



Children
in Crossfire

GIVING CHILDREN THE CHANCE TO CHOOSE

Key Achievements 2020 - 2021



Giving Children the Chance to Choose

2020s Annual Report focuses mainly on our work during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are proud of all we achieved in the most testing period of our 24 years and pleased to share those results with you.

As COVID hit, our team in Tanzania pivoted our Early Childhood Education programme onto a pandemic response footing. Working round the clock with our regional grassroots partners, we quickly produced and distributed more than 18,000 Home Learning Kits to ensure children had resources to keep learning while schools were closed. We were also able to provide braille versions of workbooks to visually impaired children, underpinning Children in Crossfire's core ethos that all children deserve support to fulfil their potential.

In Tanzania's Dodoma region, our new scaled-up pre-school programme took root; targets were exceeded as schools, parents and communities engaged positively with us. After some inevitable delays, our vital classroom construction work continued. Nationally, Children in Crossfire cemented our position as leading advocates for the benefits of early intervention, including with all levels of government and in the media.

In Ethiopia, sadly, the pandemic was not the only grave challenge people faced. There was also increasing regional ethnic violence in our target areas and a devastating locust plague. As a consequence, our plans to roll out a new education programme were held back for many months. This underlined for us the importance of establishing an

in-country office as soon as possible to effectively drive programme growth.

We were, thankfully, able to keep supporting our long-term partners in Addis Ababa and Wolisso. St Luke's Hospital secured our help with vital pandemic response equipment, including personal protection equipment medical professionals the world over needed. We also funded construction of a new pharmacy building at the hospital, which will benefit thousands in the local community for many years to come.

As lockdowns endured, both our Development Education and Public Engagement programmes encountered substantial challenges. While we were pleased to harness growing interest in global citizenship via our online engagement, restrictions meant that the high quality in-person engagement we need to fulfil our remit could not be fully met.

Increased public understanding of the importance of international solidarity showed in our fundraising work too, with more people than ever supporting our innovative activities.

As we neared the end of Children in Crossfire's current – extended – Strategic Plan, we began to focus on our next phase, which will take us up to and through our 25th anniversary.

In all, we emerged from 2020 energised for all that lies ahead. We hope you enjoy this report, and thank you for all your support.

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

Sustainable Development Goal 4, targets 4.2 and 4.7. We promote collaboration among vulnerable families, communities, civil society and government to maximise the potential of sustainable change.



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1

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.



2



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.

Key Achievements 2019-2020

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TANZANIA

23,228 CHILDREN REACHED IN 84 SCHOOLS IN MWANZA AND MOROGORO REGIONS.

450 TEACHERS TRAINED TO PROVIDE QUALITY PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION.

34 HIGH QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT CENTRES ESTABLISHED WITH OUR SUPPORT IN TARGET REGIONS, REACHING 4,600 CHILDREN AGED 3-5 YEARS.

600+ ARTICLES HIGHLIGHTING VALUE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLACED ACROSS MULTIPLE COMMUNICATIONS THROUGH PARTNERSHIP WITH UNION OF TANZANIAN PRESS CLUBS (UTPC).



23,700 CHILDREN REACHED IN 223 PRE-PRIMARY CLASSES IN DODOMA REGION.



18,000+ WORKBOOKS PRODUCED, INCLUDING BRAILLE AND DISABILITY-ACCESSIBLE VERSIONS, TO ENSURE HOME LEARNING DURING PANDEMIC.

KEY STRATEGIC CO-ORDINATING ROLE IN NATIONAL EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT TASKFORCE, STRENGTHENING CIVIL SOCIETY NETWORKS TO LOBBY AND ADVOCATE FOR A COUNTRYWIDE ECD ACTION PLAN.



ETHIOPIA

350 CHILDREN GIVEN LIFE-SAVING TREATMENT AT ST LUKE'S HOSPITAL'S THERAPEUTIC FEEDING UNIT.

DEEP WATER WELL AND NEW PHARMACY BUILT AT ST LUKE'S HOSPITAL.

ONE NEW COMMUNITY WELL BUILT.



NEW EARLY YEARS' EDUCATION PROGRAMME LAUNCHED IN WOLISSO, PROVIDING IMPROVED QUALITY LEARNING TO AN INITIAL 2,500 CHILDREN.

FURTHER TRAINING AND SUPPORT FOR 240 HEALTH EXTENSION WORKERS TO CONDUCT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ON NUTRITION.

55 VULNERABLE FAMILIES IN ADDIS ABABA EMPLOYED IN INCOME GENERATION BUSINESSES.

180 FAMILIES IN ADDIS ABABA RECEIVED EMERGENCY FOOD RELIEF.

EDUCATION IN IRELAND

200 STUDENT TEACHERS TRAINED ON IMPLEMENTING COMPASSIONATE GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP APPROACHES IN SCHOOLS.

10,900 STUDENTS IMPACTED THROUGH TRAINING OF FURTHER 54 TEACHERS.

BESPOKE EDUCATING THE HEART ONLINE TRAINING DELIVERED FOR 13 YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL/ADDITIONAL NEEDS, SUPPORTED BY TWO LEADERS.

KEY ROLE IN CADA NI'S ONE WORLD FESTIVAL, REACHING 3,365 PEOPLE.



ONLINE PUPIL PROGRAMME DEVELOPED TO CULTIVATE COMPASSIONATE GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP, REACHING AN INITIAL 500 SCHOOLS OVER 12 LESSONS.

VIDEO RESOURCES CREATED AIMED AT PROMOTING GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE.

20 YOUTH WORKERS EMPOWERED TO EXPLORE DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION WITHIN THEIR WORK PRACTICES AND ENGAGE YOUNG PEOPLE AS CHANGE-MAKERS.

948 PEOPLE DIRECTLY ENGAGED IN PUBLIC WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT MATTERS.

41 SECTORAL GROUPS ENGAGED TO INTEGRATE OUR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME ACROSS THEIR PRACTICES.

Working to achieve Sustainable Development Goals



All of Children in Crossfire's work is carried out to help make a direct contribution towards achieving the SDGs.

In September of 2015, world leaders set a transformational course for the future of human development with the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Millions of people were involved in crafting

this global agenda - governments, civil society, the private sector, academia, the UN system and concerned individuals, including children and youth. All are now actively involved in implementing this agenda from local to global levels so that all people, including all children, live in a safer, cleaner, more equal and more prosperous world by the year 2030.

Most of Children in Crossfire's work is focused on achieving SDG 4;

- To ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promise life-long learning opportunities for all

We work to achieve results and lasting impact against SDG 4 Target 4.2

- By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education

And against SDG 4 Target 4.7

- By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and nonviolence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development

Children in Crossfire and Irish Aid

The government of Ireland played a key role on the world stage to help develop and adopt the SDGs on a global scale, and Irish Aid is the government's official international development aid body. Irish Aid supports aid organisations in over 80 countries across the world to end poverty and achieve the SDGs.

Ireland's aid programme plays a key role in reducing poverty and inequality across the world. The government is working to increase the gross national income's (GNI) contribution to the aid budget to 0.7% by 2030.

As a key donor, Irish Aid directly supports Children in Crossfire to achieve SDG4. Irish Aid works closely with us in our efforts to address the injustices of poverty through our education interventions across all of our country programmes.

Looking Forward: Our Plans for 2020 - 2021

Through our Development Education and Public Engagement programmes, in the year ahead we will:

- Continue to work closely with teacher training colleges to maximise the potential and impact of our Educating the Heart programme through the curriculum.
- Engage up to 200 teachers on Educating the Heart.
- Support schools we currently work with to achieve their Gold Compassionate School Awards post-COVID.

- Deepen our sectoral partnerships across the island of Ireland, bringing together key relevant stakeholders to focus on Development Education and Public Engagement.
- Pilot a cross-border Development Education and Public Engagement programme, in partnership with Changemakers, a global online community that drives positive change through mentoring and collaboration.
- Engage youth leaders through our Vision 2030 programme.
- Ensure we are measuring and demonstrating impact to the highest standard by strengthening our overall programme content, approach and evaluation systems.



Through our International Work in Tanzania and Ethiopia we will:

- Upscale our ISRP programme in Tanzania's Mwanza and Morogoro regions to reach 51,000 children in all 531 schools in our target districts.
- Accelerate our new Dodoma programme to engage a further 200 schools in the region, meeting our target of bringing our pre-school model to all 700 schools in the Chamwino and Kongwa districts.
- Build a further 15 new classrooms in target areas to address school overcrowding.
- Further support 56 Early Childhood Development centres across Mwanza, Morogoro and Dodoma.
- Complete our registration as an INGO in Ethiopia and establish a direct in-country programme.
- Grow our new early years' programme in Wolisso, building on the initial cohort of 20 primary schools.
- Ensure the therapeutic feeding unit at St Luke's Hospital is resourced to treat all cases of severe acute malnutrition.
- Continue to support Health Extension Workers in their outreach work promoting good nutrition and preventing malnutrition through early intervention.
- Ensure more communities have access to safe, clean water.
- Further support income generation initiatives that provide individuals and families with the dignity of independence.



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Contact Us

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