It is with our great pleasure to present you with our key achievements for 2017-2018. May we take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support in the work of Children in Crossfire. Your support is key in helping us to work towards our end goal of creating a compassionate world where every child can reach his or her potential.

Throughout 2017, the organisation’s strategic focus on Early Childhood Development has made substantial progress within both Tanzania and Ethiopia. This year saw significant contribution being made within schools, with 37,000 children in Tanzania receiving an improved pre-primary education, along with a further 10,000 children being reached throughout Ethiopia. As well as this, we are delighted to inform you that this year has also witnessed the launch of a new 5-year School Readiness Programme within Tanzania, which will ensure that over 100,000 children will be healthy, happy and have access to a good quality education. Across Ethiopia, through our nutrition programme we continue to work closely with families of young children and ensure that they have access to clean and safe water and the necessary food required to sustain a healthy, happy lifestyle.

Through our Development Education and Public Awareness Raising Programmes in Ireland and the UK, we have continued to engage the public in compassionate global citizenship. A key highlight for this year was our celebration of our 20th Anniversary Conference entitled ‘Compassion in Action’, for which we were delighted to be joined by our Patron, His Holiness the Dalai Lama. This conference gave us a real opportunity to engage with the public and celebrate the momentous support that you have provided over the past 20 years.

Once again, we extend our thanks to you for the massive amount of support you continue to give; your support in our work is vital in assisting us to create positive change in the world.

Marcus O’Neill - Chair of Trustees, Children in Crossfire
Richard Moore - Executive Director Children in Crossfire
**Vision**
A compassionate world where every child can reach his or her potential

**Mission**
To work with others to tackle the injustices of poverty affecting children

**We Value**

- **Compassion**  
  A core concern for the well-being of others leading to actions for a fairer world

- **Partnership**  
  Working together to bring about sustainable change

- **Accountability**  
  Using our resources effectively and efficiently to build openness and trust with our supporters, partners and the communities where we work

- **Equality**  
  Where everyone is treated fairly and respected, and where rights are protected

By implementing a Programmatic approach, our interventions work towards agreed outcomes which are linked to national and international identified initiatives, specifically the proposed Sustainable Development Goal 4, targets 4.2 and 4.7.

We promote collaboration between Vulnerable Families, Communities, Civil Society and Government, to maximise potential for sustainable change.

Through Early Childhood Development (ECD) Programmes, Children in Crossfire works in partnership with organisations in Tanzania and Ethiopia to address the developmental needs of young children whose lives are caught up in the injustice of poverty.

Children in Crossfire works in Ireland and the UK to deliver Development Education and Public Engagement Programmes. We see these as integral elements of our work, in order for people to better understand the global structural causes of poverty, global interdependence, and the impact that personal choices and actions have upon people across the world.
Compassion in Action

A Public Forum with The Dalai Lama

2017 also witnessed the 20 year anniversary celebration for Children in Crossfire, which was celebrated through a public conference entitled Compassion in Action, for which we were honoured to be joined by His Holiness the Dalai Lama. 1000 members of the public attended, and listened as His Holiness talked about the “need for connection through compassion, and for people to be kind and to think of our planet and the people that make it so unique.”

Cultivating a core concern for the wellbeing of oneself and others, leading to actions for a better world for all children. Whether working overseas through our Early Childhood Development Programme, or working through our Development Education and Public Awareness Raising programmes in Ireland and the UK, we seek to nurture compassion as the impetus for bringing about positive change and an end to poverty and injustice. Overall, our ‘Compassion in Action’ events provided the perfect setting for us to look back at our achievements over the past 20 years, and to look forward to new opportunities in the coming 20 years.

Educating the Heart: A Private Audience with the Dalai Lama

As part of Children in Crossfire’s 20 year anniversary celebrations, we hosted a conference for over 200 educators, policy makers, teachers, researchers and other stakeholders. His Holiness the Dalai Lama held a private audience with all delegates where he called for an education of the heart, one that allows for creativity, for courage and for compassion. The day was filled with positive discussions and reflections on the role of compassion and educating the heart in relation to Development Education and global citizenship. Children in Crossfire’s 'TIDAL: Educating the Heart' programme was duly launched.

It was a special day for everyone, and for Children in Crossfire to reflect on 20 years of implementation.

It was a day that will inspire us and motivate us as we embark on the next 20 years with our vision at heart; a compassionate world, where every child can reach his or her potential.
Key Achievements 2017-2018

**TANZANIA**

- 34 village child protection committees established in 3 target districts to provide awareness of the importance of child protection and local referral mechanisms.
- 37,000 children across 120 schools with improved pre-primary education through the Fursa Kwa Watoto (KKW) programme.
- 34 village child protection committees established in 3 target districts to provide awareness of the importance of child protection and local referral mechanisms.

**ETHIOPIA**

- 1,900 children across 54 nursery schools in Addis Ababa were supported through nutrition programmes.
- 233 teachers and 370 head and deputy head teachers delivered improved practices through engagement with the Fursa Kwa Watoto (KFW) programme.
- 762 local government officials increased their support for Early Years Education.
- 354 children supported through a feeding programme at St Luke’s Hospital in Wolisso.

**EDUCATION IN IRELAND AND UK**

- Over 10,000 children across 54 schools in Addis Ababa with improved pre-school education through the School Readiness Initiative (SRI).
- Over 3,000 students engaged through the training of 135 teachers and 240 initial teacher education (ITE) students.
- Up to 200 education stakeholders engaged in exploring Children in Crossfire’s ‘Educating the Heart’ Programme through a consultative forum in collaboration with a private audience with His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

**INCOME**

- £1,407,702.00 overall income.
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- 86p in every pound spent directly on helping vulnerable children in Tanzania and Ethiopia reach their potential.
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**10,000 CHILDREN ACROSS 54 SCHOOLS IN ADDIS ABBABA WITH IMPROVED PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION THROUGH THE SCHOOL READINESS INITIATIVE (SRI)**

**A MAJOR SOCIAL FORUM, ‘COMPASSION IN ACTION’, DIRECTLY ENGAGED OVER 1,000 PEOPLE IN A PUBLIC AUDIENCE WITH HIS HOLINESS THE DALAI LAMA**
Looking Forward: Our Plans for 2018 - 2019

Through our International Work we will:

- Implement our Integrated School Readiness Programme (ISR) to reach over 100,000 children across 4 target districts in Tanzania over the next 5 years.
- Train 30 Pre-School teachers to provide quality pre-school education to over 1,000 children in Wolisso, Ethiopia.
- Conduct 7,500 home visits in target wards in Tanzania with 24 trained community volunteers to raise awareness and knowledge of the importance of good quality nutrition and health in young children.
- Implement a training programme for 72 Pre-School facilitators along with 80 government Pre-Primary teachers across 70 schools in Tanzania.
- Train and support 26 journalists across Tanzania to engage with issues surrounding the importance of investing in Tanzania’s Young Children, aiding them to raise further awareness of the key issues affecting children through their national and regional reporting.

Through our Development Education Programme we will:

- Impact the teaching and learning of over 40,000 students through directly reaching up to 400 educators.
- Impact up to 12,000 people in a Public Awareness Programme to increase understanding of the injustices of poverty, and the role of Children in Crossfire and national and international government bodies for addressing these.

Images sourced from Muguako Village, Achoo Soyoma, Mwanza Micro-Finance Programme, Mhonze Primary School, Makaa Early Childhood Education Centre, Mwanza Primary School, St Brigid’s Primary School, Gaelscoil Eadain Mhoir, Knockavoe School, St Paul’s Primary School, Bunscoil Cholmcille and Children in Crossfire fundraising and Public Awareness Raising events
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