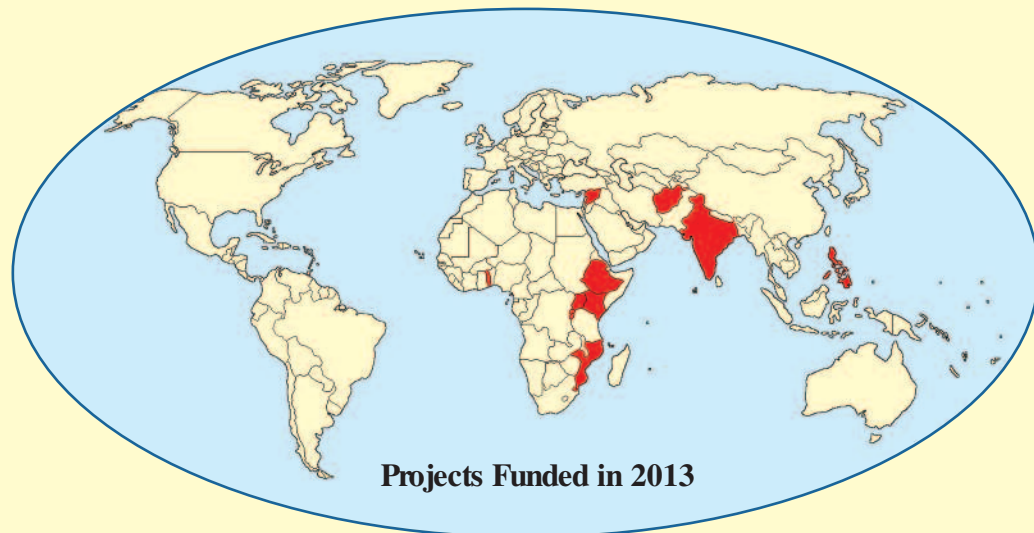


'Speak up for those who have no voice, for the justice of all who are dispossessed' Proverbs 31:8



Education:

- Training and Water Pump; CMS Ireland; Kenya
- Women's Training; United Society ; Swaziland
- Diversifying Crops and Agricultural training; Rwanda
- Literacy Project; Mother's Union; Burundi
- Anti-trafficking project; Tearfund; India
- Boarding School; Dr Graham's Homes; India
- School Supplies; SAFE; Afghanistan

Rural Development:

- Self Help Groups; Christian Aid; Ethiopia
- Water Project; Habitat for Humanity; Ethiopia
- Soya Farming, Self Help Africa, Togo
- Poverty Alleviation; Christian Aid; Philippines (prior to typhoon)

Disaster Relief Response:

- Philippines
- Syria

Health:

- HIV/AIDS Education and Training; VSO; Mozambique
- Hospital Laboratory; CMS Ireland; Uganda
- Cerebral Palsy, Wheelchair fitting and training; Motivation; Uganda
- Health Facility Renovation; Christian Aid; Kenya
- HIV & Nutrition Projects; Friends of Hope; India



BISHOPS' APPEAL

Church of Ireland

World Aid and Development Programme 2014



For more information on donations, envelopes, prayer for justice; diocesan link projects, resources, workshops and booking a speaker please contact:

Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal
Church of Ireland House, Rathmines, Dublin 6, Ireland.

Phone: + 353-1-4125610

Email: bishopsappeal@ireland.anglican.org

Web: www.bishopsappeal.ireland.anglican.org
(now includes lodgement details)

Find us on Facebook, Follow us on Twitter



Donations Received in 2013: €419,720 and £205,267

-Thank You



Serving God



Serving the Poor



Serving the Church

A Message from the Chairperson:

Typhoon Haiyan struck the Philippines on 8th November killing more than six thousand people with another two thousand missing, feared dead. This made the storm, which also left 4.4 million homeless, one of the deadliest natural disasters in the Philippines' history. The images displayed in the newspapers and on television shocked us all. By the end of 2013, almost two months after the storm, hundreds of bodies in sealed black body bags swarming with flies, still lay unburied, the stench unbearable. Such is the enormity of this disaster with so much yet to be done to restore lives and property.

Thanks to our own Disaster Appeal launched within a couple of days of the typhoon, Bishops' Appeal has raised the equivalent of €250,000 (€149,221 and £71,499). All of this has been sent to the Philippines via our partners Christian Aid and Tear Fund. On behalf of the Committee, I want to thank every member of the Church of Ireland who has contributed towards this amount. The lead up to Christmas is already a demanding time and as a Church we dug deep and showed genuine and tangible support for those in such desperate need.

The tremendous response has not, however, been without a cost. Our Special Christmas Appeal for the homeless in this country had to be cancelled. Some of the funds expected from our annual Harvest Appeal were diverted towards the Philippines. Our reserve for such disasters was sent as an immediate



response and must now be replaced. All this at a time when, because of the economic downturn, contributions have been decreasing. Hence, more than ever, Bishops' Appeal requires the generosity of parishes and individuals if we are to continue to work with the various agencies to support educational, health and agricultural projects across the world in the places of greatest need.

Finally, I acknowledge the leadership of the Bishop of Cashel to Bishops' Appeal over 22 years as a member of the Committee and since 2008 as Chair. His tireless energy and enthusiasm was infectious and he has been a wonderful ambassador for Bishops' Appeal. Thanks are also due to our dedicated Education Advisor, Ms Lydia Monds and to all our Committee members who carefully ensure that the funds raised through Bishops' Appeal are dispersed wisely and fairly.

+ Patrick Tuam

DIOCESAN LINK PROJECTS:

Derry and Raphoe NetsWork project was launched in October 2012 and has had an excellent response. The aim of the project was to raise £100,000.00 to purchase 20,000 mosquito nets so as to reduce the number of people suffering from malaria in Nigeria. To date €26,219 and £53,668 has been raised by many parishes through a varied number of ways. It is hoped to achieve the £100,000.00 target by the end of March 2014.



Tuam, Killala and Achonry Mabweni Project continues to fundraise for Oloosuyian Masai Girls Secondary School in Kenya after an encouraging first year that saw €12,000 sent in support of school sanitation. The students no longer sleep in the classrooms and now have properly constructed dormitories and indoor toilets and washrooms. Education Advisor Lydia Monds visited the school where the young women expressed the importance of their education to their families and

to Masai women, and their deep gratitude for the concern and support of the Church in Ireland.

Meath & Kildare diocesan link project in support of Let Agogo Dairy cooperatives in Haiti is heartened to see the dairies are now supplying Haiti's national schools with all their milk products and the corporate chain has grown significantly, with over 200 businesses now selling Let Agogo products across Haiti.



Bishops' Appeal has Sterling and Euro Bank Accounts for ease of lodgement. Visit our donate page for more details.

Grants Paid 2013:

	€	£ Stg.
Disaster Relief	166,209	84,102
Education	60,851	3,183
Health	40,930	40,837
Rural Development	99,101	78,982
	<u>367,091</u>	<u>207,104</u>

Disaster Relief Response:

Philippines:

When Typhoon Haiyan struck the islands that make up the Philippines, over 13 million people were affected by the destruction left in its wake. 4 million people were made homeless while a further million were stripped of their livelihoods. The loss of the most basic essentials needed to survive coupled with destroyed infrastructure exacerbated both the desperation and the speed with which the need was met. Thanks to the generous support of the Church of Ireland many Filipinos received lifesaving support in the form of shelter, (tents and tarpaulin) food (rice, mung beans and salt), water (and water purification tablets) and hygiene kits (to prevent the further spread of disease) Later funds have also started being directed towards rebuilding homes, replanting crops and trauma counselling.



Syria

Declared the worst refugee crisis since the Rwandan Genocide, the conflict has created 2.2 million refugees and 5 million internally displaced people. Arriving in neighbouring countries after a long and exhausting journey, many are living in overcrowded conditions and require essentials such as food, clean water, blankets, hygiene kits and shelter as well as psychological care.



A prayer of response:

God, thank you for glimpses of grace in the darkness of despair.
For the hospitality that welcomes strangers,
for the stories of landlords offering blankets and food instead of taking rent, for 'dignity kits' provided for new mothers we give you thanks.
May that solidarity extend beyond geography into our hearts,
may the underlying knowledge of devastation surface in our minds,
may the peripheral awareness of trauma become a central concern,
may we be moved by compassion to respond to the 'almost impossible need', and may the international community finally stand up and be counted.
For the hundreds of thousands who know the harshness of freezing temperatures,
the insecurity of homelessness, the pain of hunger, the loss of protection, and the fear of the unknown.
Denied the dignity of what it is to be human.
God, we pray for them warmth, security, food and peace.
Amen.

If you wish to get involved in a Bishops' Appeal Project please contact Lydia via the details at the back of this leaflet.

Much Done – More to Do



Meet Meselech Tuntmi

She is a 27 year old Ethiopian woman who was struggling to meet the daily cost of family life with the small income she and her husband earned. Before Meselech joined a self-help group each time she needed money for large expenses like seed, she was forced to borrow from private lenders who as a result charged extortionate interest rates. Unfortunately, Meselech crops sometimes failed and she still had to repay the loan, resulting in an ongoing struggle to feed the family.

Since joining the self-help group Meselech has been given guidance on savings and received 2 sheep through the livestock programme. These sheep have now provided her with two lambs, which she sold to repay the cost of the sheep, buy essential food items and increase their assets by buying a calf.

After discussions with other members of her self-help group Meselech now sees the benefit of sending her children to school and with money from her savings she has been able to do so.

Bishops' Appeal funded the ongoing work of these Self Help Groups in Ethiopia in

2013. Meselech is just one example among thousands of those who have been supported in lifting themselves out of poverty. Funding comes from parishes all over Ireland, where people choose to prayerfully give to serve the needs of the world's poor. Not only do recipients receive education; they are given the opportunity to earn, save, improve their agricultural practices or start a small business. With the combination of education and opportunity, they have choices and are able to make informed ones. And so we see lives transformed.



THIS YEAR:

In 2014 Bishops' Appeal wants to support Self Help Groups in Northern Uganda.

Will you play your part in changing lives by supporting us? A small donation can serve a big purpose:

- £4/€5 provides people with chickens and
- £8/€10 provides the basic training within the Self Help Group to care for their livestock and to save the income generated from them.

Your support can go a long way.

For more information contact Lydia: bishopsappeal@ireland.anglican.org +353 1 4125610

BISHOPS' APPEAL TACKLING POVERTY: 4 FOCUS AREAS

Bishops' Appeal works in four main areas: Health, Rural Development, Education, and Disaster Relief Response. The first three focus on long term solutions to poverty that ensnares billions of people worldwide, whilst the Disaster Relief focuses on providing the immediate survival needs of those in crisis.

HEALTH

A Postcard from Uganda:

'We thought you might like to receive news on our Uganda project direct from the field. We and our partners are currently involved in WHO Intermediate Training in wheelchair



services, which is going very well. 12 people have attended and we will soon all be ready to start fitting supportive seating wheelchairs to children with cerebral palsy. Thank you very much for your support. From all the team and families in Uganda.'

Snapshots such as this update from Uganda remind us of the tangible effects of our giving in the lives of the world's vulnerable. This year Bishops' Appeal will join with the Church's Ministry of Healing: Ireland in reflecting on local and global health issues and the need to cultivate a compassionate response. Join with us by praying and taking action.

Find out more about our support of medical centres, HIV/AIDS training and maternal health care by visiting www.bishopsappeal.ireland.anglican.org. Lenten Reflections will be published on the News Page.



RURAL DEVELOPMENT:

Rural Development will continue to be recognised as a crucial area of Bishops' Appeal focus.

'The largest segment of the world's poor are the women, children and men who live in rural environments. These are the subsistence farmers and herders, the fishers and migrant workers, the artisans and indigenous peoples whose daily struggles seldom capture world attention. Empowering rural people is an essential first step to eradicating poverty. It respects the willingness and capability that each of us has to take charge of our own life and to seek out opportunities to make it better.'

UN Report on Rural Poverty, 2013

Bishops' Appeal allocated €10,000 for Female Soya farmers in Northern Togo

Togo is one of the world's poorest countries. In areas where these Self Help Groups operate 90% of people live in poverty and have little knowledge of improved agricultural practices despite being entirely reliant on subsistence farming for survival.

Soybean Production through Sustainable Agriculture Project

This project works with female soya farmers to improve their co-operatives, train them in sustainable low-cost input agriculture techniques, improve the quality of the processing of soya and support them to access markets and increase their income.

Working with 481 farmers, achievements to date include:

- 115 hectares of soybean have been planted;
- 439 soybean producers have constructed bund structures to prevent erosion and protect from degradation of land;



- 439 producers have been trained in the use of integrated fertilisation and sustainable agriculture;
- Nine co-operatives have been trained in administration and financial management;
- Five co-operatives have submitted dossiers to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries for registration and will receive legal recognition;
- 173 pregnant and lactating women have been educated on the importance of soy for maternal and child health.

EDUCATION:

- Bishops' Appeal supports both informal and formal educational projects ranging from Adult Literacy Projects, to school buildings, and from teacher training programmes to income generation training.
- THIS YEAR: Bishops' Appeal plans to continue to support literacy and community training initiatives as vital tools for lifting people out of poverty and allowing them access to information and to opportunities. Join us in working towards a more literate and therefore a more just world.

