Simon left his cow to graze uncontrolled. As a result, Ezekiel explains: 'His cow destroyed 40–50 kg of maize and each kilogram sells for 1,000 Burundian francs at the local market. For cassava, I would say that we lost up to 70 kg.'

Ezekiel began to confront and threaten Simon because of the damage his cow caused. 'I was living in fear. In one week, I was threatened four times. I then decided to reach out for support,' Simon says.

Their community leader put them in contact with a local disaster committee who mediated by enabling both sides to put forward their story and inviting proposals for resolution. This led to Simon ensuring that his cow would be secured.

Social shifts in women's participation in disaster risk reduction

Nigeria

'Emerging as the leader of the DMP is not only a big deal for me but for other women in Sokoto State,' said Hajiya Aisha Abdullah in her acceptance speech at her inauguration as the chairperson of the Disaster Management Platform (DMP), in Sokoto State, Nigeria. In Kaduna State, another woman, Jacqueline Adebija, was also elected as chair of the DMP. The DMPs were set up by the Disaster Reduction and Social Safety project to provide coordination and technical support in the implementation of state emergency response plans.

In most parts of northern Nigeria, the voices of women and girls are not heard when issues that affect them are being discussed, and their capacity to provide solutions to problems is not recognised. Women are usually not allowed to sit together with men in gatherings and even when they find themselves in the same space, they usually keep silent.

Having women as leaders of state-level platforms is a huge achievement, in particular, because the importance of this was embraced by the individual members of the DMP, after a series of conversations and advocacy for an increase in women's participation in decision making. The social shift has also reached the community level, where the project is working with eight community DMPs with 56 men and 24 women across four regions of Sokoto and Kaduna States working to educate and prepare their communities for emergencies and disasters.

Strategic leadership development training was organised for 60 women. The women who attended the main training agreed it was valuable and shared the knowledge with other women afterwards, using existing platforms, such as community meetings and religious groups, to reach other women. Working together with the community DMPs, the women developed action and advocacy action plans around community sensitisation, waste management and flood preparation. Sixteen women trained in this way have now joined their community DMPs, increasing the number from 80 to 96 people (40 women and 56 men).

Supporting a survivor-led emergency response in a complex disaster

Haiti

On Saturday 14 August 2021, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck southwestern Haiti with devastating consequences.

'I will continue to use this DMP position to inspire more women around me to aspire for leadership positions. I did not get to the point overnight, and I am still pushing myself to attain greater position'

Hajiya Aisha Abdullahi, Chairperson of Sokoto state Disaster Management Platform

There was significant loss of life, injuries, infrastructure damage, and impact on food production and availability, resulting in multiple immediate needs for local people. Christian Aid worked with local partners Konbite pou Ranfose Aksyon Lakay and Service Jésuite aux Migrants to implement the Haiti Earthquake Response, which tested the survivor and community-led response (SCLR) approach at scale for the first time in a complex emergency response in Haiti.

SCLR is an emergency response approach developed to support and resource individuals and communities affected by sudden or protracted crises, and support the self-help actions of crisis-affected people. It does not replace traditional humanitarian response, but provides additional assistance to meet the immediate needs of the affected communities and increase survivors' resilience.

Using the SCLR approach meant that Christian Aid could provide lifesaving assistance and respond to the immediate needs of those most affected by the earthquake, including displaced women, men, boys and girls in remote communes in the Sud and Grand'Anse departments. By distributing micro-grants to community-based organisations, communities were able to meet their basic needs by identifying their own priorities and enacting their own planned solutions.

During the first three months after the earthquake, Christian Aid supported 71 self-help initiatives with grants ranging from \$2,000 to \$3,000. The initiatives included cash for work on road infrastructure, removal of rubble and canal cleaning; unconditional cash transfers to particularly vulnerable families; funding for self-organised distribution of essentials; and psychosocial assistance.

The community-led initiatives had direct and meaningful impacts on the lives of 12,580 individuals (4 % people living with disabilities and 18% older people). The activities were funded by Start Fund, Irish Aid Emergency Response Fund and Christian Aid.

A dignified livelihood

India

Manual scavenging in India is a caste-based practice, rooted historically in the hierarchical system of caste and exclusion. It involves manually cleaning out and disposing of human excreta from dry latrines and sewers, and is usually performed by Dalit women.

'This is the method that is good for the community because the community is involved more. When they impose things on us, it is in a situation of restraint. But when they give us the liberty of choice, we enlarge the situation more'

Community participant



Above: Community distribution of urgent supplies in the aftermath of the earthquake in Haiti.

Our partner ARUN-SKA is leading a long-term campaign to eradicate manual scavenging, which still exists despite being legally prohibited. The movement has grown into a network of 7,000 members in 500 districts, and two nationwide marches were held in 2010 and 2015 to garner support from the public. In 2021/22, more than 1,205 members from the manual scavenging community organised public rallies to raise their voices on key issues, which led to the demolition of eight dry latrines in two states, liberating 12 women from this undignified occupation. To date, the movement has liberated 300,000 scavengers.

ARUN-SKA is advocating with the government, holding it to account on its commitment to support ex-manual scavengers to find dignified livelihoods, and to disburse the allocated budget fairly and efficiently. By 2020/21, there was a budget of 100 million rupees for relief and rehabilitation support for manual scavengers, but so far, only 16 million rupees have been spent.

In 2021/22, ARUN-SKA also focused on the rehabilitation of former manual scavengers, helping to form 30 self-help groups and 35 gender equality clubs. These worked with 513 women and 350 young adults who had been manual scavengers and who were seeking to build dignified livelihoods for themselves. The women also benefited from training so that they have the capacity and resilience to speak up and fight for their rights in the community.

Equality for transgender communities in Bangladesh

Bangladesh

In Bangladesh, there are small, but well-defined, transgender and Hijra communities. Hijras are often born male but look and dress in traditionally feminine ways. These communities face discrimination in every aspect of their lives, including healthcare, education, safe living spaces, public transport and constitutional rights. The main reason is a lack of awareness in the wider population, along with no official recognition or formal statistics.

Our partner Bandhu Social Welfare Society has been lobbying on behalf of the transgender and Hijra communities for seven years, alongside UNFPA and UNICEF. This year, they achieved a significant victory when the National Curriculum and Textbook Board of Bangladesh agreed to incorporate comprehensive sexuality education into the national curriculum. This is the first step to sensitising children on gender diversity to ensure that

'I used to work as a manual scavenger. With the help of SKA I got training in manufacturing of cleaning products and stands for clothes and flower pots. Now I am able to earn 20,000 rupees a month. Before, I used to get only 2,500 rupees per month. My family is very happy, and this change in work has also enhanced our status and respect in society'

Babali, Raj Kumar, Mohalla-Jattapura,
Punjab State

diverse communities are accepted and discrimination is reduced.

A second milestone was reached when, after years of lobbying by Bandhu, with assistance from the National Human Rights Commission, the Bureau of Bangladesh Statistics agreed to include a question to identify people as Hijra in the next census. At present, there is no official data on this community, although estimates of their numbers range from 10,000 to 100,000. This is an important step for Hijra people to feel represented and accepted. It is essential for their actual number to be counted so that government programmes can appropriately plan and budget.

The voice of Providencia: 'Enough is enough! No more'

Colombia

To tackle inequality and climate injustice, the world needs voices that cry out about the urgency of addressing the impacts of climate change. Yurshell Rodríguez, from the Colombian island of Providencia, is one of these voices.

Providencia was hit by Hurricane Iota on 13 November 2020. Winds of over 250km/hour left five people dead, 16 missing and almost all the island's 5,000 inhabitants homeless.

Despite the devastation and horror, Yurshell, a young woman living in the Raizal community of Providencia, decided to collaborate with Climate Action Network International's Impact campaign by collecting graphic material and testimonies of those affected, managing to generate two of the most powerful videos of the global campaign.

The videos show a small, yet hard-hitting, part of the effects of the climate crisis on the most vulnerable. The involvement of Yurshell and Christian Aid's partner Climalab in raising awareness of the effects of this crisis in communities in the Colombian Caribbean also strengthened the campaign in different regional and international events, including at the 2022 LAC Regional Climate Week in the Dominican Republic.

As a representative of her community, Yurshell's participation allowed the Climate Action Network Latin America (CANLA) to push the campaign in seven other countries in the region (Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Bolivia, Peru and Chile), leaving us with a clear message: 'Enough is enough! No more!'



Above: Yurshell Rodríguez says: 'What are we going to do to help these places so vulnerable to climate change? We filed a lawsuit against the government of Colombia, to demand that it complies with the Paris Agreement.' She collected testimonies from people affected by Hurricane Iota, and made two of the most powerful videos for Climate Action Network International's global campaign.

Christian Aid has supported CANLA organisations since 2019 and started supporting Climalab this year, with seed funding for the development of its advocacy strategy. This allows it to amplify voices like Yurshell's in national, regional and international decision-making spaces, and provides a platform to Yurshell and her community to denounce inaction and climate injustice.

Faith actors and the response to Covid-19

Bangladesh, Nigeria, South Sudan, Sierra Leone and others

A central pillar in our immediate response to Covid-19 was a focus on working with local and national faith actors, including faith-based organisations and faith leaders. Christian Aid's response was based on what we had learnt from our programmes during the Ebola crisis, where the role of faith leaders had been recognised as critical to successful service delivery.

Misinformation and a lack of trust in public health officials were key issues during the pandemic. Christian Aid's engagement with faith actors – who are often more trusted than government representatives – was on delivering hygiene products and on health messaging.

In Sierra Leone, for example, the high capacity of the Council of Churches in 'risk communication' was an important contribution to the response. In practical terms, Christian Aid and its partners supported faith actors to communicate regulations and protocols in a way that would be meaningful for their specific communities.

In Nigeria, faith actors were able to play key roles, especially via radio messaging, to combat misinformation. Faith actors were also able to reach the poorest and most vulnerable due to their networks within communities. In Bangladesh, public health messaging was linked to the Quran's teaching on cleanliness.

It was suggested that it was due to these deep long-term relationships of trust that the more challenging conversations – to challenge certain beliefs and open space for more accurate health messaging – were able to take place. Having existing partnerships in countries and localities enabled a stronger and more impactful localised response.

In an online workshop bringing together faith leaders and civil society activists from five countries in Africa, participants highlighted how trusted faith leaders could reinforce positive messages with practical help, for example by providing their church or mosque as a vaccine centre.

Through our collaborations, Christian Aid was able to run mobile vaccination caravans. In Zimbabwe, 2,316 people were vaccinated in hard-to-reach districts, with 1,482 getting their first dose, while 200 were vaccinated in Kenya.

Partners and staff noted the importance of inter-faith coalitions, such as in South Sudan and Kenya, where there is evidence of Christian and Muslim groups working together. This also mitigated any potential conflicts when aid was distributed. This is something to maintain in future public health crises.



Above: Christian Aid's mobile vaccination caravan in Kenya delivered vaccinations in hard-to-reach districts.

Influencing the climate debate at COP26

UK and global

The 26th UN meeting on climate change – the Conference of the Parties (COP) – met in Glasgow in November 2021. This was billed as a totemic COP for climate justice issues central to Christian Aid and our partners' concerns. Foremost amongst these is the issue of loss and damage, which describes the negative impacts of climate change that occur when human attempts to adapt have been surpassed. The devastating injustice is that poorer people in lower income countries are experiencing the worst loss and damage, despite not being responsible for climate change. Many rich country governments have obstructed negotiations on loss and damage during COP meetings.

Alongside partners across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Christian Aid has championed the principle that polluters should compensate those experiencing loss and damage. During COP26, Christian Aid gained widespread media coverage for its new report, *Lost and Damaged*, estimating the devastating economic impacts which many lower income countries are projected to face. Supporter power in the run-up to COP26, public stunts, and Christian Aid colleagues and partners pressing the message of justice all made it clear to government negotiators that they had to confront loss and damage.

Christian Aid raised loss and damage in high-profile meetings, including with the Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon and US House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi. Our spokespeople gave interviews to global media outlets, including the BBC, Reuters and Time. A delegation of black majority church leaders prioritised the need to tackle loss and damage within their churches and wider advocacy. Christian Aid also supported the Young Christian Climate Network's prayer boat relay, which left the G7 meeting in Cornwall in June and arrived in Glasgow. The campaigners stopped at many churches and community events to highlight loss and damage.

By the end of COP26, a rift had deepened between most poor countries calling for action and new finance now to address loss and damage, and rich countries, such as the UK, wanting to dodge commitments. A messy compromise was finally agreed, opening up a new negotiating space – the 'Glasgow Dialogue' – and the continued pressure appears to be finally leading to results. The Scottish Government provided a symbolic, but highly significant, £2 million to support those affected by loss and damage.

An emerging crisis: responding to the Ukraine conflict

Ukraine

On 24 February 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine, resulting in one of the biggest and swiftest forced population displacements in recent decades. On 3 March 2022, the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) launched an appeal. As of July 2022, the appeal had raised more than £370 million – the largest DEC Appeal since the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami. In parallel, Christian Aid launched its own appeal, which had raised a further £1.86 million by the end of March.

With no previous presence in Ukraine, in the first phase of the response, Christian Aid partnered with ACT Alliance sister organisations Hungarian Inter Church Aid (HIA) and Swiss Church Aid (HEKS), which have long-term relationships with local partners in Ukraine, Romania and Hungary. Through these partners, we provided medical supplies, food and shelter for refugees. We set up safe zones at train stations to ensure women and children were not exploited by predatory gangs of people traffickers. We supported refugees with cash so they could decide for themselves what they most needed, such as buying nappies, paying rent in host communities – or even purchasing pet food as many fled with their animals. We also provided meals, hygiene kits, temporary rest in community centres, and safe spaces for children to receive trauma care.

In addition, we donated £2 million for life-saving medical equipment via Crown Agents for the Ukraine Ministry of Health, including 10,000 emergency first aid trauma kits for civilian casualties.

Christian Aid is using the opportunity generated by the significant flexible funds available from the DEC Appeal to pioneer, scale up and evolve best practice in our innovative survivor and community-led response, which puts people and communities affected by crisis in the driving seat of their own response and recovery.

Christian Aid is spending 75% of the funding available to us in Ukraine, given that people remaining in the country are among those with the most severe needs. As well as Crown Agents, HIA and HEKS, Christian Aid is working with Alliance for Public Health, a local Ukrainian civil society network providing health and social services to people with serious health conditions, and with Blythswood Care, a Scottish charity working with local church groups to meet the basic needs of refugees and displaced persons targeting children, orphans and the elderly.



Above: Faith leaders and Christian Aid supporters gather to show solidarity with the people of Ukraine at an Ecumenical Moment and prayer vigil outside the Ukrainian Embassy in London, following the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Anti-racism at Christian Aid and building an agenda to decolonise

UK and across all our programmes

Over the past two years and amid a societal discourse around racism as an unresolved root cause of inequality and injustice, Christian Aid has been acting to address issues of systemic and structural racism within our own organisation, as well as how to address the legacies of European colonialism and meaningfully engage with decolonisation in our work inside and outside the UK and Ireland.

In 2020, we commissioned an internal review carried out by external consultants into the lived experience of our racialised minority staff. We committed to five actions to move us closer to being a truly anti-racist organisation. Here is what we have done since making our original commitment.

Christian Aid recruited a Principal Advisor on Race and Diversity, who works closely with our CEO, directors, department leaders and Board of Trustees, to change the way Christian Aid works internally as well as externally to address racial injustice. One of our trustees has taken on responsibility for Board oversight on race and diversity (together with the Chair of the HR governance subcommittee). We developed in-house training on 'Building Anti-Racist Behaviours', in which all our Directors and CEO have taken part. We rolled out training for all our hiring managers on bias in recruitment processes and are investing in in-house training modules to advance our knowledge of anti-bias in the workplace.

We introduced an annual reporting cycle on race and diversity and produced our first Annual Race and Diversity Report in December 2021. We also incorporated questions on racial equality into our annual staff survey and report on these in the report. Race equality is a regular item on our directorate agenda, alongside HR and financial reports. From 2022, our annual report will include data on the race and ethnicity of staff as part of routine reporting on our people.

Staff engagement is and continues to be key to helping us become anti-racist. The 'Building Anti-Racist Behaviours' training is open to all staff. This training aims to equip our staff to enter into productive and reflective conversations about race and racism in the workplace.

Embedding anti-racist and decolonial ways of working and being is a long-term project. We recognise that these are initial steps and we remain committed to this journey.

Giving, acting and praying in the UK

Christian Aid's supporters are our lifeblood and their commitment to bringing about the change to make our vision a reality continues to fill us with awe. Despite Covid-19 still affecting activities, the resilience of our partners and supporters has meant that we have continued to receive unbelievable support across the three cornerstones of our supporter engagement – giving, acting and praying. We extend our deepest gratitude to all our supporters for their generosity, love, and support over the past year.

Give

Christian Aid Week income in 2021 grew from £4m in the previous year to £6m. Climate has been a key pillar of fundraising work this year and has contributed to us welcoming around 6,000 new regular donors to Christian Aid.

An earthquake in Haiti, a political crisis in Afghanistan, the ever-worsening hunger situation in areas such as South Sudan and the outbreak of conflict in Ukraine were four crises that our supporters responded to in their thousands, raising more than £7m to support these humanitarian emergencies.

Act

COP26 saw church leaders, young influencers and interfaith leaders come together for seminars, with the Young Christian Climate Network taking part in a pilgrimage to Glasgow. Our supporters signed petitions in their thousands. More than 70,000 people signed up for public mobilisation work as part of COP26. Christian Aid Scotland staff, supporters and church partners marched through Glasgow as part of the Global Day of Action. Supporters in Wales played a lead role in mass mobilisation events for climate in Cardiff, Bangor and Swansea.

In 2021, our supporters resumed many of their Christian Aid Week activities, with a return to envelope drop-off and collection, and many talks and community events.

Pray

Prayer and worship forms a valuable part of many Christian Aid initiatives, be it a major emergency humanitarian appeal or a local community group meeting. For COP26, more than 20,000 individuals and churches sent in prayers via our prayer boat initiative.

The crisis in Ukraine saw many supporters take part in a prayer vigil outside the Ukrainian Embassy, jointly organised by Christian Aid and British churches.



Above: The Young Christian Climate Network campaigners walked from the G7 in Cornwall to COP26 in Glasgow to advocate for climate justice.

Plans for the future

Two years after the start of the pandemic, we are adapting to a changing world. Covid-19 triggered a significant rise in extreme poverty, reversing years of progress and further deepening glaring inequalities. Our decision to focus on countries where poverty is deepest and most widespread has meant that about two-thirds of the countries we operate in are fragile or conflict affected, and many face political instability.

2022/23 is the mid-point of our seven-year global strategy, Standing Together. While Standing Together will continue to be our compass and inform our analysis, positioning and action, we also recognise that there are changes in our global context and we are now navigating a 'new normal' in a post-pandemic world. Therefore, over the coming months, we will take time to review, reflect and ensure that we are set up to respond to future shifts in the external environment, and we have the right capabilities in place to deliver the change we want to see in the world. We will continue to focus on extreme poverty and the hardest to reach, name and tackle oppressive power structures that keep millions of people poor, and we will raise our prophetic voice together with affected people and communities.

Our plans for the future are shaped by five major external drivers: the impact of Covid-19; the role and legitimacy of international non-governmental organisations through a lens of decolonisation and anti-racism; the decline in institutional funding; political instability and the increase of conflict-affected and fragile states; and the impact of the climate crisis on poverty and vulnerability. In the coming year, we will specifically focus on:

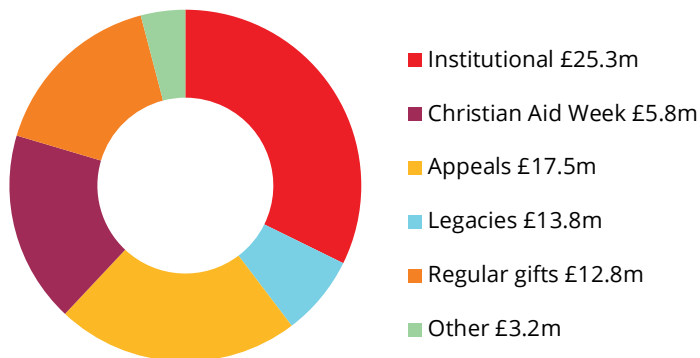
- strengthening our ability to work in increasingly fragile contexts
- responding to the ongoing humanitarian crises in Ukraine, Horn of Africa and Afghanistan
- promoting climate justice, particularly in the areas of loss and damage, climate and sustainable energy
- progressing our approach to localisation, decolonisation and anti-racism
- enhancing our work with faith actors
- stabilising our institutional income
- deepening our engagement with supporters.

As we emerge from social restrictions at different paces around the world, we will keep paying continued attention to the wellbeing and workload of our people as we support their transition to hybrid ways of working in all our offices.

Financial review

Income and expenditure overview

How we raised funds



	2021/22	2020/21	Variance
Income	£'m	£'m	%
Donations from individuals	52.1	42.3	23%
Institutional grants	25.3	40.4	(37%)
Contract income*	-	2.7	(100%)
Other	1.0	1.0	0%
Total income	78.4	86.4	(9%)

*Income secured under contract from UK FCDO

Voluntary income grew strongly in 2021/22, with donations from supporters increasing 23% over the previous year. Emergency appeals dominated due to several large appeals, which brought significant new income. There were also strong performances in legacies, regular gifts and Christian Aid Week.

Christian Aid's total income has, however, fallen by 9% to £78.4m in 2021/22, due to a reduction in the award of institutional grants and government contracts (described as income from charitable activities in the financial statements).

Donations from supporters increased 23% over the previous year, driven by a significant surge in emergency appeals coupled with strong performances in legacies, regular gifts and Christian Aid Week. Appeals outperformed other donation lines this year, with a 79% uplift over 2020/21. Emergency appeals dominated due to new appeals for Afghanistan, hunger, Covid-19 and, in the last quarter of the financial year, the Ukraine crisis, which brought significant new income. Legacy income rose 13% above the previous year, supported by a strong domestic economy and property market. Our legacies pipeline at year end is £16.3m (2021: £15.8m), with both years including a significant and generous legacy of £5.4m. Regular giving increased by 6%, reflecting a variety of measures including encouraging major donors to contribute regularly as opposed to only through one-off donations.

Christian Aid Week income increased 41% on the prior year due to the lifting of Covid restrictions, with digital income continuing to outperform expectations, while in-person fundraising returned. The decrease in 'Other donations' is as a result of more efficient

income allocations across the other donation types in 2022 following the implementation of a new supporter relationship management system.

Christian Aid's total institutional grant funding fell by 37% to £25.3m. The significant reduction is attributed to major reductions in UK Government, UN humanitarian operations, USAID and EU funding. As part of the reduction in the UK aid budget to 0.5% of gross national income, Christian Aid was notified of the early termination and discontinuation of several key UK aid programmes in Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Myanmar and Zimbabwe. Christian Aid had not anticipated the early closure of so many UK aid-funded projects; however, we worked effectively with the Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office to ensure transition and well-managed project closures.

The large CASE-OVC programme in Kenya with USAID was completed, closing early in line with PEPFAR's localisation policy. Our UN funding from the World Food Programme, particularly in the DRC, was lower than previous years, with lower food aid contract values and an increase in cash programming.

Our in-year contract approvals in 2021/22 were £31.1m (£31.0m, 2020/21). This includes £16.3m of new projects and £14.8m of UN contract extensions and cash transfer programmes. Key new approvals include a multi-year Global Fund award in Malawi, and more than £2m of START Fund emergency grants.

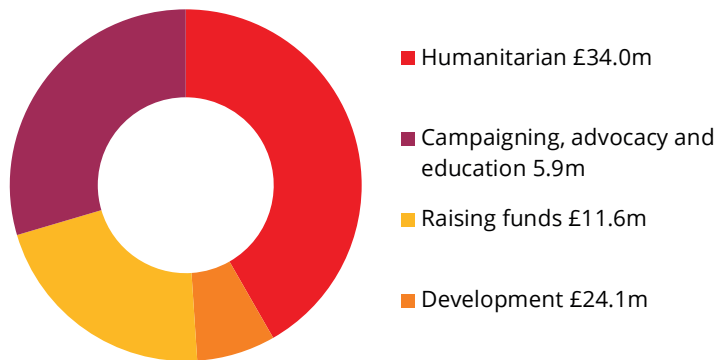
In addition to direct grant funding, Christian Aid facilitated the distribution of cash transfers valued at \$5.13 million (£3.9 million) to 172,273 displaced people in the DRC and Nigeria, via our partnership with the World Food Programme. However, these sums are recorded in the UN's Financial Tracking System and thus are not recorded in Christian Aid's accounts for technical accounting reasons. It is a long-term sector-wide humanitarian strategy to shift towards cash transfers, because they allow communities in crisis to prioritise their immediate needs in a more dignified way, and also support local economies.

Having completed two large key contracts for the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office in Sierra Leone (SABI) and Ghana (STAR – Strengthening Transparency, Accountability and Responsiveness), we were not successful in winning contracts in 2021/22, with several submitted tenders being cancelled due to UK aid budget reductions.

	2021/22 Unrestricted funds £'m	2021/22 Restricted funds £'m	2021/22 Total funds £'m	2020/21 Unrestricted funds £'m	2020/21 Restricted funds £'m	2020/21 Total funds £'m
Income						
Donations and legacies						
Donations from individuals	40.0	12.1	52.1	36.7	5.6	42.3
Institutional grants	1.1	24.2	25.3	1.9	38.5	40.4
Contract income	-	-	-	2.7	-	2.7
Other trading activities	0.9	-	0.9	0.9	-	0.9
Investments	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	-	0.1
Total income	42.1	36.3	78.4	42.3	44.1	86.4

Unrestricted income at £42.1m is almost on par with the previous year, with the ceasing of income from government contracts substantially offset by increased donations through Christian Aid Week, legacies and regular gifts. With the fall in institutional income, unrestricted income has increased as a proportion of total income to 54% (2021: 49%).

How we spent the funds



Expenditure has decreased by 15% to £75.6m, in line with the fall in income.

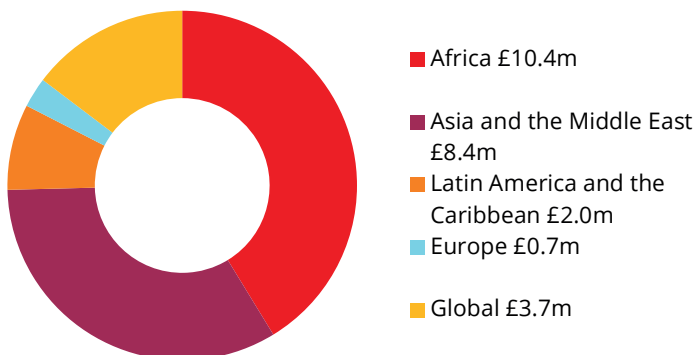
Humanitarian expenditure has remained largely flat year on year at £34m (2021: £34.7m), with crises in Afghanistan, Ukraine and East Africa the focus of our work in 2021/22.

Expenditure on development programmes fell 32% to £24.1m as programmes funded by institutional donors closed and new programmes were not secured.

Spend on charitable activities, at £64m, is 85% of total costs (2021: 88%), a 3% fall on the previous year as we invest in fundraising and brand after the pandemic to counter the impacts of declining institutional funding.

Grants to partner organisations

Grants to partner organisations £25.2m



Grants to partner organisations declined by 28% to £25.2m as a consequence of the fall in institutional income. As a result, Christian Aid will be increasing its grant allocations from core funds starting in 2022/23, but these extra core grants cannot match the scale of the funding cuts by the Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office and the impacts of Brexit. Therefore, we are also investing in our in-country capacity to secure institutional funding at scale from a range of other donors and hope to see improving programme awards from 2022/23.

Balance sheet, pension, cash and reserves

Our net asset position has increased by 9% to £35.1m, reflecting the surplus position for the year.

Operational reserves (unrestricted reserves less depreciating tangible and intangible fixed assets) have increased to £25.3m as a result of the stronger than anticipated performance on voluntary fundraising and from a revaluation of Inter Church House, our London Head Office, at 31 March 2022, partly offset by a capital loss on our investment portfolio.

We were able to set aside funds to pursue two strategically important initiatives being to provide greater support to local partners suffering increased demands for support due to the impact of Covid and the food supply challenges and also to enhance our ability to raise funds to deploy helping the world's poorest people. After allocating £8.4m to address these challenges over the medium term we continue to hold operational reserves within the target range of £10–£18m.

Restricted fund balances at £7.7m have changed very little from the previous year in total, but now consist mainly of humanitarian appeal funds and other voluntary restricted donations. Prior year institutional grant fund balances continue to be spent. Where fund balances are in deficit, the trustees remain content that future donor commitments are sufficient not to provide for these deficits from unrestricted funds.

A continued strong focus on cash and working capital management, strong donation performance together with increased grant and other accruals, drive a £6.8m net inflow of cash to £17m over the year. The trustees consider the cash position, the healthy reserves and the projections for future income as sufficient to support the operational requirements of Christian Aid for the next 12 months and beyond.

The final salary pension scheme has a surplus of £22.3m (2020/21: £19.1m) under FRS102 and hence Christian Aid does not anticipate the need to make further contributions to the pension scheme for the foreseeable future. The surplus in the scheme cannot be recognised in the balance sheet under FRS102.

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