

12. All We Can – Methodist Relief and Development

Contact Name and Details	Maurice Adams, Chief Executive Email: info@allwecan.org.uk
Subject and aims	This report summarises the activities and achievements of All We Can in the financial year 2013/14.
Resolution	12/1. The Conference receives the Report.
Main points	<p>In 2013/14, All We Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unveiled an ambitious set of plans for the future, including its new name which reflects its Methodist connections and its commitment to tackling poverty. • Partnered with 33 organisations in 14 countries to fulfil their mission to improve the quality of life of poor and marginalised people in resource limited communities. • Through its development partnerships, helped more than 225,000 people to access better health, water, sanitation, training, education, employment and sustainable livelihoods. • Launched a new programme (Church CAN) to help churches and faith-based organisations in poor communities to meet effectively the needs of their neighbours. • Enabled seven partner organisations in seven countries to respond to eight different humanitarian crises, ensuring that food, medicine and shelter were available to tens of thousands of people affected by man-made and natural disasters. • Engaged thousands of students and church members in advocacy and education work which addressed some of the structural causes of poverty, inequality and injustice, including debt, food commodity speculation and protection of workers in the garment industry. • Increased its collaboration with the Methodist Church in Britain and overseas, strengthening connections for a more effective response to, and engagement with, international relief and development.
Background context and relevant documents	Full version of <i>All We Can Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2014</i> – available from the All We Can office or website.

All We Can – Methodist Relief and development

Summary Annual Report and Accounts 2013/14

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This is the first Annual Review from All We Can. Formerly known as MRDF, and still formally the Methodist Relief and Development Fund, we launched our new identity alongside our future plans in April 2014. All We Can is the new name for an organisation that has a long and proud history of demonstrating practical compassion, love, and justice to some of those in greatest need in our world. It has been important to celebrate the past as well as set out our future vision as we began this new chapter for Methodist relief and development work. All We Can has been through a time of considerable change over the last two years and it has set bold and exciting plans for the future. The charity's new operating name reflects our future role and vision, as well as our Methodist roots and heritage – with its echoes of John Wesley. It is an expression of our commitment to doing all we can to help people in the world's poorest communities to become all that they can.
- 1.2 The charity's new strategy and strengthened identity were the result of a wide-ranging strategic review, carried out over the previous year, involving supporters, staff, volunteers and overseas partners. The review concluded that our collaborative approach to tackling poverty – rooted in Christian principles and Methodist values – is more relevant today than ever. In complex local settings, individuals and groups in poor and marginalised communities are often best placed to identify the problems and initiate appropriate long-term solutions. Our new strategy therefore refocuses our work to better support partners – including churches, organisations and individuals – to bring about the lasting change their communities wish to see.
- 1.3 The achievements you see here are therefore not simply All We Can's, but the fruits of collaboration with, and much hard work by, the talented and committed groups that we partner with and the communities they serve around the world – all doing what they can. We are grateful to them, as we are to the many generous supporters and volunteers who make All We Can's work possible, and to all in the Methodist Church and beyond who engaged with the development and launch of our future plans this year.
- 1.4 Because of its history, its current activities, its far reaching mission, its ecumenical position and the importance it places on supporting community development and action for justice, especially among the most deprived and poor, the Methodist Church in Britain is well placed to respond to issues of international relief and development. To this end, All We Can has been privileged to continue to offer itself as the Methodist relief and development partner.

2. MISSION AND OBJECTIVES

During 2013 All We Can undertook a strategic review of its work and its organisation. A new strategy and updated objectives for the period 2013-20 were approved by the Board of Trustees in November 2013, as follows:

- 2.1 **Our vision:**
Every person's potential fulfilled.
- 2.2 **Our mission:**

All We Can helps people in some of the world's poorest communities to become all that they can, by investing in partnerships that improve quality of life and create positive, long-term change for individuals, families and nations.

2.3 Strategic principles

- All We Can is an international development, relief and advocacy organisation. It has its roots in the Methodist Church, and its vision, priorities and values are grounded in Christian principles.
- We work for sustainable long-term change to end the cycle of suffering caused by poverty, inequality and injustice.
- We work around the world with diverse individuals, civil society organisations and Methodist groups.
- We focus on local partnerships and longer term collaborative relationships in support of the poorest communities in some of the poorest countries.
- We are an active, courageous and prophetic voice calling for justice for the poor and vulnerable.

2.4 Strategic objectives

- To enable our partners in development to fulfil *their* mission to improve the quality of life of poor and marginalised people in resource limited places.
- To enable our partners in relief to respond to humanitarian crises with an emphasis on forgotten emergencies.
- To challenge the causes of poverty, inequality and injustice and promote solutions through engaging in education and advocacy, both in the UK and internationally.
- To manage the organisation effectively and efficiently in order to achieve these goals.

3. ACHIEVEMENTS

Below we report briefly on this year's achievements against each of the new strategic objectives.

3.1 Objective 1: To enable our partners in DEVELOPMENT to fulfil *their* mission to improve the quality of life of poor and marginalised people in resource limited places

3.1.1 We seek to enable transformative change in poor communities by supporting the work of local partner organisations, which we believe are often best placed to understand and address the needs of local populations.

3.1.2 All We Can's partners work across a number of different technical areas such as health, education, human rights and agriculture. Many of these issues are interlinked and affect communities in different ways, so to be as effective as possible our partners tailor their approach.

3.1.3 Crucially, we provide funding and advice for capacity and organisational development in order to help our partners to fulfil their different missions and activities. Our long-term and flexible approach and financial backing give partners the freedom to tackle poverty in meaningful and sustainable ways.

3.1.4 This year All We Can:

- worked in partnership with 33 organisations in 14 countries: Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Nepal, Tanzania, Togo and Uganda

- supported community focused work that helped more than 225,000 people access better health, water, sanitation, training, education, employment and sustainable livelihoods
- continued to target disadvantaged and under-served communities ie those living in extreme poverty but also marginalised due to lack of support due to their gender, age, disability, caste or religion, ethnicity, or geographical location and under-served by state or other services
- allocated 62% of all grant expenditure, totalling £985,379, for distribution to partners implementing long-term development projects.

3.1.5 Ten years of partnership in Cameroon

CDVTA (Community Development Volunteers for Technical Assistance), in Cameroon, works with and for the elderly to improve living conditions, encourage intergenerational interaction and support advocacy.

All We Can has supported CDVTA's pioneering work for ten years, and secured funding from the UK Department for International Development (DFID) for a major project to expand its activities over the period 2009 to 2014.

During the last year, CDVTA was able to provide support to nearly 18,000 elderly men and women, and a record 15,000 elderly people attended CDVTA's annual convention.

Its Director Francis Njuakom Nchii says, *"All major achievements recorded by CDVTA have been extensively as a result of the gracious and indefatigable kind support of All We Can. We are extremely happy and pleased to note that all implemented activities on the DFID project have exceeded all targets."*

3.1.6 Launch of Church CAN programme

During the year, All We Can launched Church CAN (Church Community Action for Neighbours), a new programme designed to engage, encourage and enable Methodist Churches in developing countries to effectively respond to the needs of their communities. It is initially being piloted in Haiti and Uganda, and implemented in collaboration with the World Church Relationships team of the Methodist Church in Great Britain and supported by the Methodist Church in Italy.

3.1.7 In Haiti for example, All We Can has worked alongside the US-based United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to provide training and advice to build the expertise of a new Health Board for the Methodist Church in Haiti Board. The church can now improve and monitor the quality of services provided by their 12 health clinics.

3.2 Objective 2: To enable our partners in RELIEF to respond to humanitarian crises with an emphasis on forgotten emergencies

3.2.1 This year, All We Can enabled seven partner organisations in seven countries to respond to eight different humanitarian crises, ensuring that food, medicine and shelter were available to tens of thousands of people affected by man-made and natural disasters. We allocated 34% of grant expenditure to humanitarian aid, distributing 16 grants totalling £545,170.

3.2.2 The Philippines

The most significant disaster we responded to was Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines in November 2013. One of the strongest typhoons ever recorded, it devastated many communities and affected over 14 million people. Thanks to the generous response of many Methodists, All We Can was able to react quickly, working through local partner organisations

to provide vital supplies in the immediate aftermath of the typhoon, and then supporting people to rebuild their homes and lives, including:

- survival kits, food and essential supplies for 26,500 households;
- fishing boats and nets to enable 500 families to rebuild their livelihoods;
- providing 4,300 grieving families with access to counselling to help them cope with the loss of loved ones, significant trauma and physical injuries;
- materials and training to enable 2,900 families to rebuild their homes.

Anna, a victim of the typhoon who benefited from a new home, said: *"I now have a house. A blue house which will be finished with yellow frames. A firm new home with happy colours. This house is so important for me; it means I have a home again!"*

3.2.3 All We Can has had a particular focus on 'forgotten' emergencies – those situations that receive little media coverage or places that are no longer in the public eye despite ongoing difficulties. This year All We Can helped to address the growing – and neglected – maternal health crisis in the fledgling country of South Sudan, through supporting our partner IMA to build a temporary static clinic. The new clinic enables healthcare workers to treat mothers and children that require more intensive care during labour and delivery, enabling life-saving work to continue through the rainy season. The project provided care for 210,000 internally displaced refugees in the region.

3.3 **Objective 3: To challenge the causes of poverty, inequality and injustice and promote solutions through engaging in education and advocacy, both in the UK and internationally**

3.3.1 Poverty, inequality and injustice prevent many people, especially in the world's poorest communities, from fulfilling their potential. Many of the causes of poverty, inequality and injustice are structural and systemic, and can be most effectively tackled in the long-term through advocacy, campaigning and education. These activities have therefore been an increasingly important aspect of All We Can's work in recent years.

3.3.2 In the UK, this year we presented our campaigns under the theme 'Testimonies from the margins', drawing on the example of the prophet Amos and highlighting the true cost of debt and fashion for people in the world's poorest communities. Supporters were invited to amplify the voices of garment workers and debt campaigners from indebted countries by taking action.

3.3.3 We collaborated with specialist campaigning partners to influence policy around issues that directly affect the quality of life of some of the world's most vulnerable people. One significant campaign success came in 2014 when the European Union agreeing to new controls on food commodity trading and increased transparency about futures contracts, following a three year campaign run by the World Development Movement with support from All We Can.

3.3.4 All We Can also enabled churches to learn more about the realities of life for people in poor communities in different parts of the world, through its harvest resources which focused on farmers in Togo, and a popular worship resource for Mothering Sunday which drew on the experiences of widows in India. The 'Partner a Project' scheme offered congregations the opportunity to link with, learn from and pray for our partners in India and Uganda.

3.3.5 Over 3,000 pupils from Methodist Independent Schools learnt more about global issues and their role as global citizens through the World AIMS programme, run in collaboration with Methodist Schools.

3.4 Objective 4: To manage the organisation effectively and efficiently in order to achieve these goals

3.4.1 Throughout this year of change, it was a high priority to ensure the organisation continued to be run effectively and efficiently. The strategic review process, which resulted in a new identity, a new name and ambitious plans for future impact, required careful planning and budgeting. The staff, leadership and trustees were all actively involved to ensure that the purpose of the charity was maintained, the management was effective and the funds used efficiently. The launch and rebranding clearly represented a dedicated one-off expense, but we saw it as a necessary and worthwhile investment in securing the organisation's work in the future, which is already reaping valuable returns. The change was ultimately not about the organisation but about being able to do more for those whom we serve.

4. FINANCIAL REVIEW

4.1 We are very grateful to our many supporters, partners, volunteers, funders, staff, advisers and trustees who have made this year's achievements possible. We record particular thanks to those who supported the organisation financially. While total incoming resources decreased 20% compared to 2012/13, this figure is distorted by a large one-off donation last year from a now-closed subsidiary. Donated income actually increased by 35% to £1,608,000 during the year. Total expenditure increased by 39% to £2,759,000.

4.2 All We Can's statement of financial activities to 31 August 2014 is set out below. Copies of its full accounts can be downloaded from www.allwecan.org.uk or obtained by writing to All We Can, 25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR.

*****RESOLUTION**

12/1. The Conference received the Report.

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 August 2014

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2014 £	Total 2013 £
Incoming resources from generated funds				
<i>Voluntary income:</i>				
Donations and grants	1,034,267	914,393	1,948,660	2,287,635
Legacies	702,994		726,526	1,083,755
		23,532		
Investment income and interest	<u>30,908</u>	<u>632</u>	<u>31,540</u>	<u>19,348</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>1,768,169</u>	<u>938,557</u>	<u>2,706,726</u>	<u>3,390,738</u>
Resources expended				
<i>Costs of generating funds:</i>				
Fundraising and publicity	392,057	-	392,057	297,186
Investment management	1,047	-	1,047	2,010
<i>Charitable activities:</i>				
Development	941,653	491,244	1,432,897	1,296,995
Humanitarian	116,083	451,103	567,186	117,768
Advocacy and education	274,788	-	274,788	189,287
<i>Governance costs</i>	<u>90,595</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>90,595</u>	<u>86,986</u>
Total resources expended	<u>1,816,223</u>	<u>942,347</u>	<u>2,758,570</u>	<u>1,990,232</u>
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised losses	(48,054)	(3,790)	(51,844)	1,400,506
Other recognised gains/(losses)	<u>33,020</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>33,020</u>	<u>(728,572)</u>
Net movement in funds	(15,034)	(3,790)	(18,824)	671,934
Total funds brought forward at 1 September	<u>1,853,668</u>	<u>16,971</u>	<u>1,870,639</u>	<u>1,198,705</u>
Total funds at 31 August	<u>1,838,634</u>	<u>13,181</u>	<u>1,851,815</u>	<u>1,870,639</u>