

For a just and green world

# impact

magazine 2022

Reaching out  
to Ukraine

Rugby for Peace

Responding  
to Emergencies

Reflections from  
the DR Congo



# Together, we can build God's Kingdom here on Earth. Join us now to build the just and green world we all want to see!



We spent over **£7 million** on 91 projects, working with more than 75 overseas partners, in 17 countries

We helped over **900,000** people to have a brighter future



We supported **44** emergency responses in 18 countries

...in 2021

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## Photographs

Thoko Chikondi, Achuoth Deng, Colin Hattersley, Chris Hoskins, Charles Kabena, Cindy Liu, Paul McSherry, Simon Murphy, Santiago Ramirez, Barnaby Skinner, Phillip Spalek.

Cover image: Angel, Zambia by Colin Hattersley



FSC Logo to go here!



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“Thanks to your support, our partners have been able to help Angel and his family overcome the difficulties in their lives.”



Grace, Angel's grandmother, Zambia



I'm writing this having just returned from my first overseas visit with SCIAF, to Zambia and Malawi. This journey began at our partner's office in Kabwe, in central Zambia. Over four hours, our jeep went from tarmac, to dusty roads, to small muddy tracks. Then, to no tracks at all. As we struggled through thick vegetation and across hard, unforgiving earth, our driver told us that no other vehicles had ever been here – until SCIAF arrived, that is.

When we reached our destination, we met Angel – pictured on the front of this magazine – and his family. They live in small homes made of mud and thatched with straw, hours from the nearest town. Without doubt, it was one of the most remote, dry and challenging landscapes I'd ever visited.

Yet, thanks to your support, our partners have been able to help Angel and his family overcome the difficulties in their lives. They've learned new farming skills, and can now grow more food, earn more money, and use the profits to support Angel's education. Hearing this story and witnessing the care and expertise delivered by our partners was both heartwarming and inspiring. It was also testament to SCIAF's promise to reach those who need our support most, first.

Like Angel's story, there are countless other examples of the difference you make inside this magazine! In Colombia, we'll showcase how rugby is being used to build peaceful communities (pages 6-7). We'll report back from Ukraine on how your incredible fundraising efforts have helped people through their darkest hours (pages 10-11). And, for our long read, we'll dive deep into how SCIAF responds to emergencies around the world such as conflict, natural disasters and health crises (pages 22-25).

Closer to home, we'll shine a light on how you've acted in hope (pages 4-5), and how you can continue to put your faith into action through both our latest appeal (pages 8-9) and our new climate campaign, 'Time to pay up!' (pages 26-27).

The past year has thrown up yet more challenges and crises at the global scale, when it felt like the world could take no more. I hope, in some small way, that the good news shared in this 2022 edition brings you comfort and reminds you of the power of simple love and kindness – and how, by working together, we can build a just and green world for all.

Happy reading!

James Cave  
Editor

## Keep in touch

To keep up to date with all the latest digital news, events, campaigns and appeals, join our mailing list at [sciaf.org.uk/join](https://sciaf.org.uk/join)

# News and events

## WEE BOX

This Lent, we asked you to Act in Hope and donate to our WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE appeal. Thanks to you, we raised an amazing **£801,116** to support families around the world who are going hungry as a result of floods, droughts and extreme weather. Your love and compassion is changing lives.



### Message from Marion

*"Hi SCIAF! I thought you might like to see our Lenten display. At the beginning of Lent our parishioners were encouraged to write down their own Acts of Hope on little doves and hang them on this tree. The doves, and the WEE BOX donations, will be used as part of our Offertory gifts on Holy Thursday."*

**Marion, Parish Contact, St Athanasius' Church, Carlisle.**

## Act in Hope week

The children at St Clare's Primary in Newton Mearns held an 'Act in Hope week' in March. Laudato Si' bookmarks were sold, an Easter raffle was organised, and the 'Gardening Gang' planted sunflower seeds to brighten our Common Home. **A wonderful £1,016 was raised.**



### From Glasgow to Ukraine

In March, the pupils of Holy Trinity Primary School in Kirkintilloch took part in a sponsored 'Walk to Ukraine' to support our emergency response. For one week, each class walked one mile per day around the school grounds to help reach their combined 1,500-mile target – the approximate distance from Glasgow to Ukraine. A whopping **£8,000 was raised** by the school family and local community.

### Badge business

Girls from St Bernard's Primary School in Glasgow set up a social enterprise selling badges to raise funds for Ukraine and donated £360!



### Fighting fire with fire

Heavy-duty car washing raised £1,150 in East Kilbride – thanks to the East Kilbride Fire Station for putting their hoses into action!



### Wearing SCIAF with pride

The football team at St Francis of Assisi RC Primary School in Baillieston are now proudly wearing the SCIAF logo on their shirts! Orla, a member of the football team said: "We like to raise funds for SCIAF because we know we are helping others and showing them kindness, respect, and love."



### Little Grotto, big change

Earlier this year, Susan started The Little Grotto, an online shop that sells rosary beads. She generously donates 10% of her profits to our work. "I feel that I should be donating to SCIAF all year round," Susan smiled, "not just for Lent! Search for LittleGrottoRosaries on Etsy.com to find out more!"



### Committee comes to Glasgow

In May, we welcomed two SCIAF partners and members of our IHD Advisory Committee to Glasgow: Thérèse Mema Mapenzi from DR Congo and Father Chiti from Zambia. Both met with Scottish MSPs to discuss the Scottish Government's response to climate change in their countries. The congregation at the Immaculate Conception parish in Glasgow also heard from Thérèse who spoke passionately about her work with SCIAF to support survivors of sexual and gender-based violence in DR Congo. **You can read more about Thérèse's work on pages 30-31.**

# SCIAF social

We are so fortunate to receive so many lovely messages, either through the post or online. It serves as a constant reminder of how dedicated you – our supporters – are.

### On the phone

Ronald Wilson told us that he received his first ever pension payment in January 2022. Instead of celebrating over a nice dinner, he wanted to make a difference and donated the full amount to SCIAF.

Perhaps our youngest ever donor, five-year-old Anna from Coatbridge, gave £18 from her piggy bank after saving her pocket money every week. Her great-uncle called to share the good news!

### On social media



**Retweeted by @NicolaSturgeon**  
Great meeting!  
@NicolaSturgeon with @Ichiti1 from Zambia, @bertha\_magomero from Malawi, @PadreJB from the

Pacific, @NushratCY from Bangladesh, and Abp. Julio from Panama. Scotland must amplify the voices of those affected worst by the climate crisis on #LossAndDamage day.



**Retweeted by @MchughMiss**  
Staff vs Pupil Netball @TaylorHS1982! Well done to the teachers taking the win 6-5. A nail biting victory! A huge £148.97 raised for @sciaf!

### In writing

I am sending you the equivalent of one week's shopping for myself and George (my pussy cat). I am 81 years old and live on my pension – but I know that every little helps. You are in my prayers at daily Mass. Bless you all. Dorothy and George – meow, meow, meow.

# Rugby for Peace



When you think of Rugby, visions of Murrayfield, the Six Nations, or the Calcutta Cup probably spring to mind. You don't imagine young people throwing rugby balls around on the beaches of Colombia... until now, that is!

For the first time ever, we are using rugby as the main tool in one of our overseas development projects. Working with our local partner FDP (Fundación Buen Punto) along the Pacific Coast of Colombia, we are harnessing the power of sport to transform the lives of young people and their families. And the funny-shaped ball – which is rarely ever seen there – is starting to make waves!

## Rugby For Peace Film Premiere



This winter, we'll be launching our film documentary 'Rugby for Peace' which shines a light on this inspiring project and how it's changing lives and communities. Keep an eye on our website for news of our premiere event and a Parish tour of the documentary in 2023!

### Challenges in Colombia

Chocó is one of the poorest regions in Colombia, and opportunities for young people are extremely limited. Climate change is making livelihoods like fishing and farming impossible, and the impacts of coronavirus are forcing people deeper into poverty. Food is short, education is poor and healthcare is limited.

Young people feel like they have no future – that they have no way out. And, as a result, many get caught up in the illegal drug trade. It is a way to earn money; a way to climb out of poverty. But it drives uncertainty, criminality and conflict.

### So where does rugby come in?

As specialists in sports development, our partner uses rugby to provide a novel and engaging way of educating young people who might not be learning the skills they need to thrive.

Their training sessions help instil critical values like resilience, teamwork, commitment, leadership, playing fair, and having the courage to take on life's challenges.

Carolina, Head Coach for the project explains: "In rugby, as in life, one of the first lessons is, when we fall we have to get up.

"In life there will be situations that will tackle us, that will knock us down. Our strength will run out, but we have to get up. Because we are strong, because we can, because this situation is not going to defeat us."

### Camilo's Story

10-year-old Camilo from Chambacú is part of the project. As a young boy, he was diagnosed with learning difficulties, and today requires additional medical support. But his family cannot afford to pay for this care.

"We don't have the money to get treatment on our own," explains Margarita, his grandmother, "his father is a fisherman and the only thing he has money for is food."

Because Camilo doesn't have the support he requires in school, he becomes distracted and sometimes angry – the teachers struggle to engage him like the other boys.

"I suffer a lot; I worry a lot about the challenges he faces," continues Margarita, "and about the decisions he makes."

Camilo, Colombia



### An inner peace

Since Rugby For Peace arrived, however, Margarita's worries have started to ease. Camilo has found a new inner peace, and a more engaging way to learn.

"He likes the game very much," Margarita smiles, "if it were up to him he would take rugby classes every day. I really like it because I can see the changes in his mentality."

And coach Carolina agrees, "Camilo has difficulty processing or always remembering rules – certain norms that, due to his learning difficulties, he is not able to grasp as easily as the other boys.

"But when he is playing, those limitations do not exist. He gets in, he plays, he communicates, accommodates his teammates, and motivates them. He is always there waiting when I arrive.

"The kids of Chambacú have had difficult lives, but they benefit a lot from the programme."

### A bright future

Camilo and the young people of Chocó have had difficult starts to their lives, struggling to see a better future in communities ripped apart by conflict, climate change and coronavirus. But thanks to your support – and a funny-shaped ball – things are slowly starting to change, one pass at a time!



### Building peaceful communities

Indigenous communities are not fully integrated into Colombian life, and often face discrimination. But, Rugby For Peace is slowly helping to break down these barriers.

Thanks to your support, last November, we held our first ever rugby tournament bringing together young players from several different communities, including the native Embera Dobiá people of Las Marianas. They played fairly together, hugged after the games had finished, and sang on the buses home.

"We saw that, although they had never met each other, the girls from Chambacú, the girls from Las Marianas and the girls from El Valle – they became friends!" – coach Carolina



When the world looks away, we won't

**YES**, I will act today to end poverty, hunger and injustice with a gift of  £40  £12  £126 or £ \_\_\_\_\_.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose a cheque/postal order made payable to SCIAF  
 I would like to pay by Mastercard / Visa / Maestro / CAF / Delta

Card number \_\_\_\_\_ (Maestro only)  
Valid from \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date \_\_\_\_\_ Security code (last 3 digits on back of card) \_\_\_\_\_ Issue no. (Maestro Only) \_\_\_\_\_

**[please tick]** I want all the donations I've made to SCIAF since 6 April 2018 and all donations in the future to qualify for Gift Aid until I notify you otherwise. I am a UK Income or Capital Gains taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax / or Capital Gains tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all of my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference. *SCIAF will reclaim 25p of tax for every £1 you donate.*



We'd love to send you the latest campaign news, fundraising appeals and SCIAF info. We want to hear from you and tell you the stories of those you've helped. **Yes, I'm happy for SCIAF to contact me:**

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Call me:   
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Text me:   
Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

By providing your details, you're agreeing to SCIAF's privacy policy. SCIAF uses your information to improve our work and achieve our mission. We'll always keep your details secure and never sell them to anyone. Your information will be stored and processed under our privacy policy available at [sciaf.org.uk/privacy](http://sciaf.org.uk/privacy)

**Yes**, I would like to receive more information about leaving a gift in my will to SCIAF.  
If you ever want to change how you hear from us, please tell us at:  Freepost SCIAF  [sciaf@sciaf.org.uk](mailto:sciaf@sciaf.org.uk)  0141 354 5555

You can also make a donation at [sciaf.org.uk/donate](http://sciaf.org.uk/donate) or by calling 0141 354 5555

**Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund**  
SCIAF is the official relief and development agency of the Catholic Church in Scotland and a proud member of the Caritas family. 7 West Nile Street, Glasgow G1 2PR. Tel: 0141 354 5555. Scottish Charity No: SC012302. Company No: SC197327.



# Poverty kills the poorest people first

**YES**, I will act today with a regular gift of

£15    £10    £5   or £ \_\_\_\_\_.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

**SCIAF**   Instruktion to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit   **DIRECT Debit**

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society

To: The Manager   Bank/Building Society

Address

Postcode

Name(s) of account holder(s)

Branch Sort Code

Bank/Building Society Account Number

Service user number  
6 0 0 2 9 2

Reference  
S C I A F

**Instructions to your Bank or Building Society**  
Please pay SCIAF Direct Debits from the account detailed on this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by The Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this information may remain with SCIAF, and if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Signature(s)

Date

Banks and building societies may not accept Direct Debit Instructions for some types of account.

**[please tick]** I want all the donations I've made to SCIAF since 6 April 2018 and all donations in the future to qualify for Gift Aid until I notify you otherwise. I am a UK Income or Capital Gains taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax / or Capital Gains tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all of my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference. *SCIAF will reclaim 25p of tax for every £1 you donate.*

*giftaid it*

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**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Call me:**

**Mobile:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Text me:**

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# When the world looks away, we won't

Right now, the Horn of Africa is facing the driest conditions in more than four decades. 15 million people need food, a figure that could rise to 20 million by the end of the year.

**SCIAF is working to bring relief and reach the poorest people first. But we need your help.**

In Mundri, South Sudan, Charity and Justin live with their nine children in extreme poverty. To survive, they farm a small plot by the river and they collect construction materials from along the riverbank which they sell for a very small amount of money.

**“It’s a daily struggle, but this is how we survive here.”**

Justin

**The family is close to starvation – yet they work relentlessly to provide what little they have. Charity spends hours each day searching for materials to sell. Justin sets off in the dark each morning to harvest what scraps of food he can.**

“If it’s not there, it’s not there” he sighs. If he doesn’t find food, the family suffers. They will eat just one meal a day.

Weakened by hunger, Justin says he is not as productive as he once was. “I’m weak and if I fall sick, it would be really dangerous for my family too.”

At the moment, Charity and Justin are able to send four of their children to school. But their money is running out, and soon they won’t be able to afford school fees.

In addition, two of their children live with ‘nodding syndrome’ – a severe neurological disorder which researchers think may, in part, be caused by malnutrition.

**The family’s situation is desperate.**

“The hope I have for my children is to be educated,” says Justin, “for them to be independent tomorrow and to help themselves – not suffer like us.”

**We bless you, Lord, and praise you.**  
Open our hearts to others especially those who hunger and hurt. Inspire us, and move us to reach out with love to those in need. Help us share generously and to hold onto hope for a world transformed.  
Amen



Justin, South Sudan



Justin's family, South Sudan

**No one should ever die of hunger – your loving gift could help families like Charity and Justin’s survive.**

**£40**

could provide a family with emergency food for nine weeks.

**£12**

could give a family access to seeds with shorter growing times, enabling families to harvest their food more frequently.

**£126**

could help a community set up a savings and loans group so that families can save money to provide for themselves and pay for school fees to send their children to school.

**Act against hunger today. Donate at [sciaf.org.uk/donate](http://sciaf.org.uk/donate) or call 0141 354 5555.**

**\* If you have already acted against hunger, we can’t thank you enough! Your gift will help ensure that none of God’s children are forgotten.**

# £1.2 million to support Ukraine

Since February, Russian aggression in Ukraine has forced more than 13 million people from their homes, and resulted in up to 5,000 civilian casualties. Sadly, these numbers are growing all the time as the reverberations of war continue to cause immense suffering for the people of Ukraine – and beyond.

The need for emergency food, medicine, water, and safe accommodation remains high, as does the requirement for child support services and psychosocial counselling. Families have been ripped apart. Homes have been destroyed. And livelihoods have been lost.

## How we've responded

Thanks to your remarkable donations totalling £1.2 million, we've been providing immediate relief in Ukraine, including in the hardest to reach places such as the besieged city of Mariupol. We've also been working in neighbouring countries to support refugees who have fled the fighting.

Through our partnerships with Caritas Ukraine, Caritas-SPES, Caritas Poland, Caritas Romania and other Caritas organisations in the area, we are:

- Providing extensive **humanitarian assistance** on the ground, including sorting and distributing aid such as food kits, bed linen, hygiene supplies and medicine.
- Organising online and in-person **psychological counselling** for those suffering the trauma of war, especially focusing on children and encouraging them to engage in social and recreational activities where they can.
- Providing **shelter and housing** for those who have been displaced and are most at risk.
- **Raising awareness** about trafficking to protect the most vulnerable.

## Prayer for peace

**Dear Lord,**  
Let Your light shine on me today.  
May the warmth of Your presence remind me of the moments of kindness, generosity and love I have witnessed.  
May the shining of Your hope remind me of Your love for each one of us and the promise of peace.  
Let Your light shine on me today Lord.  
Amen

## Support from Scottish Government

In addition to the amazing £1.2 million donated by our supporters, the Scottish Government gave £500,000 to SCIAF's humanitarian work in Ukraine and surrounding countries. International Development Minister for the Scottish Government, Neil Gray, said: "It is vital that aid reaches the people of Ukraine as quickly as possible, and is targeted to the most vulnerable."



## Sister Paula's Story

When the war in Ukraine broke out, Sister Paula Yagoda fled the convent in Malyns'kyi near Kyiv. Tearfully, she told us how devastated she was that she couldn't help her community.

Together with five other Sisters, she drove to Poland where they became stuck at the border for 25 hours. Once they finally made it through, however, Sister Paula began volunteering for Caritas Poland.

Working for Caritas, Sister Paula feels needed. She carries luggage, plays with children, and travels to the border to support refugees. As soon as the war is over, Sister Paula will head straight back to Ukraine to help rebuild her country.

**Thank  
you!**

Sister Paula, Volunteer  
for Caritas Poland

To find out more about how we respond to emergencies such as this, head to **page 22** in this magazine.

# The cost of living in Zambia



L-R: Norman, Fr Alex, Muchimba, Chama and John, JCTR staff, Zambia



Euronica, Zambia

# Annual Report 2021

At SCIAF, we want to do more than just feed people - we want to tackle the root causes of poverty which leave people with no food. Across the world, this long-term work is made possible through our local partners who advocate for change in their communities and help families access the basic needs required to build a bright future.

## Food insecurity in Zambia

It is one of the world's greatest injustices that millions of families still go to bed hungry when food is wasted elsewhere. In Zambia, many people survive on just one or two meals per day, and the situation is set to get much worse as the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine, and climate change deepen.

## Using advocacy to tackle hunger

In Zambia, thanks to your generous support, we're working with our partner, the Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection (JCTR), to track the cost of living so that the government can be held to account for its support of the poorest and most vulnerable in society.



JCTR tracks the cost of living in Zambia by collecting **prices of selected nutritious foods and non-food items each month, such as maize or medicine.**

**Analysis of these prices over many years** allows JCTR to assess how prices are changing, and whether people's incomes are keeping pace.

Findings show **that the gap between the cost of living and income is getting bigger.**

The cost of living in Zambia's capital city, Lusaka, rose from **£380 per month in 2020 to £475 in 2022.** This contrasts with average income which is below £260 a month.

**JCTR uses this evidence to campaign to government to change their policies and support the poorest and most vulnerable communities.** This information is also used to support workers in salary negotiations, inform parliamentary debates, and direct government policy on wages and tax.



"This work is crucial – it holds the Zambian Government to account and provides data to lobby for real-world solutions. Without evidence of poverty, long-term policy responses cannot be developed."

**Ben Wilson**, Partner Advocacy Officer, SCIAF

Angel lives in a very remote part of central Zambia with his mother and grandmother. Before SCIAF came to help, life was very hard. Sometimes, the family would eat just one meal of porridge a day, and Angel wouldn't go to school.

Today, thanks to support from our partner Caritas Kabwe, the family has learned new organic farming techniques. Kale and cabbage are growing really well, improving their diets, and the family is now able to sell some vegetables for extra money. They can afford new clothes and Angel goes to school every day.



# Dear friends



When humanitarian emergencies strike, you provide food, medicine and shelter. When climate change brings fear, you provide solutions that will help people grow more crops and have water. And when the future for young people looks bleak and scary, you provide an education and opportunities that will allow them to climb out of poverty.

In short, you enable our poorest sisters and brothers to improve their lives dramatically. And last year, you helped more than 900,000 people enjoy a brighter future.

Of course, there have been lots of challenges in the past year. But, during these most difficult times, your love and compassion always give me hope. Seeing your regular donations arrive at the office or your generous volunteering reminds me that together we can overcome injustice and build God's Kingdom here on Earth.

2021 was the first year of our new strategy and the shift to working in more depth in fewer countries. So far, this has allowed us to increase the connections between our partners and projects, develop overseas advocacy strategies to tackle the root causes of poverty, and ensure we support people fully –

meeting a broad range of needs and building vibrant communities. We've also deepened our focus on Development Education in Scotland to engage Catholics at home with the reality of life overseas, and inspire them to put their faith into action.

Last November, we also welcomed partners from Malawi, Zambia and Colombia to Glasgow for the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) to bear testament to the devastating effects of climate change and extreme weather in their countries. While the conference did not achieve everything we had hoped, your passion to deliver climate justice came across loud and clear as we came together as one SCIAF family to demand action, march on the streets, and pray for a fairer future.

As the stories in this magazine show, you are making a real difference in the world. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for everything you do. And may God bless you in the year ahead,

**Alistair Dutton**, Chief Executive



In the fields near Kigali, Rwanda

# In 2021 you helped

Over **900,000** people to have a brighter future



Over **240,000** people were directly supported



**463,822** people now grow more food and earn more money to support themselves and their families



**299,948** people now benefit from safer communities, and can influence the decisions that affect them the most



**143,841** people received emergency relief when disaster struck



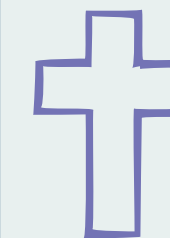
**66,949** vulnerable children and adults received an education or skills training

We supported **44** emergency responses in **18** countries



More than **55%** of all the people we helped were women

We spent over **£7 million** on **91** projects, working with more than **75** overseas partners, in **17** countries



**86** parish representatives volunteered their time across **eight** dioceses in Scotland

More than 4,000 supporters signed our **'3 asks, 2 weeks, 1 planet'** campaign, which encouraged UK leaders to protect those most impacted by the climate crisis at COP26 in Glasgow



Our social media posts were seen more than **1.35 million** times, allowing us to share our work with audiences around the world



# A snapshot



Chhy with her son Chhen, Cambodia



## Changing lives in Cambodia

Thanks to you and your support of our WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE UK Aid Match appeal in 2018, the lives of more than 46,838 people have been transformed in some of the poorest parts of rural Cambodia. The appeal raised more than £3.1m, including £1.5m of match funding from the UK government. The matched funds were used to run a three-year project in Cambodia, which came to a close at the end of 2021.

**46,838**  
lives changed

**£ 2,524**  
families now earn more money

**1,515**  
vulnerable families have enough food for an entire year

**2,638**  
women empowered by gender awareness meetings



**2,221**  
schoolchildren can access handwashing facilities



**3,150**  
people have access to toilets for the first time



**2,735**  
households have access to clean bottled water



## Making more from milk

In southern Ethiopia, limited resources and extreme weather are making life exceptionally hard for dairy farmers and their families. In 2020, we began a three-year project, supported by Jersey Overseas Aid, to improve milk production and help farming families sell their produce at market. The project is placing a strong emphasis on empowering women, and improving gender equality in communities. **So far, we've helped:**



Milk seller, Borena District, Ethiopia

▶ **Over 1,300 people** have brighter futures

▶ **Train 875 women** to become leaders in the dairy sector

▶ **Rehabilitate 640 hectares** of land, improving dairy pasture

▶ **Improve the business skills** of 34 members of the community



## Our impact at COP26

In November, the SCIAF family was heavily involved in the COP26 climate conference in Glasgow. While the conference didn't deliver all the solutions our world needs, there were some successes:



**1 We put our faith into action and shouted about climate justice.** By signing our '3 asks, 2 weeks, 1 planet' petition, and taking to the streets on the Global Day of Action, we came together and put pressure on governments to be ambitious at the conference.



**2 We raised up the voices of those living on the front line of the climate crisis.** During the conference, your support helped us bring expert partners to Scotland from Colombia, Malawi and Zambia to attend important discussions and events, and to share their powerful stories across TV, radio and newspaper.



**3 We helped deliver money to those already impacted by the Climate Emergency.** We encouraged First Minister Nicola Sturgeon to commit £2 million to support communities ripped apart by floods, droughts and other extreme climate effects.

# Income 2021

Our generous supporters raised over £4.5 million to change lives in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East!

## Institutional grants £3m

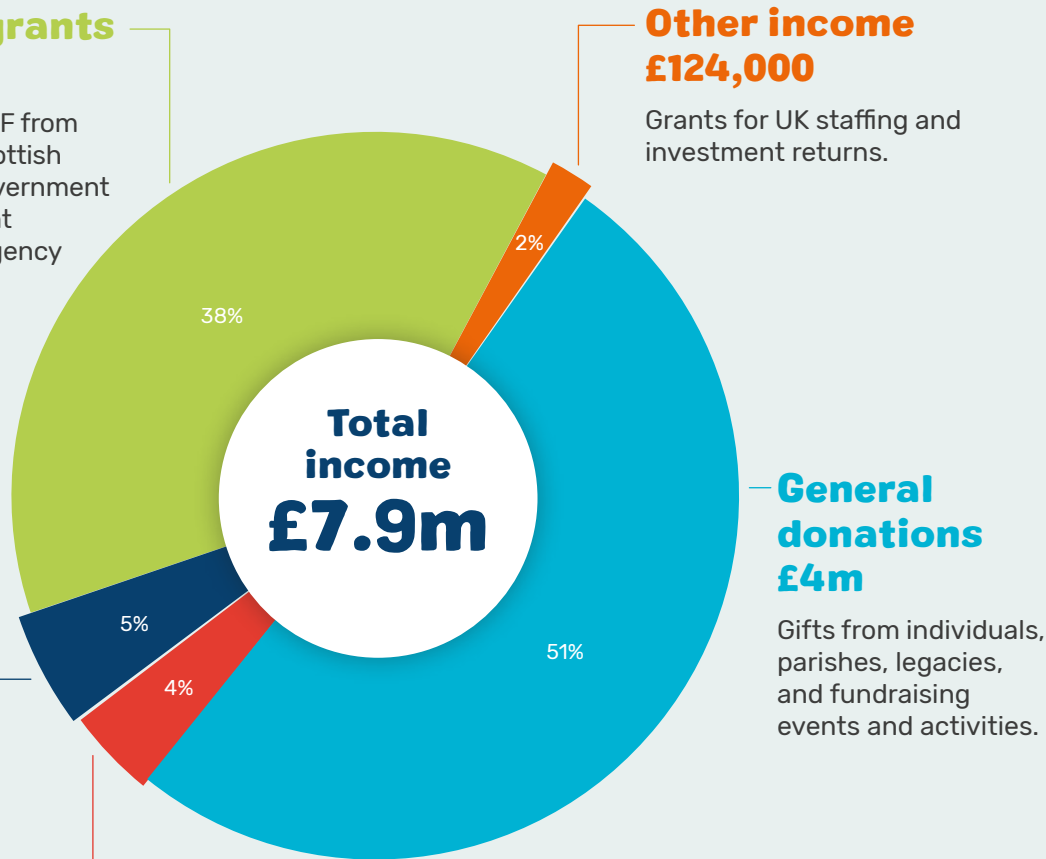
Grants awarded to SCIAF from sources such as the Scottish Government and UK government to fund our development programmes and emergency response work.

## Other income £124,000

Grants for UK staffing and investment returns.

## Gift aid £420,000

Gift aid collected on donations allows money to go further.



## General donations £4m

Gifts from individuals, parishes, legacies, and fundraising events and activities.

## Emergency appeals £324,000

Gifts in aid of natural disasters and emergencies, including money from individuals, parishes, fundraising events and activities.

*Thank you!*

## Trust in our work

Across all our work we place a strong emphasis on safeguarding, quality, transparency and accountability to ensure the continued safety and dignity of all we serve. As an organisation we work to recognised national and international standards, abiding by all relevant legislation and regulations. In short, we honour the trust given to us by the whole SCIAF family, and take pride in being accountable to all our stakeholders.



# Expenditure 2021

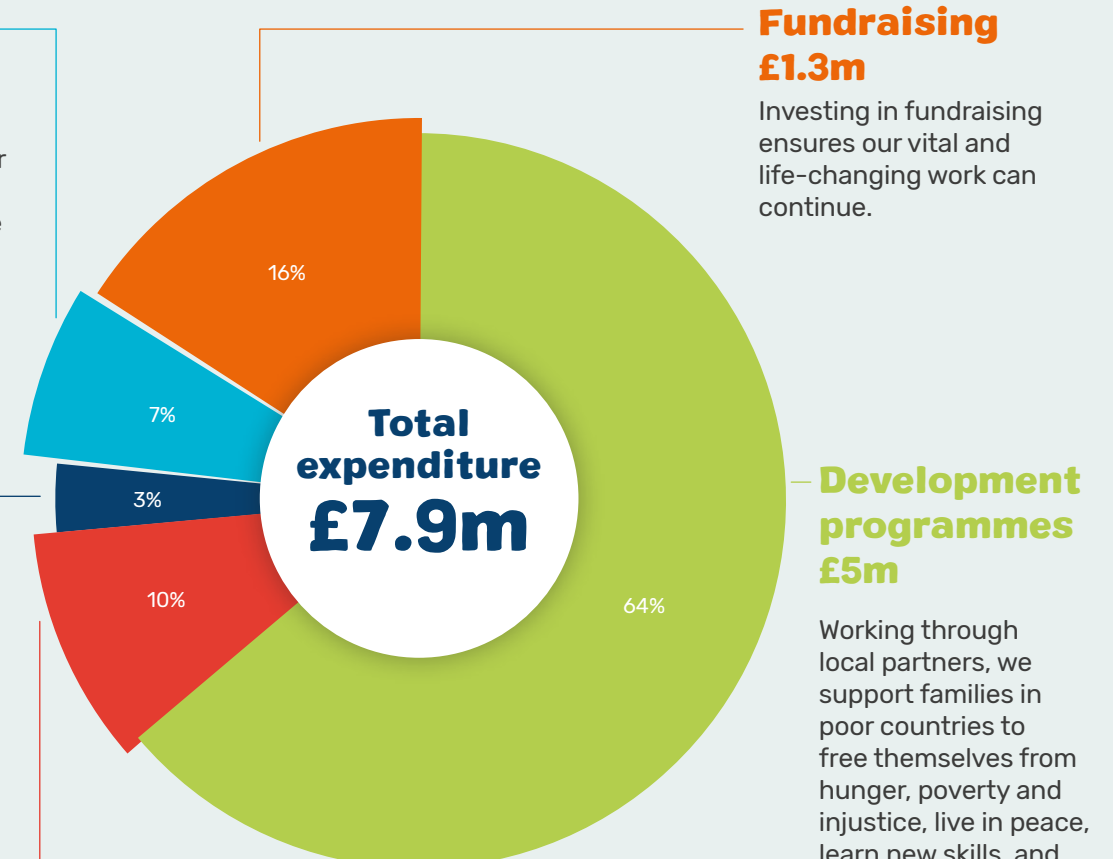
Your generous donations were used to change the lives of over 900,000 people around the world, working with more than 75 international partners.

## Education in Scotland £590,000

We take seriously our mandate from the Bishops' Conference to educate and communicate about global justice and international development.

## Advocacy £249,000

We work with the Scottish public, parishes, schools and our partners to put pressure on governments to create a fairer and more peaceful world.



## Fundraising £1.3m

Investing in fundraising ensures our vital and life-changing work can continue.

## Development programmes £5m

Working through local partners, we support families in poor countries to free themselves from hunger, poverty and injustice, live in peace, learn new skills, and fully recover when disaster strikes.

## Emergency response £776,000

We respond to emergencies as part of the Caritas family, providing immediate life-saving relief and long-term support, rebuilding lives and communities.

As a necessary part of delivering effective programmes, SCIAF administration support costs are directly incorporated into the areas of work outlined above.

We consider our institutional donors important allies in our work. In 2021, we were thankful for generous support from major institutional donors such as governments and universities, allowing us to increase the scale and scope of our work.



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot



Supported by  
States of Guernsey  
Overseas Aid



# Sewing the future back together



Susan became pregnant at 21, and had to stop her formal education. When her daughter Emily was born, she was not able to provide for her as a single mother – food and money were short, and healthcare was out of reach.

### Susan had all but lost hope.

Yet, thanks to you, Susan enrolled on a skills training course for young people in southern Malawi run by SCIAF partner CADECOM Mangochi. The training provided an opportunity to learn vocations such as hairdressing, tailoring, carpentry and motorbike mechanics.

Susan opted to focus on tailoring and soon became a top performer in her class. Today, she can design and sew clothes for people in the community.

“Before I started the training, I had no hope for the future. Whenever I thought about my situation, I become very worried. But now, I can’t wait to open a shop, sew clothes and earn a living for my daughter and mother. I am so excited about the future.

“I want to thank SCIAF for helping me move towards my dream of being an independent woman.”

“SCIAF could have helped anyone, but they came to help us and I am very grateful for that.”



# SCIAF Lectures

In October, we'll be hosting the first of our SCIAF Lectures, a new series of talks on the issues and topics at the heart of our work.

In this series, we'll bring experts and faith leaders from around the world to talk about the subjects that matter to them. They will be held both in person and online across Scotland, so as many people as possible can join with the SCIAF family.

Our first lecture will focus on one of SCIAF's beloved patrons, Saint Óscar Romero, and will be presented by Fr Martin Maier, an author and Director of Adveniat, a German development charity working in Latin America.



## The life, loss and legacy of Romero

Fr Martin Maier SJ

Friday 14th October 2022

Edinburgh Jesuit Church, the Sacred Heart, and online  
6pm Mass prior to the talk  
7pm Talk

**Saint Óscar Romero, or simply 'Romero' as he is popularly known, was a 20th century Latin American archbishop who stood up for the poor and marginalised people of El Salvador.**

In this insightful and thought-provoking lecture, we will hear how the assassination of Romero's great friend Blessed Rutilio Grande motivated Romero's work to speak out against the injustices facing the poor of El Salvador – work that would ultimately lead to his own assassination in 1980.

Fittingly, this inaugural SCIAF Lecture will be held on the anniversary of the canonisation of Romero, and will take place at the Jesuit Church of the Sacred Heart in Edinburgh which hosts a shrine to both Saint Óscar Romero and Blessed Rutilio Grande, including relics of each.



We're grateful to the Edinburgh Jesuit Centre, the Justice and Peace Commission of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Scotland, and the Archbishop Romero Trust for their contribution to this first lecture.

To come along to the first SCIAF Lecture, please visit [sciaf.org.uk/events](https://sciaf.org.uk/events) where you can also find out more about our other upcoming events!

### Other dates for your diary

▶ **18th September**  
Kiltwalk, Edinburgh

▶ **25th September**  
Procession of Relics of St Bernadette at Carfin Grotto, Motherwell

▶ **14th October**  
SCIAF Lecture, The life, loss and legacy of Romero, Edinburgh

▶ **November**  
Remembrance Mass, Carfin Grotto, Motherwell

# Humanitarian emergencies: how we respond with love



Shawkat, Bangladesh.  
Rohingya Refugee crisis,  
December 2017.

**When disasters strike, we respond immediately as part the Caritas family, feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and healing the wounded – and we stay for the long term, rebuilding lives and communities. Over the past five decades, thanks to your donations, we have helped support hundreds of emergencies across the world.**

**In this long-read, we take a look at why SCIAF is able to respond so quickly to emergencies around the world, the difference your donations make, and how we support people to rebuild their lives in the longer term.**

## Humanitarian emergencies

Humanitarian emergencies happen every day. Most emergency situations are small-scale and go unnoticed by the world media, but are nevertheless devastating for those caught up in them – like a landslide that hits a community, or a flood that washes away a family's crops. Some, however, affect entire countries or regions, and have a long-term impact on society – catastrophes such as wars, major natural disasters like tsunamis, or even global health crises.

SCIAF has been responding to humanitarian emergencies like these since 1968, when the Scottish Catholic community reached out with love to those experiencing famine in Biafra (which is now part of south-eastern Nigeria) and drought in Bihar in India.

## Global network, local response

We are able to respond to emergencies around the world because we are part of the global Catholic network, Caritas International. This confederation includes more than 160 organisations and operates in over 200 countries and territories. Close to home, the Caritas agency of England and Wales is called CAFOD; in Ireland it's Trócaire.

This unique web of humanitarian organisations means that whenever an emergency happens we can respond quickly and effectively anywhere in the world – and especially in those places that are hard to reach. Straight away, fully trained staff and personnel can begin work, delivering whatever is required – whether food and water, hygiene facilities, shelter or medical care. And, in the wake of an emergency, we can immediately draw on the talents of our international colleagues to design the best possible programmes, as they know the areas affected and their specific needs.

In Ukraine, for instance, the conflict escalated rapidly – but Caritas Ukraine was able to respond immediately, communicating what support they required and when, and ensuring we didn't duplicate

the efforts of other aid agencies. We also had ready-made infrastructure which we could use – the Catholic Church in Ukraine owned buildings that were quickly converted into refuges for internally displaced people, Caritas Poland offered a warehouse to store supplies, and other neighbouring Caritas organisations provided emergency supplies and safe spaces for refugees fleeing danger.

The expertise and reach of the global Caritas network make us go-to humanitarian experts whenever a crisis hits. It's why supporting SCIAF's emergency work is so effective.

## Emergency relief

Each emergency is uniquely distressing and complicated for those who are caught up – as well as for those who are trying to help. But what remains the same is how emergencies force those affected into extremely scary and abnormal situations. Our response must, therefore, prioritise resolving this fear and uncertainty.

Often, this means we provide essential supplies and basic support first: quickly offering food, clean water, shelter, medicine, access to healthcare, and cash, so that people feel supported, comforted, and safe during their darkest hours.

But we know that thriving as a human being is more than just a question of meeting basic needs. This means that even during our emergency response we continue to follow our Integral Human Development approach, meeting the needs of the 'whole person'. A space for people to practise their religion may be critical; or we might organise group sessions where people can come together and share their experiences, creating a sense of solidarity and community.



**143,841 people supported last year in emergencies**

## Rebuilding and recovering

After disaster strikes, we work collaboratively with the communities we serve to help meet their needs and their aspirations for the future. With our local partners, we listen to what challenges they face, and work together to design projects where our support can make the biggest difference.

What really sets SCIAF, and Caritas International, apart is that we are there before, during and after an emergency – staying for the long term, not just the immediate aftermath. Side-by-side we stand in solidarity as we help people rebuild their lives. Longer term, projects may include repairing roads, schools and hospitals, or providing the skills and education that people need to work themselves out of poverty.



**18 countries supported with emergency responses in the past year: Central African Republic, Colombia, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Lebanon, Malawi, Pakistan, Palestine, Poland, Romania, South Sudan, Syria, Ukraine and Yemen.**



## Landslide in DR Congo

In January 2020, a landslide ripped into a community in the city of Bukavu in DR Congo, bringing with it death and destruction. But sadly, it was an emergency waiting to happen.

In DR Congo, extreme poverty – driven by global inequality – forces families to live on extremely marginal and unsafe land. Homes are perched on steep slopes, beneath unstable cliffs. At the same time, climate change is causing more regular and more intense storms to take place in this part of Africa. And, on this occasion, it was one of these extreme weather events which caused the devastating landslide. Homes were destroyed, and five children and a woman lost their lives.

Sadly, this event was predictable: the consequence of an unjust and environmentally-degraded world. So, while SCIAF will continue to be there to provide relief when emergencies like this strike, it remains the case that we must address the systemic issues that drive disasters if we are truly to build God's Kingdom here on Earth. As Pope Francis says in his encyclical *Laudato Si'*, we must respond to both "the cry of the earth, and the cry of the poor."

Facing the news of a landslide in DR Congo

## Prevention is better than cure

Our modern world is grappling with several major issues all at once – problems that make emergencies more likely and more extreme. We must, therefore, prepare communities for the worst in the short term, while working together to tackle the longer-term factors that make emergencies more likely.

## Reducing risk for the future

In the communities we work with, we help them reduce the risks they face – the chance a person, family or community will be hurt by future crises. This might mean, for instance, encouraging the use of climate-resilient methods of growing food, so farming families can cope with extreme drought or flooding. Or helping communities to set up savings and insurance schemes, so that if the worst happens there is a safety net in place that allows them to access money. For tackling the long-term risk factors for emergencies, advocacy is one of our key strategies – and specialties. Thanks to your support, we encourage global action on climate change, and we also make sure that international development is at the top of government agendas so that more support and better opportunities can be delivered to those who are most at risk.



## Rebuilding Lives in Syria

The conflict in Syria has continued for more than 11 years, bringing with it widespread suffering. At least 510,000 people have died, with 13.4 million in need of humanitarian assistance. Thanks to your repeated generosity, we have been responding to this crisis for more than a decade.

Working with our sister agency CAFOD, our support has focused on delivering essential food, shelter, clean water, sanitation, and medical services, alongside the long-term rebuilding of infrastructure, livelihoods, homes and cultural life; facilitating community peace-building and reconciliation; and advocating for a political solution to the war in Syria.

Hahmoud Al-Hassan, Aleppo, Syria



**Since 2005, you've raised £13,658,800 for emergency appeals around the world** *Thank you*

## Ayana's Story

For Ayana\*, the conflict in Ethiopia began when the door of her house was battered down and her husband was shot dead in front of her. Ayana was six months pregnant. Escaping with the rest of her young family, Ayana's 13-year-old daughter was then ambushed, raped and beaten. Then, two weeks later, Ayana gave birth outside, alone and without any medical assistance.

Thanks to you, however, Ayana and her family were able to seek shelter in a humanitarian camp funded by SCIAF, where they could access food, water and money and begin to process their ordeal.

**"We have received food to eat, money and mattresses to sleep on, and other goods to keep us alive and with hope."**  
– Ayana.

\*for security, this is not her real name

## Funding from the Scottish Government

Thanks to the global reach of the Caritas network – and our proven track record of support – SCIAF is a select panel member of the Scottish Government's Humanitarian Emergency Fund. In 2021 and 2022, this resulted in the award of more than £281,950 from the Scottish Government to provide emergency humanitarian assistance in South Sudan, Afghanistan and Ethiopia respectively.

## School resources

We produce learning resources for schools which explain how SCIAF responds to emergencies. Turn to **page 28** to find out more!



## Donate to our Emergency Response Fund

When emergencies strike, it's the poorest people who suffer most. By giving a regular or one-off gift to our Emergency Response Fund, you can help us reach those affected first and worst – and allow us to stay with them in the long term. Donate today at [sciaf.org.uk/emergency](https://sciaf.org.uk/emergency)



# Time to pay up!

If someone stole your food, burnt down your house, or destroyed your livelihood, you would expect them to pay for the damage. Yet, in the world's poorest places, climate change – caused by the richest countries – has done all these things. But the rich are not paying up!

Together with our partners around the world, we are appalled by this global injustice – an injustice that is keeping people poor, and robbing families of a future.

Each day, climate change brings floods, droughts, storms and suffering to our poorest sisters and brothers – those who have done the least to cause the problem. This is wrong, and totally unfair.

At COP26, the Scottish Government committed £2 million to help people recover from the damage caused by climate change – a world first. But, while this is a welcome start, on its own it's simply not enough without other countries stepping up to compensate the hungry, the homeless, or those who are losing all hope.

Instead, we need a global solution – a substantial pot of money that every rich country pays into. A pot of money that will help communities recover from the loss and damages of the climate crisis, rebuild and start again. And we need it now.

For this reason, we are calling on the UK government to build on Scotland's example ahead of COP27 in November. As the outgoing COP President, the UK government must commit funds to pay for this damage and encourage the richest countries to do the same.

It is vital that we support those living on a knife-edge because of the climate crisis we caused.

**It's time to pay up.  
The time for action is now.**

## What is SCIAF asking for?

Though COP26 in Glasgow is over, the UK still holds influence as the outgoing COP Presidency until the beginning of COP27. We are therefore demanding that the new Prime Minister use this position to:

1. Champion a new global fund for Loss and Damage and commit UK money to this
2. Urge rich nations to pay up too; grants not loans is what is needed
3. Make sure that the money is easily available for those who need it most

**The time for action is now.  
Sign our petition today.**

Because of climate change, rich countries have caused enormous damage in the world's poorest places. It's time for them to pay up!

**Sign the petition postcard that came with this magazine, or visit [sciaf.org.uk/payup](https://sciaf.org.uk/payup) to tackle this injustice!**

## Malita's story

"The year my house was destroyed by lightning was the most challenging in my life. The house collapsed at night while we were asleep.

**"I can't forget that night because my property was ruined; I can't forget that experience, because I can't replace what I lost."**

"Climate change has affected our village in other ways too. Our harvest has become poor. Water moves with speed across the ground during rainy seasons. It ends up washing our crops away. If you don't have spare seeds, that's when the problems begin."

**Malita lives in southern Malawi and is married with four children. She is enrolled in a project supported by our partner CADECOM Mangochi that has enabled her to access money to build a new home for her and her family. But there are millions more people like Malita that need help.**

# Interested in learning about development? Then SCIAF's got your back...



Development Education is vital in raising awareness and increasing understanding of how global issues affect our everyday lives.

SCIAF's Development Education programme provides opportunities for the Catholic community of all ages here in Scotland to learn, pray for, and act on global injustices. We provide materials for schools and parishes to use on their own, and offer visits to build on that learning.

It is our hope that the Development Education work we do will be long-lasting and empower people to put their faith into action.

**"I cannot overstate the huge positive impact on our school that working with SCIAF has made. The resources provided are a really useful tool, giving pupils a much fuller understanding of the world in which they live. They have grown to be responsible citizens with an understanding of Catholic Social Teaching – particularly solidarity and the dignity of all people."**

Helen Quinn  
– St Francis Xavier's Primary School, Falkirk

## Emergency board game

With stories from natural and man-made crises, including the war in Ukraine, this new resource has lesson plans and activities for both Primary and Secondary level. Once you have used these resources in class, we can visit with a giant interactive board game, designed to help pupils understand the impact on people and planet.

**Download our resources for schools and parishes by visiting [sciaf.org.uk/resources](https://sciaf.org.uk/resources)**



By Eileen McQuade, Parishioner of St Ninian's and St Cuthbert's, Hamilton

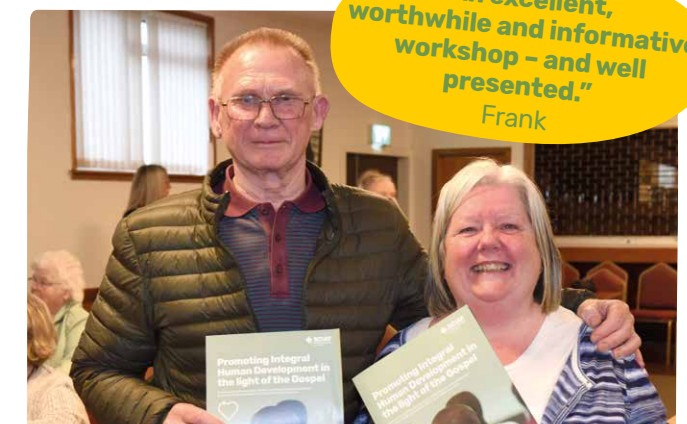
Like many, we had concerns about how lockdown would affect our parish. Would faithful parishioners return to church, or remain comfortable attending Mass from their armchairs?

While considering this, an email arrived from SCIAF promoting a two-session workshop on Integral Human Development. By inviting Siobhan and Mark from SCIAF to deliver the workshop, we felt that this would give us a perfect opportunity to keep talking about faith while hopefully growing together as a parish community.

One parishioner said that, from its title, she was concerned that the workshop might be a little too academic. She was delighted to find out that it was both fun and thought-provoking! The videos we watched showed the holistic nature of the work SCIAF is doing with local partners around the world. We gained an understanding of how SCIAF's work is inspired by Scripture. We discovered how different passages took on a new life when we looked at them together. We learned about Integral Human Development – and it resonated deeply within us.

The workshops highlighted SCIAF's respect for the dignity of each person, and their attentiveness in listening to the 'cry of the poor'. It showed how SCIAF aims to empower those in need by first listening to their concerns and then working together to improve their situation. SCIAF aims to give participants agency.

Without doubt, the workshop enriched our parish and we gained much more than we had hoped. We would highly recommend it!



**"An excellent, worthwhile and informative workshop – and well presented."**  
Frank

To find out more about these workshops and how you can run your own, please email [getinvolved@sciaf.org.uk](mailto:getinvolved@sciaf.org.uk)

# Reflection in DR Congo



Thérèse Mema Mapenzi is the Director of Centre Olame, a Catholic women's organisation working for the integral promotion of women and girls, and supporting mainly survivors of sexual and gender-based violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo). She's also a member of SCIAF's Board, and Chair of our Integral Human Development Advisory Committee.

During Lent 2020, we shared stories of some of those Thérèse was working with in DR Congo, and showed how your support can make a real difference in their lives. Here, she reflects on the work she does and how her faith gives her strength.

## The road to recovery

In my town of Bukavu, in the eastern part of DR Congo, sexual and gender-based violence is used as a tool of war. But, for survivors who have been traumatised, Centre Olame helps turn lives around – from pain and suffering, to lives filled with hope.

One of the main ways we help people is through 'Listening Rooms'. These are safe spaces where we welcome survivors who experienced rape, or who are living with sexually transmitted illnesses such as HIV.

We listen to their problems. We provide different methods for them to express their trauma. We support their husbands, families and children. And we try to understand what they need from us to move forward in their lives.

## What my faith teaches me

We work with people of all faiths and none at all. But, for me, my Catholic faith is very important because it teaches me love. It describes what actions I should be using to help those who are suffering – and how these can be an expression of love. When I work with the most vulnerable women and girls, my faith gives me strength when I feel weak. I trust in the Lord and He gives me courage – and Scripture inspires me too.

For instance, the story of Tamar, the daughter of King David, who was raped, silenced and treated with contempt. This still happens to women today, but through this passage we are reminded of the importance of speaking out and taking action – if we don't, the cycle of violence continues and injustice prevails.

There are also many stories of female prostitutes. In His encounters with these women, Jesus treats them with love and compassion, and without judgement. When I work, I try to emulate Jesus' example. This allows me to strengthen my faith, and work with hope – hope that a better world is possible.

## Integral Human Development

Working with SCIAF is so special because we all share a passion for developing the 'whole person', as well as the communities in which they live – we don't just provide short-term relief in one area of their lives.

In practice, this means we often address someone's basic needs first, such as medical care or enabling them to access the money they need to purchase essentials. However, Integral Human Development reminds us that we must also develop other aspects of their lives too – building a person's self-confidence and self-esteem, developing their spirituality or enabling them to access justice.



Survivor, 22, DR Congo



## International recognition

For fighting against Human Rights abuses, Thérèse has received recognition around the world, including the Coventry Prize for Peace and Reconciliation, the Shalom Prize in Germany, and the Human Rights Prize from the civil society of Bukavu in DR Congo. To have her expertise on our Board is a blessing.

**Walk in the way of love,  
just as Christ loved us and  
gave himself up for us.**

Ephesians 5:2

At Centre Olame, for instance, we have a programme to identify well-known figures in the local community, such as religious leaders, female youth or prominent business people, who can act as local champions. With training, these individuals are able to publicly demonstrate their commitment to preventing sexual and gender-based violence, protecting survivors, combatting discrimination, and being champions for change. This sort of local participation means survivors build up a network of community allies, allowing them to feel like valued citizens once again.

## Reaching out with love

I am really thankful to the people of Scotland for their continued expressions of love. Though they don't know us personally, they hear our stories and the problems we are facing – and then they respond with contributions via SCIAF, and their prayers of support. I cannot think of the words to fully express my gratitude. May God bless you all.



This work in DR Congo is kindly supported by SCIAF supporters and the UK Government through UK Aid Match





# Put your faith into action today

**A monthly gift of £10 to SCIAF can make a vital difference, providing a hand-up to our sisters and brothers in the world's poorest places.**

In Ethiopia, monthly gifts provide safe, clean water for communities. In Cambodia, they ensure families have stable livelihoods and enough food on the table. And in DR Congo, they provide healthcare and counselling for women and girls who have survived sexual or gender-based violence.

**To set up a regular gift today, please use the form included in this magazine and send it to FREEPOST SCIAF. You can also visit our website [sciaf.org.uk/donate](http://sciaf.org.uk/donate) or call us on 0141 354 5555.**

**Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund**

SCIAF is the official relief and development agency of the Catholic Church in Scotland and a proud member of the Caritas family. 7 West Nile Street, Glasgow G1 2PR. Tel: 0141 354 5555. Scottish Charity No: SC012302. Company No: SC197327. Photo: Simon Murphy.