

Supported by players of



POSTCODES AGAINST POVERTY

IMPACT REPORT 2019

“Thank you to all the players of the People’s Postcode Lottery for being there when it mattered most. We hope you enjoy reading and wish you a happy and healthy 2020.”

Danny Sriskandarajah, Oxfam Chief Executive



OXFAM

WE
WON'T
LIVE
WITH
POVERTY

GLOBAL IMPACT MAP



UK

Oxfam GB tripled its investment in **safeguarding** in the wake of the Charity Commission Enquiry, and commissioned an independent review of our practices.



UK

We invested **£600,000** in our Humanitarian Supply Centre Team based in Oxford. With partners, we developed a handwashing stand to revolutionise the way people can wash their hands in emergencies.



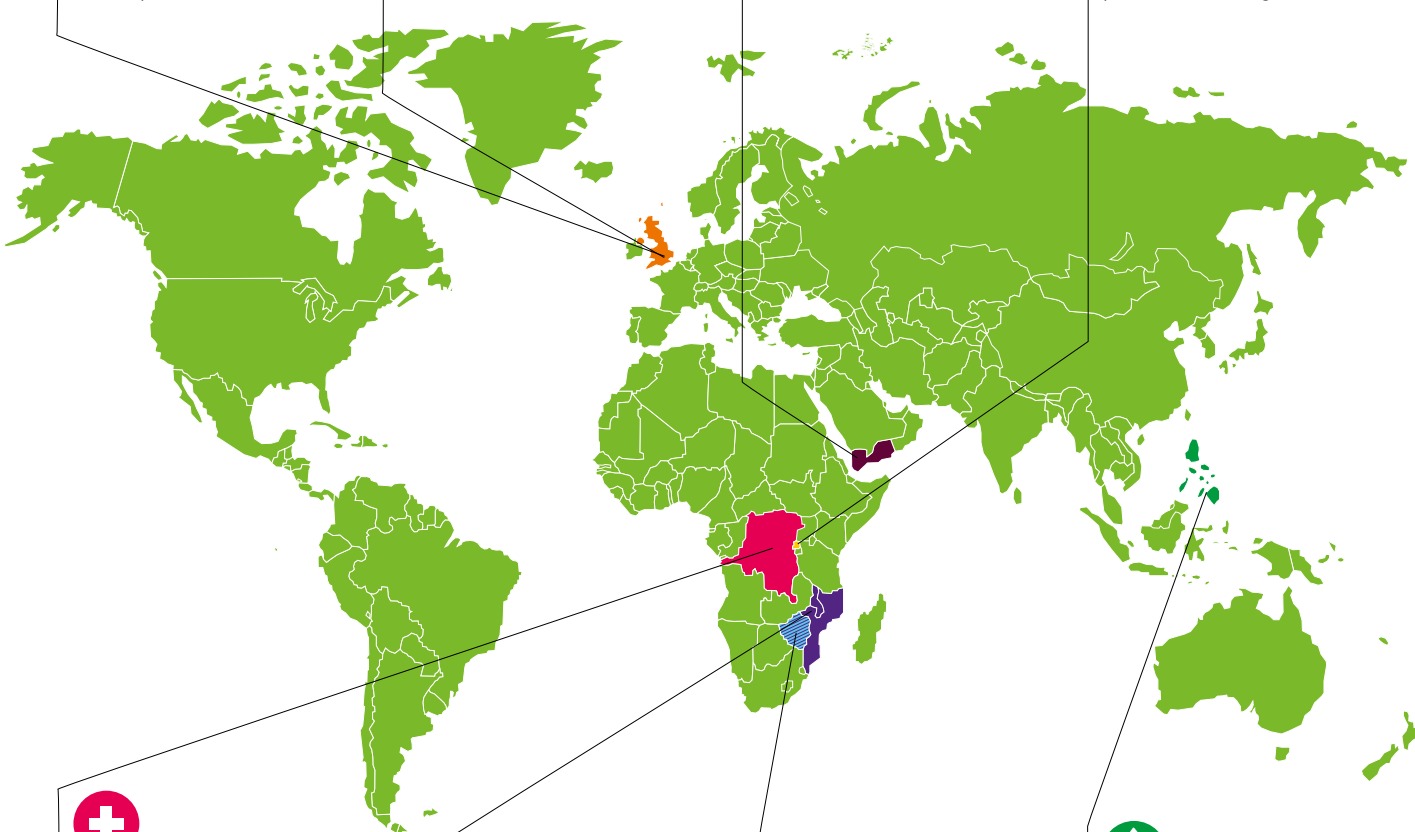
YEMEN

Oxfam's campaigning helped to push the UK government to play a **lead role in securing a crucial ceasefire** in the port of Hodaydah, which allowed vital aid to continue reaching people in need.



RWANDA

With partners, Oxfam established **21 commercial farms** specialising in biogas production and training. This helps rural farmers to earn a sustainable and profitable living.



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

We reached over **220,000** in response to the Ebola outbreak by working directly with affected communities to reduce transmission rates of the deadly disease.



MOZAMBIQUE, MALAWI AND ZIMBABWE

Our initial response to **cyclones Idai and Kenneth** reached **449,358** people. This included setting up water treatment facilities and providing hygiene kits to help contain the cholera outbreak.



ZIMBABWE

We built **ten piped water systems**, one of which serves a local health facility. This is helping to prevent the dangerous practice of women carrying their own water to hospital when about to give birth.



PHILIPPINES

We helped **2,963** farmers in Mindanao region to adapt to the reality of climate change, by diversifying crop yields and using organically certified fertilisers.

Cover photo: Ulita Mutambo (26), stands with her husband Muchineripi Sibanda (36), her son Blessing, 9 and Sandra, 6, outside their home in Ture Village, Zvishevane region, Zimbabwe. Utila received time-saving equipment to help with household tasks such as collecting water, and Muchineripi took part in sessions to challenge norms about traditional gender roles in the home.

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A MESSAGE FROM OXFAM'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE



As we end the fourth year of our promoted society partnership with People's Postcode Lottery, your continued support has been more important than ever.

For Oxfam GB, much of our focus in 2018/19 has been on the Charity Commission inquiry into the shameful abuse that took place in Haiti in 2011 and our safeguarding practice since. As an organisation which campaigns on women's rights and whose campaigns hold governments and companies to account, to have fallen so short of our own values has been a worrying experience and one that has made us ask fundamental questions of ourselves. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for staying with us as we work to put in place improvements ([please see page 10](#)).

Throughout its various incarnations, Oxfam's core values have endured: its determination to tackle poverty and suffering, both by delivering aid and by challenging the powerful vested interests and attitudes that perpetuate them.

In March, I visited the Democratic Republic of Congo where I saw this holistic approach in action. Our work delivering fresh water to communities hit by conflict and Ebola sat alongside engaging with communities to change cultural practices – such as the way dead bodies are treated – to reduce the risk of Ebola spreading. This helps to ensure that UN and local authority Ebola responses can win community confidence.

I was also able to visit the remote refugee settlement of Bunia in DRC, to see the benefits player funding has had on keeping people safe from harm. You can see the short video [here](#).

Thank you to all the players, staff and Trustees of People's Postcode Lottery for being there when it mattered most. We wish you a happy and healthy 2020.

Dhananjayan Sriskandarajah
Chief Executive of Oxfam GB

HOW PLAYERS HELP OXFAM'S MISSION

Oxfam GB believes that, together, we can end the injustice of poverty. More than a billion people have escaped extreme poverty over the last 25 years, and the global poverty rate is now lower than it has ever been in recorded history. More people are surviving disasters. More girls are claiming their right to an education. And more families have clean water than ever before.



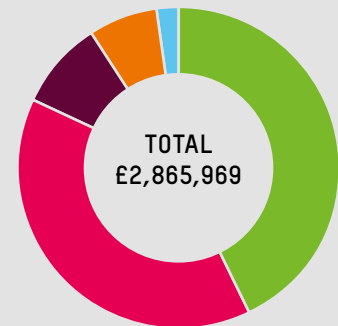
22,000 children die every day because of poverty

But there is so much still to do. 22,000 children die every day because of poverty. One person

in four does not have reliable access to clean drinking water. Countless women still suffer daily discrimination. Families, today, still live in fear of famine.

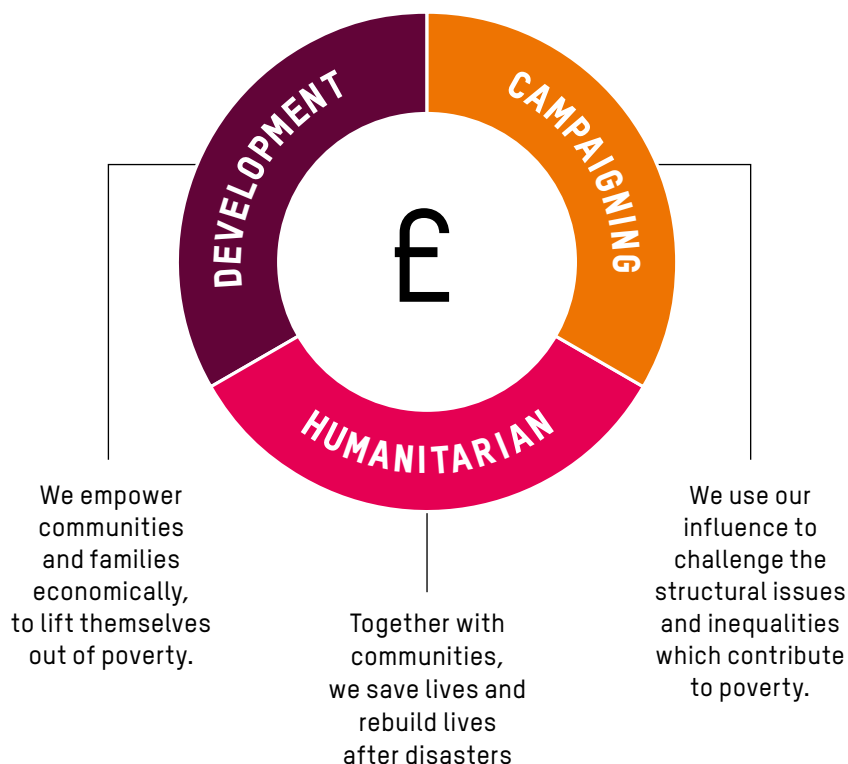
The world's headlines in 2019 were also dominated by the issue of climate change. **People living in the world's poorest countries receive around £2.40 per year** – less than a penny per day – to protect themselves from the devastating impacts of the climate crisis. The world's poorest people have contributed the least to the climate emergency, yet as this report shows, they are suffering the most. Thanks to players of People's Postcode Lottery, Oxfam has been able to protect people and the planet by adapting and building resilience to the reality of climate change.

PLAYER FUNDING BREAKDOWN



- **Humanitarian** | £1,232,367
- **Development** | £1,117,728
- **Fundraising** | £257,937
- **Support Costs** | £200,618
- **Campaigning and Advocacy** | £57,319

WHAT WE DO



HUMANITARIAN AID 365 DAYS A YEAR



Our Objective for 2019: deliver safe, appropriate and dignified support to respond 'faster, better and stronger'

The flexibility of players' funding allows Oxfam to respond quickly to a humanitarian emergency at any given moment. On average, we are responding in 30 countries across the globe, many of which are also suffering from the effects of climate change and increasingly unpredictable weather patterns. We operate on the principle of 'Do No Harm' and will intervene whenever there is widespread threat to life which is beyond local communities' capacity to cope with.

FIGHTING EBOLA IN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)



Thanks to players, Oxfam GB has continued to play a leading role in DRC, in what has been a largely forgotten crisis. In 2018 an Ebola outbreak was declared in eastern DRC, the largest ever in the country and the first in a conflict setting. Fatality rates exceed 50% on average.

Engaging with communities

As with any infectious disease, prevention is better than cure. Vaccines need to be stored at low temperatures and transported fast. This is particularly difficult in the hot and humid climate in DRC, which also has poor road networks. Traditional burial practices - in which a victim's body is washed with water - also act as a potential catalyst for spreading the virus. Oxfam worked with the British Red Cross in community engagement, to promote safe and dignified burials of Ebola victims. In tandem with vaccination, this is critical for containment. Respectful engagement with local leaders also helps to overcome stigma and builds trust in the intervention of INGOs; for many people the unfamiliar sight of health workers in yellow decontamination suits can be distressing.

“As with any infectious disease, prevention is better than cure.”

Working in partnership

Oxfam GB has continued to ensure people have safe and clean water by installing handwashing stations at communal areas. Oxfam collaborated with Save the Children (STC) at the beginning of the outbreak, with Oxfam co-leading on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WaSH) support in priority areas, whilst STC funded health treatment facilities which our staff could refer suspected cases to. An integrated response is essential to avoid duplication of effort and maximise safety: something Oxfam staff learned first-hand in the 2014 outbreaks in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea. Overall, **we reached over 220,000 people** with our initial response by the end of March 2019.

Remembering staff we lost

We sadly lost our colleague Françoise Kalunda (1985 - 2019). She had been in eastern DRC, where she had been working for five years with Oxfam as a Public Health Promoter. Last year she agreed for our team to film a day in her life which you can watch [here](#). She had the trust of the communities she worked with.



Bora Maiska, who works as a public health promoter Oxfam, installs a chlorinated hand washing point. Photo: John Wessels/Oxfam

HOW DO WE MEASURE AND EVALUATE OUR HUMANITARIAN RESPONSES?

Oxfam GB undergoes an annual independent **Humanitarian Quality Assurance Initiative (HQAI)** audit, against the Core Humanitarian Standard. This is a globally agreed framework which humanitarian organisations follow. In 2018/19 we performed well globally in terms of timeliness (speed at which Oxfam GB responded), appropriateness (providing what people needed) and the quality of our programmes.

Our work on gender and coordination with other agencies also improved, but we still have areas we can improve on. These relate to management and staff resourcing, how connected our humanitarian response is to long-term development, scale of response, working with local partners and accountability to affected people. At the time of next year's report we will update on improvements made.



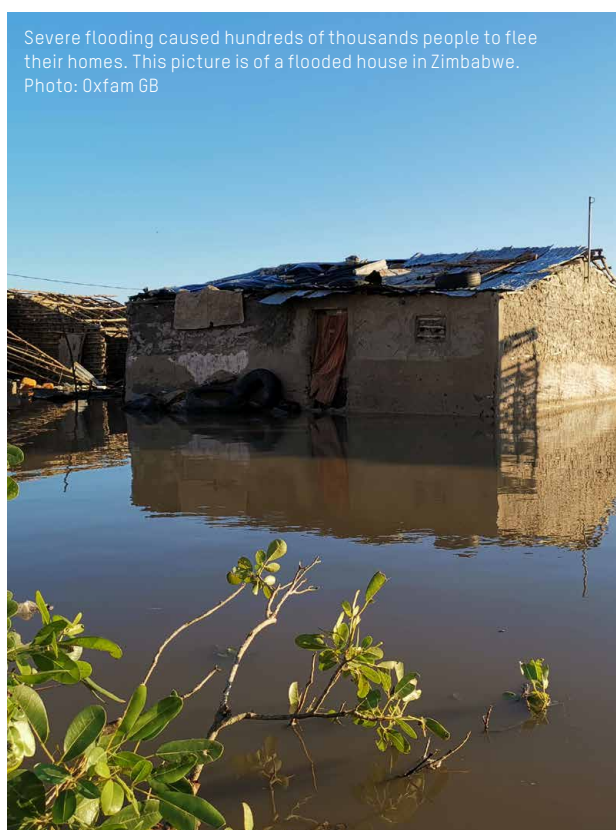
RAPID RESPONSE: CYCLONES IDAI AND KENNETH

On 24 March 2019, Cyclone Idai devastated the lives of nearly 3 million people in Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe. Just six weeks later, Cyclone Kenneth hit, bringing torrential rains to northern Mozambique. The UN Secretary General declared this “one of the worst-weather related catastrophes in the history of Africa”.

Our response

By 29 March 2019, Oxfam had started reaching thousands in Beira, Mozambique by trucking clean fresh water. We also distributed thousands of water purification tablets. In Beira 110,000 people lost their homes and were relocated in rescue centres or camps.

Oxfam’s Humanitarian Supply Warehouse – supported by players and Oxfam funding – loaded **4 trucks with 38 tonnes of equipment** chartered directly to Beira, the Mozambique city worst affected by the Cyclone. The whole operation cost £200,000. Carlitos, 36 (pictured below), is disabled and would not have been able to reach help without our staff riding motorcycles and using canoes to reach stranded communities.



“I am happy with this Life Saver Cube because I can use [it] to give my children clean water to drink”

Carlitos



WE PROVIDED:

- OVER 1,000** latrine slabs to build emergency toilets.
- 20+** 10,000 litre water bladder tanks to collect and store fresh water.
- 10,000 JERRY BUCKETS** to transport and keep water clean and safe.
- 3 de-sludging pumps with generators, and over 100 tapstands.**

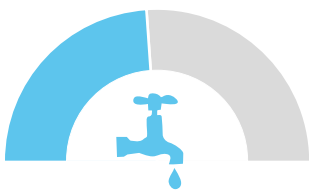
A WIN FOR WOMEN IN ZIMBABWE



Emmily, 65, drinks clean fresh water from a water point in Mabondo village, Masvingo District, Zimbabwe. It used to take her 45 minutes, and a steep climb down a river bank to collect water from a river but, thanks to Oxfam's solar piped water scheme, she now has a tap stand closer to her home. Photo: Aurelie Marrier D'Unienville/Oxfam



This project supported communities in Bubi, Zvishavane, Masvingo Rural and Gutu districts, by installing **ten solar-powered water points** and **eleven laundry facilities**. All of the districts selected are semi-arid and prone to drought. Women often spend hours a day collecting water, and providing time-saving equipment helps to free women's time to earn an income.



Only 48% of the rural population has access to safe drinking water.

Challenges

Levels of nationwide insecurity rose because of public unrest during the project implementation. This is not unusual, but it meant our field team had to work around travel embargos which slowed down delivery, particularly between January – March 2019. We continued to plan around shortages in fuel and basic supplies, building materials and cement, the impact of which led to some delays in project timelines. We also advised our partners to open bank accounts in foreign currencies so that they could continue to access cash and avoid inflation against the US dollar (the unit of currency commonly used to procure items). This helped to keep us on track.

PROGRESS TO DATE:



10 piped water systems constructed.

11,264 WOMEN AND GIRLS



benefitted directly from piped water schemes.

WE TRAINED AND ENGAGED WITH 544 'CARE CHAMPIONS'



in how to reduce women's household workload.



11 laundry facilities constructed.

BUILDING RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE: PHILIPPINES



Philippines is the third most disaster-prone country in the world. Small-scale farmers of maize and rice in lowland areas are amongst the most vulnerable groups to the unavoidable reality of climate change.

Alternating weather patterns of severe drought followed by unusually heavy rainfall washes away vital nutrients in the topsoil, which farmers depend on every harvest. The frequent use of pesticides to manage this issue can weaken soil fertility in the long-term and damage the surrounding environment. The key priorities of the project are to:

- Promote organic, pesticide free sustainable farming
- Lower the barriers which prevent women and young people earning income
- Increase community participation in local government decision making

Oxfam hosted field school farmer trainings in organic crop production. End of year surveys found that the average monthly income of farmers and their families had increased 19%, from the equivalent of £202 to £240 a month.

Meet Junmark

Junmark is one of eight young people who joined Oxfam's training sessions, to help diversify and increase their yields of organic vegetables. This has assisted Junmark and his friends to help their families financially.

“Our customers are increasing because they are already aware that [our] vegetables do not have chemical spray and fertilizers.”

Junmark, 19, shown below with their first harvest



PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS:



60% of respondents producing crops and raising livestock claimed to have increased their savings per cropping.



97% of farmers were willing to continue learning from the project and encourage family and other farmers to adopt the technology.



64 young people (52% girls) have been trained to build communal gardens.

RENEWABLE ENERGY IN RWANDA



In Rwanda 63% of people still live on less than \$1.25 a day. The majority of Rwandans (80%) rely on agriculture as their main source of income. Poor access to electricity means rural families typically collect wood to make charcoal for fuel. This degrades soil quality and creates indoor air pollution, causing health problems. To address the energy crisis, the government has promoted biogas from cows, but many families are too poor or have insufficient land to keep cows. Rural women also often struggle to grow enough food for their families on their small plots of land, because they lack access to credit, inputs such as fertilizer, and knowledge about efficient production methods.

This project worked to help rural farming communities earn a profitable living by producing biogas from pig waste, and adopting more productive, climate-resilient farming techniques. Biodigesters are really simple devices that work by converting pig poo and urine into gas that can then be piped into homes and used to cook with in the form of a gas stove. They resemble small white tunnel tents – and work similarly to greenhouses.

Challenges

It was identified that there is a lack of skilled people to repair biodigesters, which was being addressed through additional technical training for youth champions in the repair and maintenance of biodigesters.

“I used to live in a very bad life of prostitution just to meet my basic needs. Even though I am HIV positive, I have to take care of myself and my children. I joined the group of pig breeders and I now have a biodigester. Through this biogas project, I have gained the confidence to live.”

Laurence Mukashema, a farmer in Nyamagabe district

PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS:



371 pigs distributed to farmers including training on pig-rearing.



90 households installed pig biodigesters.



32 young people received technical training on biodigester repair and maintenance.



21 commercial farms (managed by 420 farmers) have been established



28 year old Christine Manirafasha pours pig manure into her biogas maker in Gakenke district, Northern Rwanda. Photo: Aurelie Marrier d'Unienville Oxfam

OXFAM SAFEGUARDING OVERVIEW



December 2019

After the scandal that exposed the appalling behaviour of some Oxfam staff in Haiti in 2011, we knew we had to learn, to address our own failings and to change. In February 2018, we put in place a set of wide-ranging reforms across the Oxfam confederation, to strengthen Oxfam's safeguarding policies and practices and to ensure **a zero-tolerance approach** to all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse.

These reforms include:

- The appointment of an *Independent Commission on Sexual Misconduct, Accountability and Culture Change*, in February 2018, to interrogate all aspects of Oxfam culture and safeguarding work.
- An investment of more than €3m to implement new safeguarding practices, doubling the size of the team dedicated to handling safeguarding cases.
- The appointment of Oxfam GB's Director of Safeguarding in April 2019, reporting directly to the CEO, to ensure that safeguarding concerns are addressed at the highest level.
- Rolling out of mandatory safeguarding training for 10,000 Oxfam employees worldwide.
- Ensuring that all staff worldwide understand and sign Oxfam's updated Code of Conduct, ratified in October 2017 by Oxfam's Executive Board, and which explicitly forbids behaviours witnessed in Haiti.

- Safeguarding Focal Points (trained staff who are initial points of contact for staff grievances and lead on preventative measures) have been assigned in all 67 Oxfam programme countries.
- New reporting and whistleblowing systems (such as emails, hotlines and websites) are available in five languages, to report cases of misconduct and abuse.
- A stronger system for checking and providing references to ensure that Oxfam references are not given to offenders seeking jobs elsewhere.

Sector-wide reform

Oxfam is committed to using our learning to take a lead and collaborate with other agencies in the sector. Actions we have taken so far include:

- Committing up to £2 million over two years towards sector-wide safeguarding initiatives.
- Working with more than 400 partner organizations in 44 countries to better understand how we can support them to strengthen their own safeguarding practices.
- Leading work with nine other leading humanitarian agencies to better share information about offenders, including developing a 'Misconduct Disclosure Scheme'.

LOOKING AHEAD

Throughout 2020 Oxfam GB will be finalising an exciting new ten-year strategy. We will be engaging our supporters and calling out world leaders – especially the UK government – to take the lead in addressing the climate emergency.

We've already seen the power we can have when we raise our collective voice to call out injustice. Our campaign with Amnesty International and UNHCR, including a petition to prevent arms sales to Saudi Arabia by the UK government, played a role in the UK High Court ruling sales arms sales were 'unlawful.'

In delivering our new strategy, Oxfam GB will take a feminist and partner-led approach that:

- Shifts power and resources to the people we serve and our partners
- Supports the evolution of the Oxfam confederation as a global network for social justice

We will be focusing our efforts and resources in a manageable number of fragile contexts. Over the coming decade we will also address the structural barriers to equality which are fuelling the injustice of poverty. Our aim is to work alongside partners to design more strategic interventions around the world – helping people not just to survive but thrive.

We look forward to being with you on our journey.

Purity, 10, enjoys having access to clean running water for the first time from a tap connected to an Oxfam solar piped water system in Bubi District, Zimbabwe.
Photo: Aurelie Marrier D'Unienville/Oxfam

