

- Drama
- Choir
- Chirography

service

THOSE WHO ENGAGE IN YOUTH MINISTRY

THOSE WHO ENGAGE IN SUNDAY SERVICE

Celebrating WOW's achievements in 2022

Annual Report

We are so pleased to introduce the new WOW annual update.

What a great way to pause for a moment and reflect before we move forward into a new year. We want to celebrate the successes that have taken place in the lives of the women and the families that we have the privilege of supporting. Thank you for your support during 2022.

The transformation of WOW over the last five years has been an incredible journey, which has led us to focus on women and their families. The stories we are hearing and seeing are so encouraging; just like the one about Bertukan featured on page five.



Life is so often full of challenges, and during 2022 we had a few! Following the global pandemic, the running costs of all the projects increased, due to high inflation around the world. For over two years, we were unable to visit the projects to encourage and train them. Thankfully, in 2022 we were able to visit the WOW projects again. Incredibly, during these difficult times we have still seen growth. Women in Ethiopia and Uganda have started new businesses, generating income which impacts their family and the community where they live. We have also supported Ukrainian refugees and opened a sewing school. In all our projects now, we are giving a “hand up not a hand out.” We truly feel blessed to be able to make a difference in the countries in which we work.

We are so thankful to our Board of Trustees, and to close friends who speak wisdom into our lives. They guide us and walk alongside us as we undertake the incredible journey of being Directors of WOW. I read a quote from Paul Scanlon recently, “Our wisdom does not just come from what we learn, it also comes from what we unlearn”.

Just because we learnt how to do something and it has worked for a number of years, it does not mean it will work forever. Over the past few years, we have had to make some significant changes based on our experiences. Don't ever be afraid to unlearn something or put something down that you have carried for a while. When you put it down, it lightens your load, which allows you to rest, which is always a good thing! When you are ready to start something new or pick something else up, you will have the energy and strength you need.

As you read ahead, we celebrate what we have learnt, as well as the things we have unlearnt. We remember and honour where we have come from, but look forward to being able to reach more women and girls in the future.

Thank you for being part of who we are today, for travelling this journey with us. Your support and prayers have carried us, and we look forward knowing that the best is yet to come.

Andy & Rachel David

WOW Directors.

Our impact at a glance in 2022...



- 95% success rate in Ethiopia with our Women's Empowerment Programme
- Over 250 children receiving an education every day
- 178 women trained in micro business, permagardening and agriculture
- 16 children attending university
- A sewing school opened in Uganda training young women
- 1000 trees planted in Uganda
- Minibuses containing aid sent to Ukraine, and three refugee families supported in Bulgaria

OUR IMPACT ON POVERTY – WOW educates, trains, and equips women, so they can provide food and healthcare for their families and educate their children. Impacts of poverty include food insecurity, abandonment, unemployment, lack of shelter, lack of clean water, disease and ill-health. We educate women in life skills such as childcare, first aid and business skills, and we give them access to microfinance. We are passionate about helping women to thrive.

OUR IMPACT ON EDUCATION – We provide the opportunity for children to attend and finish school, and also support students through university. In Uganda, over 35% of girls will not finish school and 30-40% of the population are illiterate, rising to 55% in Arua, the area in which we work. An educated girl is less likely to die in childbirth, and more likely to understand her rights.

OUR IMPACT ON GENDER INEQUALITY - We focus on women and girls, specifically widows, who have been

disenfranchised, and who have lost land rights. Girls are more likely than boys to drop out of school, and 68% of the children who do not finish school are girls. We aim to improve their livelihoods and address issues such as period poverty, domestic abuse and women's rights.

OUR IMPACT ON HUNGER AND HEALTH – According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation, 1.3 billion people in the world lack regular access to nutritious and sufficient food. In Ethiopia, access to modern health care is very limited, and in many rural areas it is virtually non-existent. In rural areas in Uganda, there is estimated to be only one doctor per 22,000 people. Although access to healthcare is free, many people living in poverty cannot afford medication. Malaria is a commonplace, and 21% of the population do not have access to clean water. This year, our WOW programmes have provided women and children with access to nutritious food, healthcare, and clean water.

OUR IMPACT ON WELLBEING - As a Christian charity we pray with the families, encourage them to attend the local church, and teach them Christian values. In Bulgaria we hold bible schools in the Roma Communities, and in Uganda the women are following a Scripture Union course. Our aim is to restore dignity and hope, and to create a community where women and girls know their value and worth. We want to share God's love with families and communities.

The overall aim of our WOW Programmes is to create a thriving community of women and girls who have hope for the future.

(Statistics from World Bank, UNESCO, WHO, The Borgen Project, UN Food and Agriculture organisation)

Why Women and Girls?

Andy and I are often asked why we focus on women and girls. Following some of our first visits to India, Ethiopia and Uganda, we quickly realised that many of the children on our education programmes lived with single mothers. These women had been widowed or abandoned and were left in desperate circumstances, trying to bring up their children alone. Many were living on less than £1 per day, working 6 days a week. Some of the women had come to the cities after fleeing domestic violence, only to end up living on the streets. After visiting their homes, and hearing their tragic stories, we soon realised that we needed to help these women face a better future.

The statistics below show the reality of being born a girl in developing countries.

OVER
40%

More than 40 per cent of women in Africa do not have access to basic education.

ONLY
39%

Despite progress in girls' education, nearly half a billion women and girls aged 15 years and over are illiterate and just 39 per cent of rural girls attend secondary school.

58%
WOMEN

58% of women in the North of Uganda have been sexually abused.

80%
GIRLS

1.2 million children are trafficked, 80% of them are girls.

1 in 3
WOMEN

1 in 3 women have experienced gender-based violence in their lifetime.

150
MILLION

Globally there are 150 million more women who are food insecure than men.

Meet Bertukan...

Several years ago, when I visited Ethiopia, I met a lady who was seriously ill following an operation. The surgeon had closed the wound but left the knife inside her. This had resulted in a nasty infection, and I seriously thought that she would die. She was already part of the WOW programme, and our partners and staff were trying their best to help her with medical costs and healthcare.

Imagine my surprise, during my visit this time, to see Bertukan healthy, working and thriving! I went to visit her in her home, which had been newly renovated with the profits of her business. Bertukan is part of the microbusiness programme, and eighteen months ago we purchased her business equipment and gave her access to microfinance.

Bertukan started baking injera (local food). She now earns £25 per day, supplying injera to hotels. To put this in perspective, the average wage for a woman with her background is £45 per month. Bertukan has been able to employ one of the other women on the programme, increase her profits, and pay back her loan. Her daughter has been able to attend college and has just graduated as a nurse. Bertukan has since bought a washing machine, a refrigerator, and a flat screen TV with her profits. She told me "I am no longer poor, I am rich". Bertukan now helps to mentor some of the other women on the project.



WOW - Ethiopia...

According to the World Bank, less than 20% of children from very poor households finish primary school and less than 25% receive all basic vaccinations. Talking with our overseas partners during our recent visit to Addis Ababa, they explained that many families live below the poverty line, earning as little as £45.00 per month. Moreover, although access to schooling is free, the cost of books, exams and even clothing and shoes, means that many children do not finish school, and instead work in low paid jobs to support their families. To put into context the current cost of living, some food items have risen by 150%, and rents have more than doubled for some families. Whilst we were visiting the women on our WOW project, we purchased some cooking oil as a gift. At £3.00 per litre, this is now a luxury purchase, rather than a staple item.

Andy and I remain committed too and passionate about transforming the lives of the women and children of the district of Kebena in Addis Ababa where the WOW Project is situated. Many families are currently living in abject poverty, without running water, sanitation, or adequate, safe shelter. Living in poverty increases the risk of exploitation, trafficking, and abuse, and leaves families highly vulnerable. Working closely with the local government, our partners are able to identify the poorest families who are then given access to our programmes.

WOW currently runs two programmes: an education programme where we are supporting 76 children through school, and a women's programme where we train women in business and give them access to a microloan fund. This year, we are starting to help some of the parents of the children on the education project, giving them access to business training and the microloan fund, so that we can help the families to become self-sustainable.

All the women and children attend the local church, which, when I visited on the Sunday, was packed to capacity and spilling into the outside courtyard! The church was vibrant and lively, but after the service, the Minister explained that it was challenging pastoring a church in such a deprived area. Many of the problems faced by his congregation seemed insurmountable, and the concern was etched on his face. He was doing his very best to help as many as possible. He thanked me for the difference we were making through the WOW Programme, and he hoped that we could help more families in the future. I was so encouraged by the level of faith displayed by





families, in particular the children, as they expressed their firm faith in God.

I was also incredibly encouraged by the progress made by the women on the empowerment programme. 95% of the women will graduate the programme this year, because they are earning enough through their businesses to support their families. What a staggering statistic!

This year, we have particularly focused on business training, covering subjects such as customer service, marketing, productivity and profit and loss. Our business mentor, Abraham, has worked closely with the women, writing business plans, and facilitating training. Once the women have completed the required training, they are given access to a microloan, plus help to start their own business. Owing to the current challenges with inflation, WOW provides interest free loans, and grants the women a 6-month grace period before they must start repaying the loan. This gives the women the very best chance of success and, as evidenced by the statistics, our team have

done a phenomenal job! We are currently preparing to admit the next 20 women onto the programme.

The programme runs for one to two years, depending on whether the women need extra help. Once they are self-sustainable, they graduate from the financial support part of the programme, but stay on for further training, emotional support, and to mentor and encourage other women. As the microloans are repaid, this creates a fund to help more women in the future.

It will, of course, take us some time to build up a substantial microloan fund, but the aim is to empower our overseas partners so that they are able to administer the fund in the future, without reliance on WOW for funding each year.

Our desire is to create a community of thriving women and children, who are self-sustainable, and physically, emotionally, and spiritually healthy.

WOW - India...

Creating a family atmosphere in our children's homes is an essential part of caring for the girls who live there. When we visited in April we took board games, hula hoops, balls and skittle sets, and taught the Esther girls to play Uno! We have discussed moving away from institutionalised care over the years, but one of our partner's biggest concerns is the abuse and violence suffered by the girls in their home villages. Many girls are from small rural villages, where education is not valued, and girls are usually married between the ages of 12 and 14. Moreover, they are at risk of rape, assault and gender-based violence. Most girls from these areas do not finish secondary school, and remain vulnerable and marginalised. It is estimated that 32% of girls are not even registered in schools. ⁽¹⁾

When we visited the Livesey Girls' Home in April, we heard tragic stories from the girls, relating to alcohol-fuelled violence and rape. Sadly, these stories amongst the girls from our children's homes are common. We therefore want to create an atmosphere within the homes where the children can experience love, support and care.

Our partner, Open Hands, works hard to ensure the children receive physical and emotional care. Social workers regularly visit the homes, and the children are taught life skills in addition to attending school.

This year, Open Hands once again held the annual Kids' Camp for the children. This was the first one since before Covid. The theme was 'Precious'. You can see from the photos that the children had fun, but the main aim was to restore and heal the children after the Covid pandemic. India was hit particularly hard, and the government closed the homes during this time, meaning the children had to return to their home villages.

The Esther Girls also attended an emotional well-being weekend at church, where they received teaching and prayer on trauma. This is an annual event, and we encourage the girls to attend, as many need help to recover from past trauma in their lives. Lybna, our Project Co-ordinator visits the Esther Home regularly, and organises visits by counsellors and music therapy teachers. The girls are supported in their university studies and taught English.

In April, we had the incredible privilege of attending the wedding of Jayashree and Vijay. Jayashree is an orphan,





who lived in our children's home, then attended the Esther Project, and now works for Open Hands as a social worker. It was an emotional day!

Lawrence, Director of Open Hands, is also looking to open a small home for widows, close to the Esther Project. Some of the wardens and staff are now becoming elderly and need care, so the plan is to rent a house and provide them with a home. We have always tried to employ widows to care for the girls, so that they too receive care and have an income. In India, widows are still subjected to unjust cultural beliefs and traditions, which equates to a life of deprivation and rejection.

WOW has also been working on producing a microfinance programme for 50 widows, which we hope to implement this year. This includes business training, employing a business mentor and giving them access to a microloan.

Meet Sangari...

Sangari joined our children's home in 2011. Her father left when her mother became pregnant, and she was primarily brought up by her grandparents. Sangari was born in a rural area near Salem, and due to her family's poverty, her grandparents could not care for her, so she was admitted to our home aged 12 years old. Since then, Sangari has thrived. She finished school, entered the Esther Project, graduating with a BA in Economics. She is now working and studying for her Masters degree in

Business Administration. Her desire is to become a bank manager. Sangari attends the local church and was recently baptised. She has been living at the Esther Home whilst continuing her studies.



WOW - Uganda...

It is difficult to adequately express in a few words the changes which have taken place at the WOW Project in Uganda during the last few years. From the WOW forest, income generation projects, microbusinesses, permagardens, and a newly opened sewing school, to the community centre, borewell and microfinance opportunities, this project is well and truly thriving!

Then there are the women themselves: those who, with the profits from their businesses have built houses, paid for their children to attend school, and repaid their loans; those who have asked to graduate the programme to make way for other women, because they no longer need our help; and those who meet and support each other regularly, and serve as examples to their local community.

There is a spot on the WOW land where Andy stands every time he visits, taking in the fruit trees, crops, borewell and community building. Every time he thanks God for this fertile land, which produces crops to create an income for the project.

This year, as he stood on the land, Beatrice, one of the widows on the programme, came running over, gave him the biggest hug and said she had been praying for him to come back. Beatrice is now a group leader, mentoring other women on our programme. She lives in a room in the community building and works on the WOW land. Despite her tragic background, she is always smiling, and

she said this year, "with the support and care of the WOW staff, I have learned to forgive all those who hurt me."

Andy has visited the project twice this year, training the staff in business and administration, and visiting the women on the WOW Programme. This year we have employed a bookkeeper and business trainer, plus an agriculturalist to oversee the land. Every week the women are visited by the staff, who check on their well-being and pray with them. This year, we started a Scripture Union course which has been developed in their language and teaches the women Christian topics and values.

During 2022, we also invested further into the microfinance programme, known locally by the women as Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA). The women in each group are able to borrow from the fund, and start a business. These businesses range from sandal making, goat and chicken rearing to takeaway food. Many women have now been able to pay for their children to attend school, and build a better house, and they are all repaying their loans.

We have also opened a sewing school for the daughters and granddaughters of the widows on the programme. This has been highly successful and is already full!

We thank God for all His goodness, enabling us to bless these women, and change their world.





Meet Josephine...

Josephine's husband died a few years ago, leaving her to care for four children. She was so desperate and depressed following her husband's death, that she contemplated suicide. She heard of the WOW programme from some of the ladies in her village, and asked if she could join. She then received the opportunity of a microloan. With this loan, she launched a goat rearing business. With the profits of her business, she has built a house and paid for all four children to attend school. Josephine says "When I joined the WOW programme, I immediately felt lifted up, and now I no longer need the support. I want to help another woman to join the programme"



Tree Planting

Creating a Sustainable Future

WOW is currently planting a forest of 10,000 Eucalyptus trees in Uganda, with the aim of making the community self-sustainable.

WOW Uganda owns 20 acres of land and has already planted over 4,000 trees. Over the next 5 years WOW is planning to plant a further 1,250 trees on the land every year until the forest reaches 10,000 trees. For every tree harvested, one will be planted, constantly maintaining the level of 10,000 trees. This will provide long-term sustainability for the project and benefit the environment.

Eucalyptus trees, in contrast to other hardwood trees, are fast growing. They are, therefore, a renewable resource, making them a highly sustainable and eco-friendly choice.

Eucalyptus wood is dense, strong, and durable. Experts in this field maintain that this wood is extremely hard, and possibly tougher than teak. This makes it an excellent choice for furniture, as it is highly durable and weather resistant.



Once harvested, the profits from the sale of the wood will be invested into the community, to break the cycle of poverty.

One tree costs £1 to plant and maintain. This covers the cost of the sapling, the fertilisers and pesticides, and a contribution towards the purchase of additional land when necessary.

When mature, the wood sells for £33 to £35 per tree!

*The wood from 1000 trees
will bring a return of £33,000!*

This is an amazing investment which will support the core costs of the project and enable more women in the area to be supported.

We are currently planning to replicate our WOW forest in the other countries in which we work, thereby creating a sustainable future for the projects, women and children.

The benefits of microfinance...

WOW currently has microfinance opportunities for women within Uganda and Ethiopia, and will be implementing this initiative in India during 2023. Our plan is to extend this throughout all our WOW Projects.

This allows women who are living in poverty to become financially independent, usually by starting their own small business.

Microfinance helps women to overcome poverty and send their children to school, breaking the cycle of poverty for the next generation.

- **It helps redress gender inequality. Women are often overlooked in society and a microloan can help them to earn a living and take control of their future.**
- **The outcome of gaining employment, or starting a business due to a micro-loan, means access to better healthcare, food and living conditions. This in turn results in better health and wellbeing, the ability to work and to invest into their future.**
- **Microfinance gives women access to credit which would not be possible from traditional banking institutions. It usually offers a more affordable repayment rate.**
- **It creates a perpetual cycle of improvement. Often women who start their own businesses can employ others, thereby creating employment opportunities within the community.**
- **It encourages saving and forward planning for the future. Women are taught to save for emergencies and to see the benefits of re-investing into their businesses.**
- **Microfinance is a sustainable process. Once the loans have been repaid, the women can then borrow further to improve their businesses. Alternatively, the funding can be used to support other women.**
- **Microfinance empowers women. WOW's mission is to restore dignity and hope, enabling women to thrive.**

WOW employs a local Business Trainer who spends time with each woman to create an individual viable business plan. Each woman is listened to and her ideas, skills, and concerns are taken into consideration.

Following training, a small group of 15-20 women is formed. It is important that the women support one another.

The women meet bi-weekly to report on their businesses, repay a part of their loan, and to discuss the challenges and successes they have encountered. The Business Trainer will provide additional motivation and training during this time. The women are encouraged to meet up regularly even after the loan is repaid, to continue learning, support each other, and even to borrow further funds to grow their business if desired.

Our Business Trainer also visits each woman at her place of business to observe, encourage, and make suggestions for improvement when necessary.

All training is underpinned by Christian values such as generosity, integrity, respect, equality, honesty, and hard work. The training also focuses on encouraging each woman to believe in herself and her abilities.



“

Thank you so much, I received the help that you sent me. It will help us a lot to repair our house, and I will make a small business selling frozen food.

My heart is overflowing from the love and kindness of the WOW donors.

”



Pinky - The Durian Project, Philippines



WOW's sustainability work with women aims to support 11 of the UN's 17 sustainable development goals.



WOW's Aims & Values...

OUR VISION

To liberate families and communities from poverty.

OUR MISSION

To restore dignity, worth and hope to women, girls and communities marginalised by society.

OUR VALUES

Dignity - We believe that everyone has value and worth, and people should be treated with dignity, equality and respect.

Integrity - We believe in honesty, transparency and in being trustworthy. We aim to manage the resources entrusted to us in a way that best supports those living in poverty.

Compassion - We believe in showing kindness, love and compassion.

Fairness - We believe in justice and treating people fairly, regardless of background, gender, race or religion.

The Durian Project, Manila...

I can't remember exactly how long ago it was, but it was definitely before we became the Directors of WOW, so probably twenty years ago, when Rachel and I were sitting in a meeting in which Pastor John Wildrienne gave a presentation about a project in Manila.

He shared how families and children were living in sewerage pipes and a cemetery. There was no media presentation, just a few pictures. It was hard to imagine how families could live like that. As he talked, his passion, heart, and vision to see the lives of these families transformed was incredible. I remember that there was an offering, with buckets at the front, so we went forward and gave what we could. Little did we realise, that one day the Durian Project would become a WOW project! We honour the passion of John Wildrienne, and then Gillian Saunders, who supported the project for so long.

Fast forward to 2022, and many of the families have moved out of the sewers and cemeteries into homes. When I say homes, it's not quite what you might imagine! These are houses built on stilts, often above pools of stagnant water, where the mosquitos love to bite! I have been there and had the bites to prove it! Constructed with metal sheets, scraps of wood and plastic sheeting, these homes are not even as good as your garden sheds. In the heat of summer, these homes are unbearably hot, and during the rainy season, they let in the rain. And yet, these families are so proud of their homes, and will share whatever they

have with you. As a result of their children attending the Durian Project, many of the families now attend the local church. On weekdays, this project helps the children with extra tuition, uniforms, and school supplies. During 2022, medical days have been held, and food parcels have been distributed. The Durian Project has become part of the fabric of the community of Malabon, North Manila.

So many things have changed since the project started, but one thing which hasn't changed is the Family Liaison Officer. During 2022, Pinky worked closely with the families, supporting them, providing counselling, and overseeing the project. Pinky carries the heart and passion of the project, and she has given a large part of her life to serve her community. She is loved by many.





Together with her husband, Pinky serves in the church, and she has been able to live in the church compound. Sadly in 2022, the landlord of the church building gave the church notice, and so now they are looking to relocate. They have found a new building in a large shopping mall nearby. This is a great location, but sadly it has meant that Pinky needs to return to her old house. After standing empty for a number of years, it obviously needs some major repairs and upgrades. When she obtained estimates, they were nearly £2,000!

Some of the WOW donors have either visited Manila or know Pinky, and we contacted them to share the need. Within a month, we were able to send the full amount to

cover the repairs. It was such a good day when I was able to ring Pinky and tell her the great news. Her response was one that will stay with me for a long time: "God gave me an unexpected blessing from all the WOW donors, thank you very much, thank you very much, I can't help but cry when I think of the love and support you have shown me."

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Durian Project so faithfully for so long. We are excited about what lies ahead. Watch this space for more details soon.....

Andy



WOW - Bulgaria...

WOW has the privilege of supporting an amazing charity in Bulgaria. Maria, our partner at Logos Global Vision, Bulgaria, writes this report for 2022.

Situation in Bulgaria...

The situation in Bulgaria is getting worse economically. It is happening because of the war in Ukraine, but also because of the political crisis in our country right now. Inflation is getting higher, and people are insecure and worried about the upcoming winter.



Refugees

There are still refugees from Ukraine in the country who need our help and support. We continue to help and take care of some of them.

The campaign "Fill the fridge" is on the go. Many fridges were filled with food products.

Refugee families received food, medicine, sanitary products, clothes, and shoes.



People in need...

Some villages in the Karlovo area, such as Rosino, Slatina, Karavelovo, Bogdan, suffered a flood and were destroyed.

The river overflowed and flooded all those villages.

In one of those villages about 150 houses were completely destroyed. It was a very hard time, especially for the elderly there.

So, we helped with volunteers and finances. Logos volunteers from all around the country went there to help the poor people.



Orphans...

During 2022, we visited three orphanages in Zelenikovo and Karlovo every month.

We played with the children, and enjoyed time outside with food and drinks.

Again, we had an interesting discussion and lecture about "The Independence Day" combined with the topic "First day of school".

The children loved those discussions, participated in them, and learned new things.



After School projects...

This is a project within the Roma community, supporting children with their studies after school. The new school year began on 15th September with 150 children registered in total.

There was a summer camp for the children in Bratsigovo village. It was a great time of rest and games, but also a prayer time with an amazing spiritual atmosphere. The kids were challenged to dream bigger and to believe they could have any profession they would like in the future – that they could be lawyers, doctors, teachers... anything! The number of children, teachers and helpers was 75 people.



During 2022, we visited the city of Kotel twice in order to speak with the pastors and the leaders and helpers there. The plan is to start a project there in 2023.

We also have new projects starting in two villages – Kalekovets (15 children) and Saedinie (14 children).

Summer camps...

Two camps took place this summer – one in Plovdiv and one in the city of Devin.

For four days, over 50 children from the church of faith “New Generation” – Plovdiv studied the book “Wrong way, Jonah”. They had a wonderful and memorable time.



Human Trafficking Prevention...

We had a seminar in Sofia, together with different organisations, who work in the area of Trafficking, like A21, “Esther Ministries” – Germany etc. Andy and Rachel from WOW UK also attended the seminar.



We also had a seminar for volunteers in the Plovdiv church with guest speakers Rachel and Andy David from the UK. There were about 35-40 people. The seminar was about the key things about missions – relationship, accountability, and transparency. The guest speakers spoke about what it means to be a good volunteer, what we should be aware of, how to take care of ourselves, and also how to raise money, if needed.

Future plans...

- We will continue working with the orphanages. We hope to start visiting a home for orphaned children in Sliven soon.
- Human Trafficking Prevention – to combine and work together with A21 on some projects. To inform more people and visit some of the schools in Sliven.
- Helping people in need.
- Help and give financial support to more refugees in the country.
- Help start the After School project in Kotel.
- Start the new Bible School years in different cities in Bulgaria.

- Maria, Project Coordinator, Logos Global Vision.

As you can see, the activities of Logos Global Vision are far-reaching, as they work in poor communities to change the lives of refugees and children, and to prevent human trafficking. One of the most shocking statistics we heard, when we attended the seminar in Sofia, is that 1 in 13 Bulgarian girls are trafficked, and the average age is 12.

We look forward to partnering with Logos Global Vision in 2023 to support the new After School projects which are being launched.

WOW - Mozambique...

With its white sandy beaches bordering the Indian Ocean, Mozambique truly is a beautiful country. When we travel to Mozambique, we fly into South Africa and drive across the border. The contrast between the two countries is immediately visible in terms of their infrastructures and commerce. In Mozambique, 50% of the population live in poverty, with 80% working in agriculture. Our work in this region is centred around the city of Maxixe, where the women are living in rural villages. Most of the women here are illiterate, and they struggle to earn a decent living. Today, 94% of Mozambican girls enrol in primary schools but only 11% of them progress onto a secondary level education. Of these young women, only 1% go on to attend college (1). The illiteracy rate for women in Mozambique is almost double the rate for the men.

Over the last four years, WOW has been focusing on training the women in permagardening and micro-businesses. Our aim is to replicate the success of our project in Uganda. However, the COVID pandemic, a drought, and then a cyclone and flooding, means that there have been significant challenges during this time. We are currently trying to raise funds for a borewell to help the women during times of drought.

In spite of the numerous challenges faced, four groups of women have now received tool kits, training in permagardening, and training in agriculture techniques. Furthermore, we have given out malaria nets, provided healthcare training, and started small businesses such as pig rearing and peanut growing. We have also opened a

small bakery, baking specialist cakes. Recently, we raised funds to build a new church in one of the villages. This was very much appreciated, as the old church was infested by ants, who had built a huge nest inside the church building! Each Sunday, the congregation would get bitten by the ants – hopefully not a problem we would face in this country when attending church on a Sunday!

We currently partner with Armindo, the Pastor of a church in Maxixe. Armindo's daughter, Claudia, runs our women's projects. We are also supporting his son George through medical college by paying for his university fees, accommodation and living expenses.

We are now able to lease some land outside each of the villages, and this is highly beneficial to the women as they can grow more crops, both to feed their families and to sell at profit. Some of the women have even been able to improve their homes with their earnings.

Our intention is to start a tree planting project within the next two years, when we find suitable land. Planting 1000 trees each year, over a ten year period, will provide a significant income to the project when the trees are harvested for wood. For every 1000 trees cut down, we will plant a further 1000 saplings, maintaining the forest. This income will directly benefit the women and children on the WOW Programme and also cover staff and project expenses.



⁽¹⁾ The Borgen Project



Meet Teresa...

Teresa is one of our women's group leaders. She is a dynamic lady, who also leads a church in the village of Nhalivane. Teresa is a widow with six children, and she really is a shining example of positivity and strength. When we met her, she didn't have a job, and was selling a few lettuces and cabbages. Her income was less than £2 per day. With the help of WOW, Teresa has started a small pig farm, and she also has several permagardens. We now support Teresa with a small salary every month, to run the WOW group in Nhalivane.

We have recently opened a sewing school for the daughters and granddaughters of the widows on the programme. This has been highly successful and is already full!

We thank God for all His goodness, enabling us to bless these women, and change their world.



Financial Report 2022...

This year showed a reduction in income compared to 2021. This was due to several factors.

Firstly, as this was the first year after Covid that travel was permitted, Andy and Rachel David (Directors) took the opportunity to visit the projects. Starting with Uganda in January, Bulgaria in March, India in April, Uganda and Ethiopia in July, Bulgaria in September and finishing with Mozambique and Ethiopia in October, it was a busy year! Visiting the projects after such a long break was essential.

As a charity, we believe in accountability, transparency and relationship. As stewards of your finances we need to ensure that the funds we send are appropriated properly. When we visit the projects, we check the accounts, visit and speak with the women and children, and spend time training the staff. We also spend time planning for the future with our project leaders.

The downside to travelling for this amount of time meant that there was less time for fundraising. Consequently,

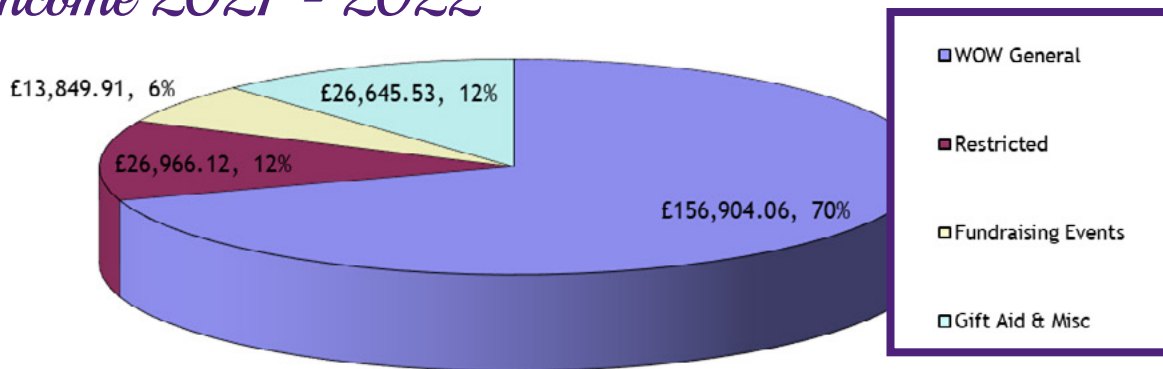
during 2022 there were fewer events and fundraising activities.

Secondly, during the previous financial year, Rachel had been wearing her 'Dress For A Year' which raised thousands of pounds. Additionally, our Covid Appeal was still active and our donors were very generous throughout this time, which we appreciated very much. The Covid Appeal is no longer running, and this is reflected in the income this year.

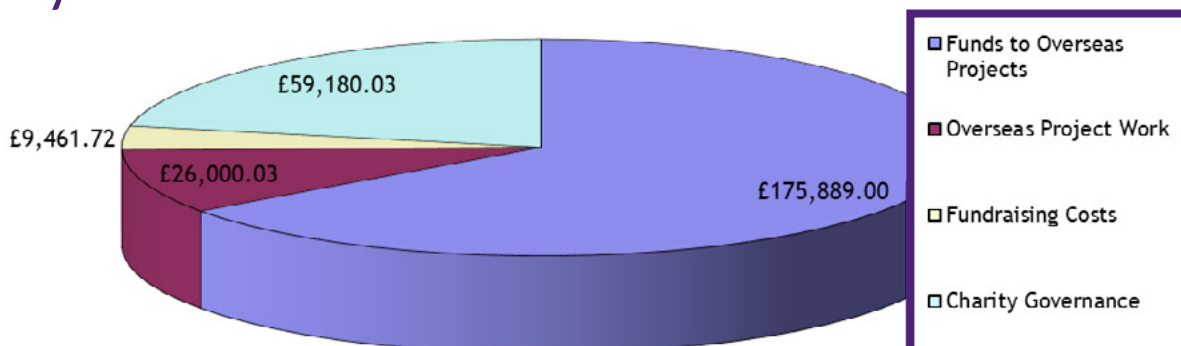
In spite of the reduction in funds, WOW's impact during the year has been significant. We have continued to meet all our projects' budgets, implement new concepts, empower more women with our microfinance schemes, and pay for students to attend university. We have trained and equipped both our beneficiaries and staff.

We want to thank you, our donors, for your faithful support and continued giving and for entrusting us to serve marginalised and vulnerable communities across the world.

Income 2021 - 2022



Expenditure 2021 - 2022



Opportunities in 2023...

As we plan for the future, we have several specific opportunities for donations:

A new borewell in Mozambique - £8,000 needed.

A further borewell in Uganda - £8,000 needed.

A motorbike for the staff in Uganda - £1,200 needed.

Microfinance funds - £10,000 needed.

(Philippines, Uganda, Ethiopia)

Esther Home University Fees - £6,000 needed.

Tree Planting Projects - £1 per tree!

(We want to plant several thousand trees this year.)

If you would like to donate to these needs, or to WOW generally, you can do so in the following ways:



Visit our website:
wowuk.org



Call the office to make a debit or credit card donation.
01803 663681 or 0300 302191



Send a cheque made payable to WOW to the office address
6 Belfield Close, Marldon, Paignton, Devon, TQ3 1NZ.



Send an email to:
office@wowuk.org

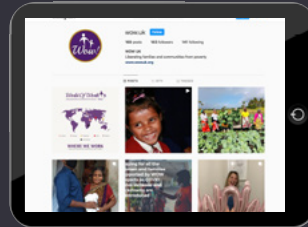
Thank you!

Ways to stay informed...

Check our website for regular updates:



Follow us on social media - Join the WOW World of Worth group on Facebook and follow the WOW Instagram page here:



Thank you!

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