

IMPACT NEWS

Issue December 2018



REFLECTIONS AS THE YEAR ENDS

Have you noticed the importance placed on volunteering during the festive season? Volunteering throughout December will vary from homeless shelters, friendship programmes with senior citizens to Christmas food baskets for needy families. And isn't it worth it for the warm, fuzzy feeling received when helping those in need? What better time is there to volunteer? Well, my answer would be all year round.

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The festive season often encourages positive attitudes in the days leading up to the 25th, but these are characteristics that should be evident all year. The "Christmas effect" was never more apparent to me than when

I worked at a large supermarket. Customers who had mumbled their weekly orders became transformed in December. They were visibly "jolly" and every sentence ended with "and have a Merry Christmas". Regardless if you are a cynic or holiday obsessive, there is something special about the season.

However, volunteering to help those in need should not be based on our feelings or relegated to a few weeks in December. There is no special time. Nothing should detract from the opportunity we have to help those in need throughout the year.

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BERT SMIT, CEO
On the bus...

End of year messages are always reflective. Yes, we can look back a relatively good year for ADRA-UK as clearly illustrated in the 2018 metrics in this issue of Impact News. We are grateful for all the support given by our faithful donors and for the work in bringing hope to people.

Last week we spend nearly three days in intensive thinking about what we will do in the next 5 years. Under the guidance of facilitator Mfakazi Ndebele we looked at our office, at our opportunities and challenges and agreed that our new strategic plan will be around "Enabling women, men and children living in some of the world's poorest communities to create sustainable pathways out of poverty and distress."

We know what we want to achieve but to do so we need to strengthen our systems, communications and results and seriously increase our fundraising. Unfortunately, ADRA's fundraising income is in decline – a serious worry for the future. Less people collect from door-to-door and although giving is generous during the ADRA Appeal (ingathering), the total amount is about 25% less than 10 years ago. We will try to address this issue in the next few years.

What is important is that we are all 'on the bus'! Our donors and ADRA need to be together in finding ways to help the disadvantaged people of the world. While we prepare for a better world to come, we simply cannot ignore the pressing needs of the world today.

Thank you for your prayers, your interest and your donations to help ADRA to help.



In November 2018, ADRA-UK completed its last volunteering trip of 2018. Fourteen volunteers travelled to Swaziland to complete one of the hardest projects in the charity's history.

The group built a pre-school classroom from what was only a mound of dirt! Yet, what the team were most struck by were the needs of the beneficiaries.

Many of the local workers who helped us had travelled for over an hour each day to assist, only to be paid what we thought was a meagre wage of £5 a day. We later discovered from the foreman that this was a remarkably good wage that many were flocking to the project to receive.

As the project progressed, these same workers began to share their stories with us. We spoke with men who had been diagnosed with HIV and were worried about how their children would be able to access quality education in the future - a serious concern for a country with an unprecedented number of orphans, who have become bereft of

always have the poor among you" (John 12:8), where is there for us to find hope?

There is an interesting context to these words from Christ and Judas regarding poverty. Judas challenged Jesus about the amount of money spent on perfume to wash His feet, couldn't this money be used more wisely in feeding the poor? Christ's response was not suggesting that the poor will always be among us so why bother help them, rather, that if we are looking for an opportunity to help those in need, it will always be available.

Poverty and the various social, political, racial and economic constructs contribute to its existence will only end with the return of the Messiah. But until then, "you will always have the poor among you". So, why wait until Christmas to volunteer?

So, as the year closes also remember the new year that is approaching. A year filled with



parents due to HIV/AIDS-related illnesses.

When the volunteers reflected on the disparity of health and wealth in the world, some were disheartened at the reality of what could be achieved in their short trip. What impact would their visit actually have once they had left? People were dealing with issues that could not be solved by a pre-school, however well it was built.

And we at ADRA-UK believe it is important to have these discussions. Sometimes the reality of poverty and injustice, experienced by around a billion people in the world, is numbing. It happens on a global scale and if Christ Himself tells us, "you will

endless opportunities for us to help those in need both near and far, because the season of giving never ends.

If you would like to volunteer and make a difference, consider our upcoming ADRA Connections trips to the Philippines (May 2019) and Sri Lanka (August 2019). Get in touch now for more details! 030 30 40 1017 or volunteering@adra.org.uk

*By Sophie Holder
Volunteering Programmes Officer*

WITH LOVE FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM

Stha Nymusara, Chief Finance Officer

Early this year, we asked you to take part in a pilot for the Virtual Gift Box project. This meant that instead of packing physical gift boxes, you were able to “pack” and purchase a £10.00 giftbox online. The total amount donated under the pilot scheme was £1,000.00. ADRA-UK then sent the cash to ADRA Swaziland who, in turn, purchased relevant gifts for children at the Nain Primary School in the Kaphunga district.

Normally, each child receives a gift pack worth £10.00. However, our colleagues at ADRA Swaziland were able to purchase one pack for each of the 264 children instead of just 100 children.

We are pleased with this result and are highly appreciative of your support.



Because of you:

- 14 children now no longer go to school barefoot because you have given them a pair of shoes;
- ADRA-UK has put a smile on 264 children's faces, and they will always remember;
- We have contributed towards eradicating poverty (SDG* 1);
- Very little time elapsed between us receiving the donation and each child receiving your gift;
- We reduced our carbon footprint by not travelling to eSwatini to distribute the gifts ourselves ;

All of the cash that you donated was actually spent on each child.

Here is a report from our colleagues at ADRA Swaziland:

“ADRA-UK donated a sum of £1,000.00 (E17, 132.90) to purchase small gifts like toiletries for



pupils. Due to the size of the budget, one school was selected to benefit from this donation.

The school with the most need was identified as Nain Primary School under the Kubuta Constituency at Kaphunga area. Nain Primary school has an enrolment of 264 pupils in the year 2018. This school had previously requested assistance for pupils who lacked school uniforms and shoes.

All 264 pupils received gifts.

The basic components of the packages were a face cloth, bathing soap, skin lotion, toothbrush, and toothpaste. In addition to this, Grades 1-2 girls received dolls while the boys got toys. Grades 3-5 also got some sweets. Girls in grades 6-7 received anti-perspirants, sanitary pads, and skin lotion. Boys also received skin lotion and anti-perspirant deodorants. 14 pupils that were selected by teachers received school shoes.

Small stickers with the ADRA-UK logo and the words, “with love from the United Kingdom” were attached to each gift pack.”

To the supporters and donors of ADRA-UK, the children of Nain Primary School say, “Siyabonga, Thank you”.

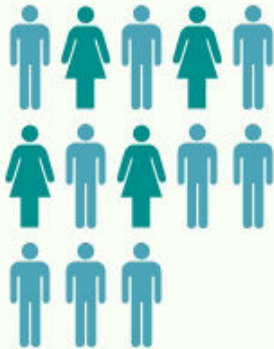
We appreciate your support towards the work that God has called you and ADRA-UK to do for others. As we close 2018, please think of those in need and how you can help ADRA-UK to positively change their lives so that they may know that Christ loves them. Because of you, ADRA-UK can change the world, one life at a time.

If you would like to support the work of ADRA-UK, you can do so by direct debit, cheque, or bank transfer to ADRA-UK, HSBC Sort Code 40-45-27 A/C 51523171. More information can be found at www.adra.org.uk

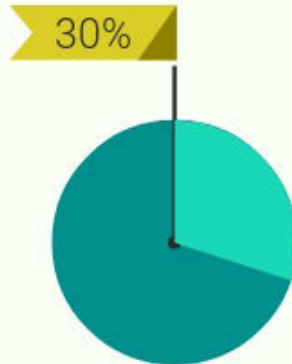
*SDG = Sustainable Development Goals to transform our world. Goal 1: No Poverty

2018 IMPACT REPORT

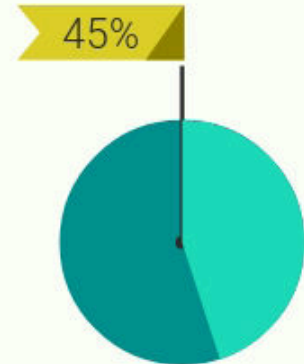
We helped over
1.3 million
people



of which
383,000
women



and
583,000
children

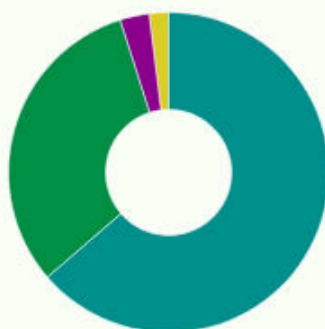


The value of our projects totalled
£17 million

For every **£1** we received from our UK supporters we were able to match donations to be worth **£8.22** in our projects.*

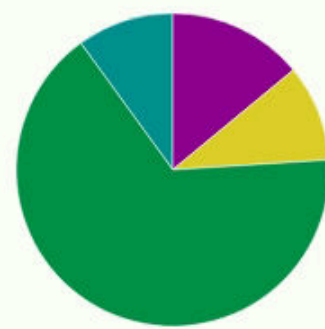
We received over **£780,000** in donations. Almost **65%** was raised via the Annual Appeal with the help of **5,000** volunteers.

Sources of 2018 donations (£)



Annual Appeal	496,941	Other Donations	245,409
Legacies	23,055	Gift Aid	15,324

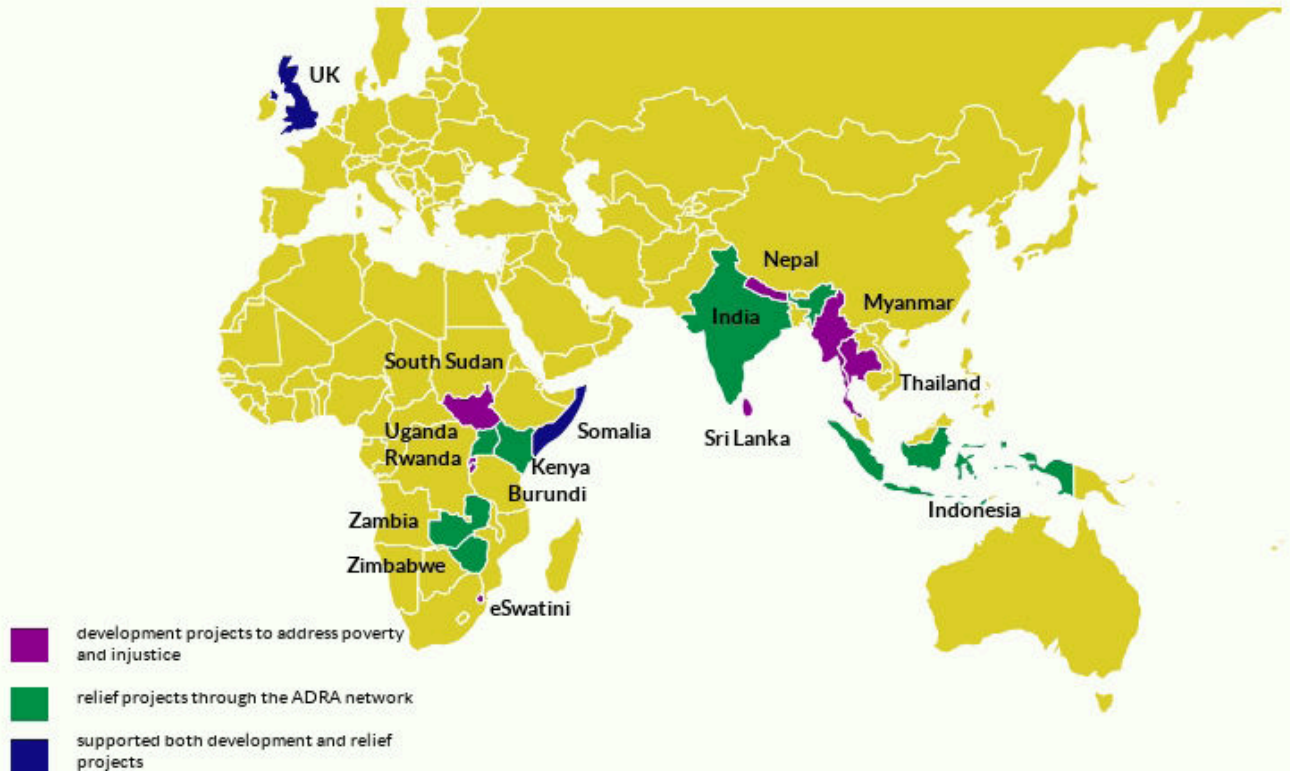
Distribution of 2018 Annual Appeal Funds



UK Community Projects	14%
Disaster Response	10%
Overseas Projects	66%
Admin	10%

*N.B project value is based on the full project cycle for projects and not the annual value.

We were active in **15** countries across Africa and Asia both in supporting development projects and responding to disasters and emergencies through the ADRA network.



Our Connections Volunteers donated over **2,300** hours.



CAMBODIA

Built playgrounds, latrines and wells



RWANDA

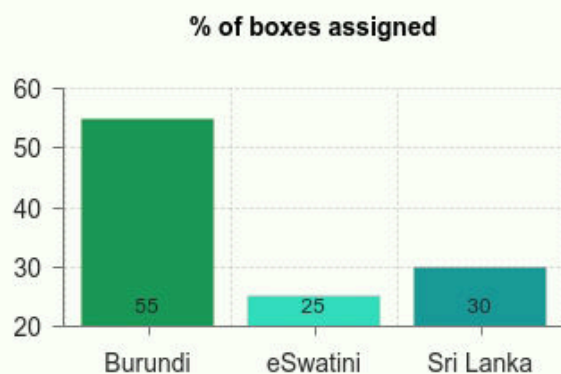
Distributed 2000 gift boxes to refugee children



ESWATINI

Built a school classroom also used as a church building

We raised over **£7,000** through the pilot Virtual Gift Box campaign.



You donated **£78,000** through our Gift Catalogue

Thank you for your support! Let's do more in 2019!