

# INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

# SERVICE



Annual Review: 2007 - 2008

# Start with what people know, build with what people have

## International Service Partner Organisations

1st April 2007 – 31st March 2008

### Bolivia

Asociacion Alicia 'Por Mujeres Nuevas', Sorata  
Agencia Adventista para el Desarrollo y Recursos Asistenciales (ADRA) San Lucas  
Audiovisuales Educativos (AVE), Cochabamba  
Ayninakuna, Sucre  
Aynisuyu, Cochabamba  
Central Indígena de los Pueblos Originarios de la Amazonía de Pando (CIPOAP), Cobija  
Centro Integral de Mujeres Artesanas Tikapani Municipality of Curahuara de Charangas (CIMAT), Oruro  
Circo Infantil, Sucre  
COINACAPA, Porvenir  
Comité Departamental de la Persona con Discapacidad (CODEPEDIS), Sucre  
Comité Nacional de la Persona con Discapacidad (CONALPEDIS), La Paz  
ECO-JOVENES, La Paz  
Fundacion Nuevo Dia, La Paz  
Instituto Boliviano de la Ceguera (IBC), Sucre  
Mancomunidad Valle Grande  
Maya Paya Kimsa, El Alto  
Municipality Arampampa  
Municipality Comarapa  
Municipality of Independencia  
Municipality San Lucas

### Brazil

Amazonas State STI/HIV/AIDS Programme, Benjamin Constant  
Amazonas State STI/HIV/AIDS Programme, Eirunepé  
Amazonas State STI/HIV/AIDS Programme, Itacoatiara  
Amazonas State STI/HIV/AIDS Programme, Lábrea  
Amazonas State STI/HIV/AIDS Programme, Manaus  
Amazonas State STI/HIV/AIDS Programme, Manicoré  
Amazonas State STI/HIV/AIDS Programme, Parintins  
Associação de Prevenção à AIDS (AMAZONA). João Pessoa  
Associação dos Amigos e Pais de Pessoas Especias (AAPPE), Maceió  
Associação Quilombola Conceição das Crioulas (AQCC), Salgueiro  
Canto Jovem - Arte e Educação com Adolescentes e Jovens, Natal  
Centro de Educação Comunitaria (CECOR)  
Centro de Habilitação e Apoio ao Pequeno Agricultor do Araripe (CHAPADA), Serra Talhada  
Centro Nordestino de Medicina Popular (CNMP), Oliinda  
Conselho Nacional dos Seringueiros (CNS), Belém  
Educação e Integração dos Surdos (FENEIS), Recife  
Grupo de Trabalho em Prevenção Positivo (GTP+), Recife  
Grupo Ruas e Praças (GRP), Recife  
Inter-American Institute on Disability & Inclusive Development (IIDID), Recife  
INTERAGE, Recife  
Pesquisa, Ação Política Assessoria e Informação em Gênero e Saúde (Instituto PAPAI), Recife  
Projeto Saúde e Alegria (PSA), Santarém

Rede LAC, Recife

UNICEF, Belém

### Burkina Faso

Association de Soutien a l'Autopromotion (ASAP), Pièla  
Association des Personnes Handicapées du Gourma (APHG), Fada N'Gourma  
Association Nabonswende des Artisans D'Oubritenga (ANA), Ziniaré  
Association Nakoglebzanga des Artisans du Sanmatenga (ANAS), Kaya  
Centre d'Education et de Formation Intégrée des Sourds et des Entendants (CEFISE), Ouagadougou  
Coaching for Hope, Ouagadougou  
Coordination Provinciale des Associations des Personnes Handicapées de la Comoé (COPAPH/Comoé)  
Coordination Provinciale des Associations des Personnes Handicapées du Kéné Dougou (COPAPH/Kéné Dougou)  
Djigui Espoir, Ouagadougou  
Handicap Solidaire, Ouagadougou  
Union des Groupement Féminins/Ce Dwane Nyeé (UGF/CDN), Réo

### Chile

Consumers International, Santiago

### Mali

Association d'Appui à l'Auto Développement Communautaire (ADAC), Kadiolo  
Caritas Mali Action Enfant de Tous (AET), Bamako  
Coaching for Hope, Bamako  
Direction Régionale de la Promotion de l'Enfant, de la Femme et de la Famille (DRPEFF), Ségou  
Groupe d'Animation Action au Sahel (GAAS), Bandiagara  
Fédération Malienne des Associations de Personnes Handicapées (FEMAPH), Bamako  
Handicap International, Bamako  
Jeunesse et Développement (J&D), Bamako  
Jigi, Niono  
Union Malienne des Aveugles (UMAV), Bamako

### Mexico

Casa Amiga, Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua

### Palestine

Al Haq, Ramallah  
Al Hoash, Jerusalem  
An-Najah University, Nablus  
Arab Centre for Agricultural Development (ACAD), Ramallah  
Bethlehem University  
Birzeit University, BirZeit, Ramallah  
Burj al Luq Luq, Old City, Jerusalem  
Defence for Children International - Palestine (DCI-PS), Ramallah  
General Union of Disabled Palestinians (GUDP), Ramallah  
Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committees (PARC)  
Palestinian Child Arts Centre, Hebron  
Palestinian Women's Research & Documentation Centre (PWRDC), Ramallah  
A.M. Qattan Foundation, Ramallah  
Sharek Youth Forum, Ramallah  
Spafford Children's Centre, Old City, Jerusalem

# INTRODUCTION



2007-08 was my first full year at International Service. Through field visits and exchanges I was able to see firsthand the incredible dedication and commitment shown by staff, development workers and our partner organisations.

In this Annual Review you will read, amongst other things, about micro enterprise training for women's cooperatives in Palestine and Burkina Faso. These personal stories provide a very real insight into the benefits that can be achieved by providing appropriate and long-term capacity building support.

Our success in capacity building has been matched by equally important achievements in lobbying governments and partners regarding the rights of some of the most vulnerable people in society. In Mali, IS has led the way in bringing together the government and both national and international NGOs to acknowledge, debate and address the increasing problem of children resorting to begging in the major cities.

The Same Difference exhibition, 2008

“The 2007 Human Rights Awards were inspiring and humbling...”

Through a joint initiative with the government's sexual and reproductive health department, IS co-sponsored and facilitated the first ever national AIDS forum in Brazil.

Our work in overseas programmes has fed directly into our development education work in the UK. The 2007 human rights awards were both inspiring and humbling, while the children's global art project toured schools, libraries and art galleries across the country.

I would like to thank staff, development workers, partners, donors and trustees who have all supported our work by sharing their time, expertise and resources.

Matthew Snell,  
Chief Executive, International Service



Photo: Richard Simpson

# PALESTINE

## Working with women's cooperatives in Palestine



“Suddenly the wall was there and my husband could not go to his work in Israel anymore”. Unemployment is extremely high in the West Bank and when the wall went up the family of Amal, mother of eight, was left without income. The wall that Amal talks about is a wall built by Israel to divide Palestinian territory from their own.

In order to help their families survive, many women in West Bank cities and villages are eschewing their traditional roles and taking the initiative. Amal decided to participate in a women's cooperative in the Bili'in village just north of Ramallah. Her perseverance has motivated many other women to become members of the cooperative.

International Service posted a Development Worker for two years with *The Arab Centre for Agricultural Development (ACAD)*. ACAD aims to support women's cooperatives in the management of their local savings and credit fund (SCF) – this helps increase access to finance and related services for people who are not eligible for conventional bank accounts. The Development Worker's background is in training and capacity building related to savings and credit funds.

Amal reports: “During meetings with ACAD, we discussed the situation in the village and how we could make an income for ourselves. Suddenly we realized that what we needed was a grocery shop. None of us would be able to set up a grocery shop alone, but why not set it up and run it together through the cooperative?”

With the support of ACAD, the cooperative opened a grocery shop and developed a shareholder system. Now the members buy what they need from the shop, and distribute the profits at the end of the year.

Focusing on strengthening the human and financial resources of the cooperatives, we delivered training to members of 10 women's cooperatives in the northern West Bank. The training programmes greatly improved the cooperatives' organisational and financial performance, and have served to promote good governance, portfolio management and leadership skills.

“When I look back, I realise how strong our cooperative has become and how we ourselves have grown. It is our cooperative and we feel proud and confident that we can build a better future together.”

As a result of the posting with ACAD, we were able to support all cooperatives to review their by-laws and develop strategic plans. As well as reviewing and upgrading SCF manuals and working procedures, each cooperative developed a financial business plan based on primary data collection and questionnaires. In conjunction with the capacity building and training we supplied, ACAD obtained funding for the cooperatives to equip their offices.

This project really supported the cooperative members to achieve a sense of ownership, self-reliance and self-determination. ACAD is now channelling some of its community projects through these cooperatives – this will enable the cooperatives' income-generating projects to strengthen throughout the coming years.



Capacity building training and workshop on good governance with the women's cooperative of Bili'in

# MALI

## Lobbying for child rights: A conference on the problem of child begging in Mali



In 2008, International Service Mali (IS Mali) - together with the 11 partners of the working group on child rights - held a conference on the problem of child begging in Mali. Initiated by IS Mali, the working group is a network of NGOs and government representatives who meet regularly to share experiences and strengthen the lobbying position for children's rights in Mali.

The aim of the conference was to encourage debate among practitioners, and encourage the government to enhance their efforts in tackling this widespread and growing issue of child begging. In Mali's rural areas, families often believe that cities and other countries offer better economic opportunities for their children - for example by working as domestic help, or on cocoa or coffee farms. However, this is not always the case and young girls and boys soon find themselves on the street. In addition, Mali suffers poor agricultural conditions and there is little government assistance available. This makes farming very difficult, and providing for a family even more so. There are few alternatives.

Two groups of children added colour to the conference by performing dramatic sketches. The first group were children with hearing impairments, who performed about the limited educational and professional opportunities available to young disabled people. Children with impairments are often forced to beg by so-called 'masters' who collect their earnings at the end of the day. The second group were 'talibé' children who performed about the consequences of begging and how it affects a child's life. Talibé children have been sent away by their parents to study with a Koranic teacher. Often these teachers have no financial means to provide for their students either, so they send their students out to beg using Koranic teachings about learning humility through begging to justify this.

Over 100 people attended the conference, from civil society, government, NGOs, religious institutions and universities. Gaining radio and press coverage, the conference saw lively and heated debate with some new possibilities about how to fight child begging coming out of

"The network developed a lobbying document on child begging which was presented to the government during the event."

the discussions. Although the true impact on the situation of child begging can only be measured in the long term, the conference helped move the issue up the national agenda and strengthened the lobbying capabilities of the working group.

As well as leading lobbying initiatives such as these, International Service Mali and its partners work to defend children's rights at a grassroots level. In the Dogon region, for example, there is a disproportionately high rate of child trafficking. Traffickers send children away to cities and other countries with the promise that they will make money and send it back to their families. Inevitably, many of these children end up on the streets. IS Mali and its partner organisations have developed a co-ordinated approach to reduce the numbers of children being sent away. 68 village surveillance committees have been set up in order to curb trafficking rates, whilst income-generating projects are helping women earn more to help support their families which makes them less likely to fall prey to child traffickers.



Delegates at the conference in Bamako

# BOLIVIA

Over 15% of Bolivia's population is disabled. Most disabilities are caused by preventable diseases such as polio and German measles, but high malnutrition rates in children are a major contributory factor.

In 2007 International Service Bolivia (IS Bolivia) began a three year project aimed at improving the lives of disabled people and on bringing disability issues into mainstream Bolivian society. One of IS Bolivia's partners is an organisation called *Ayninakuna* (meaning 'help one another' in the Quechua language). They work to improve the quality of life of disabled children living in high altitude, rural areas. Most communities are a two-hour walk from the nearest road, making access difficult for *Ayninakuna* staff and almost impossible for disabled children and their families.

IS Bolivia has placed a professional physiotherapist with *Ayninakuna* to support their programme in physiotherapy for rural areas. She is training *Ayninakuna* staff to recognise the early stages of disability, and also helping them train families to carry out simple rehabilitation exercises and make adjustments to their homes that help their children manage better. She also works with local schools to help them be able to include disabled children.

Javier's story illustrates the needs of the local communities:

Javier is a seven year-old boy who lives with his grandparents. Like many young women in the area, Javier's mother was only 16 when she gave birth, and she was unable to cope. At the age of two, he did not appear to be moving properly so his grandparents took him to the *curandero* (a traditional healer). He said Javier was like this because of a strong wind, and recommended some herbal medication; the local doctor had little experience of Javier's condition and could not do anything.

Javier suffers hemiplegia which affects his left side and his expressive language. He communicates using picture cards or by acting out what he wants to say. It can take time to interpret what Javier means, but he is tolerant and doesn't get frustrated if people don't understand him straight away. *Ayninakuna* is

## Towards social inclusion of people with disabilities



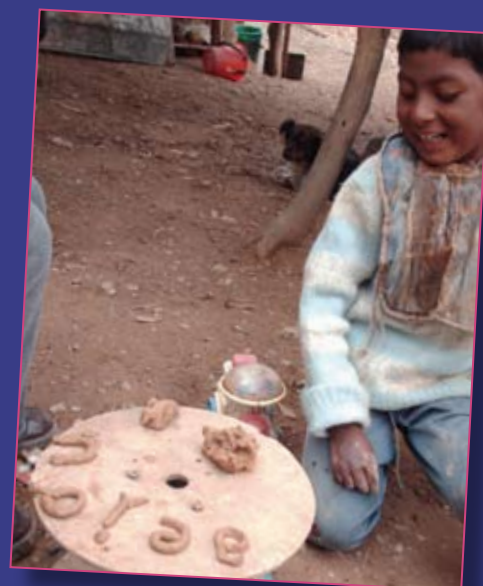
"Most of all I want him to learn to read and write and be able to live."

*Javier's Grandfather*

supporting him at home to develop the fine hand skills and motor skills to learn to read, write and live independently.

Working with his grandparents, *Ayninakuna* and IS Bolivia's development worker use simple rehabilitation equipment and materials found in the home to help with the skills necessary for learning to read and write – muscle strength, controlled movement, hand-eye coordination. For example, encasing a spoon handle or pencil inside a sponge makes it easier to grasp. Simple adjustments like this go a long way and help bring confidence.

Javier now goes to a nursery 15 kilometres away in Sucre. Travelling there is expensive and difficult, and his Grandparents are keen to send him to a school nearer their home. *Ayninakuna* and IS Bolivia plan to work on strengthening Javier's education through continued physical rehabilitation, and by working with the school to help them understand his abilities and potential in terms of learning – rather than focusing on his disabilities.



Javier practicing his vowels using clay

# BURKINA FASO

Burkina Faso has many grassroots organisations in desperate need of technical and financial assistance. Unfortunately, most of these groups are too small to host a full-time development worker, as change is slow and requires patience. Therefore, International Service places development workers with umbrella associations. In this way they can strengthen the organisational capacities of the umbrella associations, which enables them to offer better services as well as strengthening the capacities of their member grassroots organisations.

One such umbrella association is *Association Nakoglebzanga des Artisans du Sanmatenga (ANAS)*, which comprises 21 artisan groups in the province of Sanmatenga. IS has been working with ANAS on its organisational development. That support has now been taken one step further through the placement of a gender specialist. Her role is to reinforce the capacity of the women's groups affiliated to ANAS. She currently supports 17 groups of female artisans, encompassing more than 300 women.

One of these groups is *Wend Panga des transformatrices alimentaires de Kaya*, consisting of 20 dynamic women who transform *neere* seeds into a spice called *soumbala*. They also make oil and soap from the seeds of the *neem* tree and the seeds of the *Banalité* tree. The development worker has helped the women find a market for their products in Ouagadougou and five other towns. Production has tripled and the women now receive the full market price for their products - two-thirds more than they were getting before.

The women's increased income has had a positive impact on their extended families. They are now able to buy extra food and soap, and contribute to medical expenses and school fees for their children. This has improved gender relations within families, as the women are now able to contribute to the household's expenses as opposed to having to ask their husbands for money. This is particularly important for women in polygamous marriages who are often solely responsible for the

## Gender empowerment at grassroots level



“Production has tripled and the women now receive the full market price for their products.”

wellbeing of their own children. In such cases, the man is responsible for providing the family with the staple foodstuffs but women have to provide the extras.

In response to the success of the women's programme and the commitment of the women's groups, ANAS have created a Head of Programmes post. They have also appointed a female literacy teacher who has taken on the development worker's training and liaison roles, and represents women at meetings with partners and funders.

These women now feel actively empowered to analyse their own problems, identify solutions, and seek the assistance of the ANAS network to help them overcome their problems.



Women's group session around financial management, Nabaasnoogo - Fanka, Burkina Faso

# BRAZIL

## The First National Forum on Disability and AIDS



In 2008 the first National Forum on Disability and AIDS took place in Florianopolis. It preceded the opening of the National Congress on HIV/AIDS. The Forum was a result of successful collaboration between the federal STI/HIV/AIDS programme and International Service. It aimed to raise awareness about disabled people as a group at risk from STIs and HIV, and highlight the disabling effects of HIV and AIDS.

Above all, the Forum aimed to demonstrate the importance of fully including disabled people in society, and of making STI/HIV/AIDS projects accessible to them.

A growing body of research indicates that disabled people are at an increased risk to every known risk factor for HIV/AIDS (Groce, 2003). The purpose of the Forum was to highlight this vulnerability, and reduce disabled people's exposure to preventable risks.

Disabled people are often excluded in prevention and outreach-work as much misinformation and stigma surrounds them. Misinformation exists at a family level, in society at large, and amongst people working in the sexual and reproductive health field. There are many incorrect assumptions about sexual and reproductive rights, with many presuming that disabled people are not sexually active.

Additional risk factors that disabled people face include poverty, lack of education, lack of information and access to resources that promote safer sex, low self-esteem, substance abuse, and diminished access to care and prevention campaigns. Disabled people also suffer an increased risk of violence, abuse, rape and lack of legal protection.

The Forum brought together people living with HIV and AIDS, disabled people, activists in the field, representatives from the government sector, civil society, NGOs and health professions. Disability and HIV activists presented findings and challenges from their work, and a document pledging action from all members was developed as a result of the workshop. Recommendations from the workshops included developing a national multidisciplinary group on HIV/AIDS

"The Forum was very important in helping us to deal with questions of prevention. Before we didn't have much information; as a result of the Forum I now feel able to go and share the information with colleagues..."

*Helio Araujo of the Centre for Independent Living*

and disability, researching the situation in Brazil, increasing training and better sensitizing professionals working in HIV/AIDS, and promoting accessibility in sexual health services and campaigns.

The document was presented at the closing ceremony to the National AIDS Congress, gaining national media coverage.

International Service staff, development workers, and partners took part in the event. International Service ensured that disabled people and people living with HIV and AIDS were active participants in both the Forum, and the Congress on HIV/AIDS. In particular, delegates with intellectual disabilities were able to present and respond to a project they were involved in bringing greater depth to the discussion.



Presentation of the Florianopolis letter at the closing ceremony of the National Congress on STIs and AIDS by disability and Aids activists Ana-Paula Crosaira ed Resende and Beto Volpe

# UNITED KINGDOM

International Service's Human Rights Awards recognise the achievements of organisations and individuals around the world who work at a grass roots level to promote human rights and change the things that cause people to be excluded, impoverished or disempowered.

Grassroots development workers, activists and development organisations often work in very politically, economically and socially challenging circumstances. Our Human Rights Awards celebrate the commitment and tenacity of these often unsung heroes. Boosting the winners' confidence and morale, the awards also have a long-term impact by raising the profile of the winners' work at both national and international levels.

Through the awards, International Service promotes the importance of working in close collaboration with those who suffer poverty and injustice, and working with fundamental respect for each individual.

Awards are made to those defending the human rights of women, children, disabled people and people living with HIV/AIDS. A fifth award is also made in recognition of high-profile work that promotes or defends human rights on a global scale.

Our fifth Human Rights Awards ceremony was held on 5th December 2007 in the House of Commons' Terrace Marquee. The ceremony had the highest turnout ever and included representatives from government, the private sector, international development NGOs, the UK Department for International Development and members of the public.

International Service's Human Rights Awards have grown considerably in recent years. It is an exciting time for all those involved and with increased publicity should come greater celebration and recognition of the commitment and dedication of those working to protect the rights of some of the world's most vulnerable people.

Winners of the 2007 International Service Human Rights Awards with IS patron and event host Jon Snow at the House of Commons, London

## International Service Human Rights Awards



"I have received about 200 enthusiastic messages congratulating me for the award, coming from all over the world, in different languages, from friends, colleagues, activists and organizations."

*Rosangela Berman-Bieler*

Winners of the 2007 awards were:

**Award for the Defence of the Human Rights of Women**

Najia Haneefi, Former director of the Afghan Women's Educational Centre, Afghanistan

**Award for the Defence of the Human Rights of Disabled People**

Rosangela Berman-Bieler, Executive Director, Inter-American Institute on Disability and Inclusive Development, IID, Brazil

**Award for the Defence of the Human Rights of Children**

Operation Sirigu, Afrikids, Ghana

**Award for the Defence of the Human Rights of People Living with HIV/AIDS**

ADAC (Association pour le Développement et l'Appui aux Communautés), Mali

**Award for the Global Human Rights Defender**

Unreported World, UK



# IRELAND

## Relationship with Disabled People's Associations goes from strength to strength

2007 marked a huge step forward in international awareness on disability. The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) opened for signing in March 2007. This represents a strong commitment to redressing the inequalities that people with disabilities face across the world today.

In May 2007, International Service Ireland was successful in securing significant funding from Irish Aid\* for two disability projects that contribute to the long term development goals of International Service. These projects marked an important stepping stone in consolidating the relationship between International Service Ireland and disabled people's associations in Burkina Faso and Bolivia.

Two of the Irish Aid funded projects specifically focus on strengthening the capacities of disabled people's organisations so that they can successfully address their own development needs and challenges. The projects echo the vision of International Service's Disability Policy: 'By working with their representative organisations, we seek to enable and empower people with disabilities to take their rightful place in society, gain access to services and make their voices heard'.

Our project in Burkina Faso was officially launched in November 2007 and has a particular emphasis on income generating activities and increasing the capacities of disabled people's organisations to lobby and influence local and national governmental bodies.

In Bolivia, the project aims to promote the inclusion of people with disabilities in local and national development processes by working closely with government at national and local levels and with grassroots organisations.

\*Ireland has had an official development assistance programme since 1974. It has grown steadily over the years from modest beginnings to its current size. The total Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) in Ireland in 2007 was €870 million.

There are about 650 million people with disabilities in the world. That's about 10% of the population on the planet.

International Service Ireland will use the experiences and lessons learnt from these projects to build relations with disability organisations in Ireland such as the Centre for Independent Living and emerging partners such as the Disability Federation of Ireland (DFI) and the Disability Equality Specialist Support Agency (DESSA). These experiences will be used in the future as a basis for development education initiatives throughout Ireland.

International Service Ireland will also share the experiences of these projects with Irish Aid and the *Dóchas Disability and International Development working group* so that future disability and international development programmes can be strengthened and improved.

For more information on these projects see [www.is-ireland.ie](http://www.is-ireland.ie)



Donal Toolan, board member of International Service Ireland pictured with Zoungrana Moumouni Orlando and Selena Imerovic, International Service Disability Programme Officer, in Burkina Faso

# FINANCIAL REVIEW



**2007-2008**

The summary financial information on this page has been extracted from the annual financial statements of International Service for the year ended 31 March 2008.

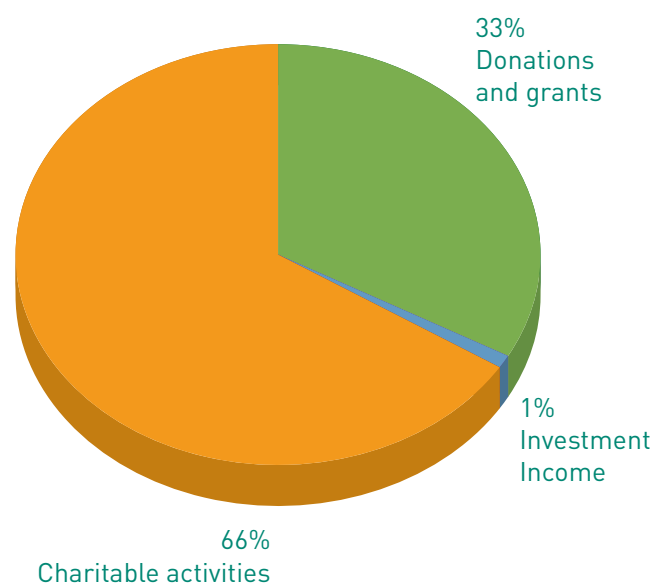
The Auditors report on these financial statements was unqualified. A full set of accounts audited by Bentley Jennison is available on the Charity Commission website.

## Incoming Resources 2007-2008

*based on accounts for the year to 31st March 2008*

Donations and grants	33%	732,793
Charitable activities	66%	1,470,000
Investment income	1%	5,383

**Total Incoming Resources 2,208,176**

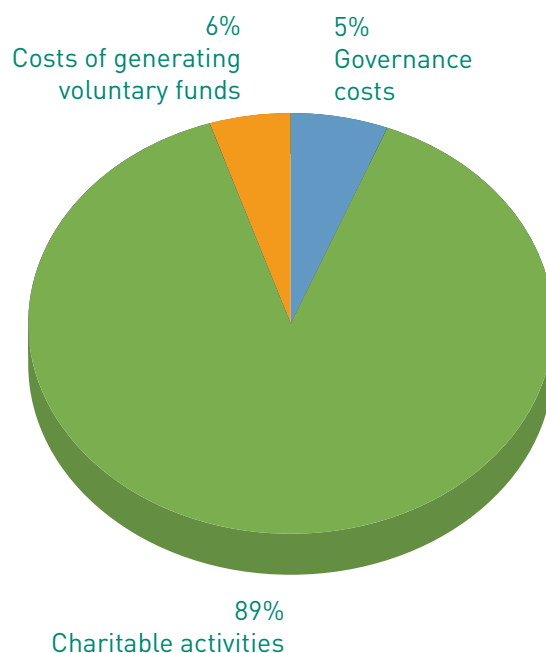


## Outgoing Resources 2007-2008

*based on accounts for the year to 31st March 2008*

Costs of generating voluntary funds	6%	125,961
Costs of charitable activities	89%	1,850,962
Governance Costs	5%	108,088

**Total Outgoing Resources 2,085,011**



# THANK YOU!

In addition to DFID, our main funder whose strategic partnership we greatly value, we received funding from the following Trusts, Foundations and individual supporters:

Arimathea Trust  
Big Lottery Fund International Small Grants  
Big Lottery Fund International Communities  
Cheruby Trust  
Comic Relief  
Michael Cornish Charitable Trust  
The Cotton Trust  
The Robert Crane Trust  
The European Commission  
The Fitton Trust  
The Fulmer Charitable Trust  
Galliard Healthcare  
The Hall Trust  
Philip Henman Charitable Trust  
Irish Aid  
Matrix Chambers  
Edgar Milward Charity  
Oakdale Trust  
The Paget Trust  
Rufford Maurice Laing Trust  
Bryan Sanderson Charitable Trust  
W.F. Southall Trust  
States of Guernsey International Aid Committee  
Sir Halley Stewart Trust  
Alec van Berchem Charitable Trust

## Working in Partnership



We are very grateful to all our funders for their support.

Mary Webb Trust  
The Westmount Trust  
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Mr. and Mrs. Webster  
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UNA Highgate & Muswell Hill  
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Children's artwork used throughout this annual review is from the Same Difference project: <http://www.is-samedifference.org.uk>

**International Service**  
Hunter House • 57 Goodramgate  
York • United Kingdom • YO1 7FX  
Telephone: +44 (0) 1904 647799  
Reg. Charity No: 1069182

[www.internationalservice.org.uk](http://www.internationalservice.org.uk)