

Oxfam 2003/4



Oxfam



Oxfam is a world wide network. A community that's crossing continents. Linking

CD video contents

Insert the CD, select a video and press **play**

- V1** The Big Noise : collecting support for Make Trade Fair worldwide
- V2** Global Campaign for Education : making progress on education for all
- V3** Control Arms : a new campaign to bring the arms trade under control
- V4** WEMA : working for the rights of street children in Kenya
- V5** Supporting Nepal : Trailwalker participant Tori Ray
- V6** Living positively : the work of 'Lifeline Rape Crisis' in South Africa
- V7** Saving lives : protecting communities in Uganda.



villages, towns, countries. Connecting individuals who live thousands of miles apart. And from

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Images on front/back cover and left: New lessons from old bottle-tops.

In Kibera, Kenya's biggest shanty town, children are learning to read and write with teaching aids recycled from old bottle-tops. This year, Oxfam has provided Mashimoni Squatters primary school with much-needed text books and paid the salaries of 12 trainee teachers recruited within Kibera. Oxfam is also supporting communities as they lobby their government for improved services.

Changing lives around the world

We work in three, often inter-linking, categories: saving lives through emergency relief, development, and campaigning to achieve lasting change. Shown here is an introduction to some of the most important areas of our work.

Working for fairer trade

This year, millions of campaigners from poor countries have joined forces with supporters in rich countries. We've seen incredible results. Some actions have made world headlines. Others have happened quietly behind the scenes. All of them have moved us closer to a world where trade is a powerful force for lasting change in poor countries. We pick up the story in Mozambique.

→ See page 4



Working for the right to be heard

People living in poverty often have no say in decisions that affect their lives. Oxfam is supporting them to speak out and be heard in their own countries and internationally. And campaigners are demanding that rich countries do more to bring about change.

→ See page 10

Working for equality

The majority of the world's poorest people are women. More than 70 per cent of women live on less than one dollar a day. With support from Oxfam, and each other, many women have begun to take control of their lives and to challenge the negative views that keep them in poverty. Women such as Menuka Paudel in Nepal.

→ See page 12

Working for the right skills

Most people living in poverty have clear ideas about how to overcome their problems. They simply lack the resources needed to put their ideas into practice. That's where Oxfam comes in – linking the necessary funding, education, and people needed to get things moving forward. This year, Carol Symsun was one of those people.

→ See page 6

Working for a safer world

Every year, throughout the world, roughly half a million men, women, and children are killed through armed violence – that's one person every minute. Conflict is also keeping thousands of people in poverty. But in countries such as Rwanda, things have started to change.

→ See page 8



Working for better health

In many countries affordable health care is often unavailable. And if you're poor, you're more likely to be in poor health – often because of illnesses, such as malaria or diarrhoea, which could easily be prevented. We're helping people to improve health services, respond to HIV/AIDS, and provide water and sanitation facilities to help reduce disease.

→ See page 14

Working to save lives

An estimated 30 million people a year are forced to flee their homes because of conflict and natural disaster. Oxfam is ready to respond to emergencies and, where possible, is working with communities in vulnerable areas, so that they are prepared for when disaster strikes.

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From Mozambique...



“Seven out of ten people in Mozambique are peasant farmers. The Big Noise petition of the Make Trade Fair campaign is rekindling hope because the farmers have found a voice and we musicians are playing our role.”

Jeremiah Nguenha, singer, Mozambique



➤ The Big Noise petition...

Make Trade Fair has taken some giant steps forward this year. The Big Noise petition collected global support from millions of people on its way to the World Trade Organisation's (WTO) ministerial meeting in Mexico. But before it reached Cancún in September, it went on a bit of a journey.

🚂 took a train ride in Mozambique...

One of the most unusual methods of collecting signatures was the 'trade train' in Mozambique. The train carried 500 campaigners – including some of the country's best-known musicians – who collected signatures for the Big Noise at each stop. The eight-hour journey ended with an open-air concert in Cuamba. But the Big Noise journey went on.

👕 picked up some clothes in Huddersfield...

Andrew Stockwell is manager of Wastesaver, Oxfam's clothing recycling depot in Huddersfield. In early 2003, he received a call from Maria Wilson, who was organising the first-ever Oxfam shop at the Glastonbury festival. Maria needed help to make the shop a success. Andrew obliged, providing her with a van-load of carefully selected clothing that festival-goers would love.

Oxfam shops are a vital part of our fundraising work, with income growing by a staggering 8% in 2003/04

No one should be prevented from making a living. Getting farmers a fair deal is an important part of our on-going livelihoods work and our campaigning



↑ stopped off at Glastonbury...

Despite being a major sponsor at the Glastonbury festival for more than a decade, Oxfam had never before had a shop on the site. No one could have anticipated its success. The shop took more than £9,000 over the four days, and played an important role in collecting a total of 35,000 signatures.

before arriving in Cancún...

Just two months later the Big Noise was presented at the WTO meeting in Mexico. The tireless work of supporters, southern activists, staff, and volunteers in the run up to Cancún meant that Oxfam presented more than three million signatures. For the first time, poor countries – backed by campaigners from around the world – stood together against rich countries and refused to accept an unfair deal on world trade.

with world-wide consequences

The Cancún talks collapsed. But thanks to the resulting media coverage – and the lobbying and campaigning of Oxfam staff, supporters and other campaigning organisations – there is now a groundswell of popular outrage at unfair trade. More and more decision-makers, politicians, and influential people are convinced of the need to make trade fair. (Shown above are members of rock band Coldplay).

“In the past, rich countries made deals behind closed doors without listening to the rest of the world. They tried again in Cancún, but developing countries refused to sign a deal which would fail the world’s poorest people.”

Phil Bloomer,
Head of Advocacy, Oxfam



V.1 Press play see how Make Trade Fair has been working across the world

...to Cancún

From Gloucester...

Investing in people is a sure way to create an opportunity for a sustainable livelihood, whether it is training someone to run a business or providing an education



Carol Symsun planted some seeds...

Carol Symsun is a volunteer assistant at the Gloucester 'Super Savings' Oxfam shop. Carol has also tended and watered thousands of seedlings to sell in the shop. So far she's raised £1,250. Carol is one of 27,000 shop volunteers – each working tirelessly in our 850 UK shops and raising millions of pounds for projects around the world.

"I get more out of volunteering than I'll ever be able to give back... it inspires me to know that the money raised from my seedlings, could provide clean water for people, or even buy seeds so that they can start their own vegetable garden."

Carol Symsun,
shop volunteer, Gloucester



that have grown aloe vera in Honduras...

Gertrudis García is founding member of a women's group in Honduras that's growing aloe vera for soap making. Through local partner organisation COMUCAP, Oxfam has helped Gertrudis to improve her business. This year we've provided equipment, training, and funding. With the money she receives from selling soap, Gertrudis is able to buy food for her family, and pay her children's bus fares so that they can go to school.

With training and support from Oxfam partners, Gertrudis García is making a living by turning aloe vera plants into soap in Honduras

“Helen gives us counselling and encouragement. She advises us about life, about HIV/AIDS, and many other things. She encourages us not to stop going to school, but to continue with our education.”

Martha, Malawi



📍 vegetable gardens in Malawi...

In Malawi, kitchen vegetable gardens have become an important way of meeting the increased nutritional needs of people who are HIV positive – often housebound by illness. These gardens are designed to ensure that each family can have a healthy diet – regardless of poverty. Any surplus vegetables can be sold, and the money used to buy extra food and other necessities. We’ve been providing the seeds, tools, and training needed to enable families to keep kitchen gardens.



📍 and an education for Martha

Martha lives in Malawi. She is 13 years old. Her parents died from AIDS-related illnesses, leaving her to care for two younger sisters. With this huge burden of responsibility, Martha thought that she would have to give up going to school. But with counselling,

encouragement and support from Helen, an Oxfam-trained volunteer, Martha has been able to continue her education and cope with her new responsibilities. Oxfam is providing 920 households affected by AIDS in the region with similar support.



V.2 Press play: Oxfam is part of the Global Campaign for Education, demanding education for all children by 2015. See how it’s working worldwide



...to Malawi

From London...

🖱️ Dr Mamode clicked his mouse...

On 9 October 2003 Oxfam, in partnership with Amnesty International and International Action Network on Small Arms, launched a major campaign demanding that the international trade of arms be brought under control. Nizam Mamode is one of 200,000 people who visited the Control Arms website in 2003 and signed up to the Million Faces petition. This groundbreaking collection of names and faces is already a vital tool in the campaign for tougher controls on the international arms trade.

“Working as a surgeon in Rwanda in 1994, I saw how small arms can fuel violence, and the appalling consequence of conflict. So I've signed up to Oxfam's Million Faces petition calling for tough international controls on arms.”

Dr Nizam Mamode

In today's conflicts, most of the people killed are civilians, almost half of them are children

There are an estimated 639 million small arms and light weapons in the world today – and eight million more are produced every year

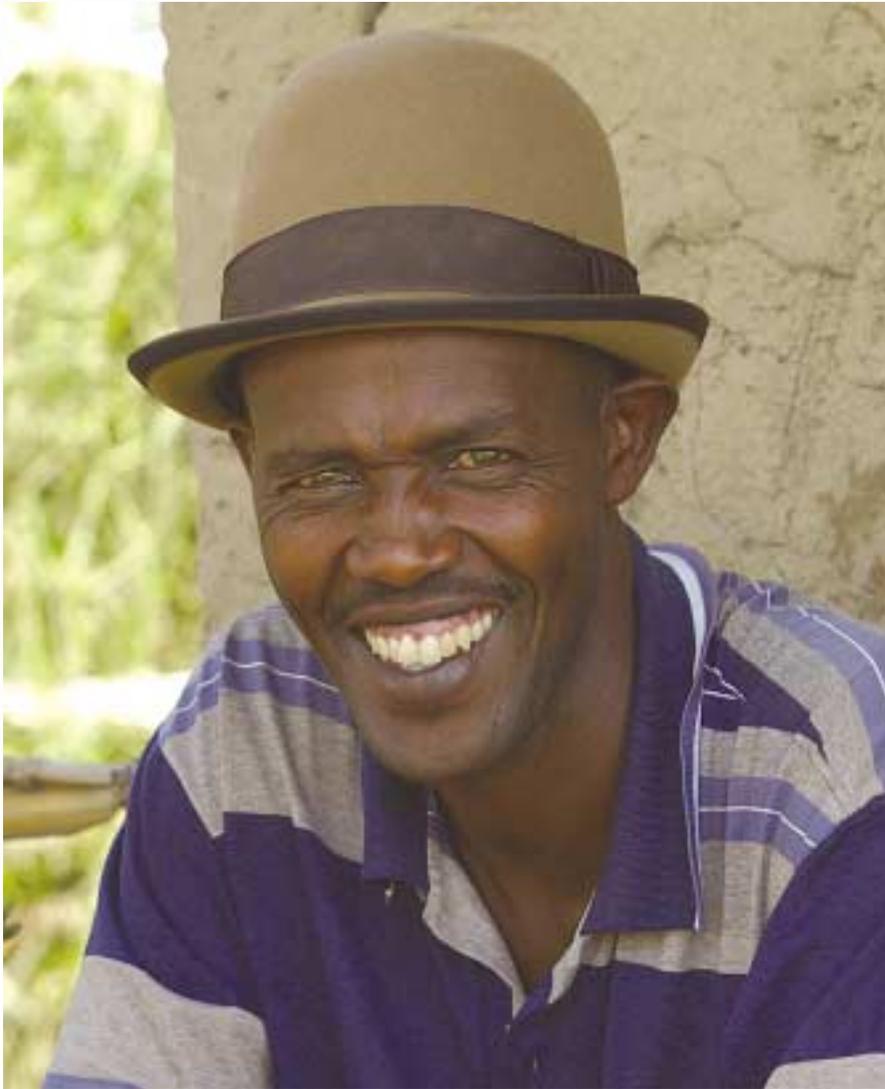
🗣️ and joined the Control Arms campaign...

On an international level, Control Arms is demanding that the world's governments sign up to a global Arms Trade Treaty. This legally-binding agreement would ensure that all governments control their arms trade to the same basic international standards. In short, it would help to stop the sale of weapons to indiscriminate killers and human rights' abusers.



V.3 Press play: In 2006 the Million Faces petition will be presented at the United Nations conference on Small Arms. See how the Control Arms campaign began in London





“I believe the genocide could not have begun if things had been as they are now. Now we are one and we would say, ‘we will not let you divide us’.”

Bernard Mugabo

📍 which will help Bernard Mugabo...

As well as lobbying at an international level, Oxfam has provided training and small grants to local projects that help to build peace and tackle poverty. In Rwanda, ten years on from the genocide in 1994,

Oxfam has been training community leaders, like Bernard Mugabo, to ensure that they can deal with disputes peacefully and effectively. We are doing this work with 50 local councils across Rwanda.

🔄 to build a peaceful future

We’ve also been working in partnership with local councils in Rwanda to ensure that the needs of the poorest people in these communities are met. Oxfam provides the grants, but council members from different backgrounds are working together to decide where the money should be spent. This approach to our grant-making work is not only reducing poverty, but also building strong, working relationships between local council members from different backgrounds.

More than 200,000 people have clicked on www.controlarms.org and joined the *Million Faces* petition. Have you?

...to Rwanda

From Salisbury...



“Although I don’t really consider myself a ‘campaigner’, I wrote to Gordon Brown because I felt so strongly about the issue of overseas aid. I’m surprised and pleased that campaigning can achieve such positive results.”

Audrey Short, Campaigner



A letter sent from Salisbury...

Audrey Short is one of 100,000 people who wrote to Gordon Brown, asking him to increase Britain’s overseas aid budget. The 00.7 Campaign united organisations and people from all communities and walks of life: public figures, celebrities, and Oxfam supporters. The message was clear – increase UK spending on overseas aid to 0.7 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

“I thank the churches, faith groups and non-governmental organisations for their representations that we should raise spending on aid.”

Gordon Brown, Chancellor of the Exchequer

convinced Gordon Brown to increase overseas aid

Gordon Brown announced a £1 billion increase in Britain’s overseas aid in June 2004. He also set a longer-term goal for Britain to reach the UN target of 0.7 per cent of GDP by 2013. This £1 billion increase could provide 14 million more people with clean water, prevent the deaths of 250,000 under five, and enable two million more children to go to school.

Audrey Short.

Real change will only come when large numbers of people demand it, in rich countries as well as poor

“No matter how powerful you are as an individual, you need to be part of a group to succeed. The group gave us the unity and strength to get a piece of land from the local council, for the Women’s Association. Now we’re raising the money to build an office. The land was the first step and was achieved through what we learned in our group.”

Keita Nene Dakite, Mali



V.4 Press play: See how WEMA, an Oxfam partner in Kenya, is helping street-children in Mombassa to get off the streets and be recognised by the government



🔊 Meanwhile, a women’s group got heard by their local council...

Women in Bamako, Mali are making change happen through support and training from Oxfam partner organisation, OMAFES. Today, as well as running a credit and loan scheme, small businesses, and literacy classes, women’s group members have gained the self confidence and negotiating skills that have enabled them to take a full and active part in their local council meetings and decisions affecting them.

🔊 while the people of Kibera were heard by their government

People from Kibera formed a coalition with groups from across Nairobi’s shanty towns, and are campaigning with others in the Global Campaign for Education. We’ve seen some exciting progress. In 2003, the government abolished primary school fees for all children. And earlier this year, the Kenyan government announced an end to compulsory school uniforms.

In early 2004, more than 100,000 people wrote to Gordon Brown to ask him to increase Britain’s spending on overseas aid to 0.7 per cent of GDP

...to Kibera, Kenya

From Nepal...



“Women weren’t interested in politics before. But with the help of Oxfam and the Women’s Skill Creation Centre we know what our rights are, and how to use them.”

Menuka Paudel,
Basamadi village, Nepal



Around the world...

For most Nepalese women life is a constant struggle. But poverty is only part of the problem. Traditional views and practices mean that often women are living in fear of violence and abuse at home. Some are even being sold as commodities, trafficked into forced prostitution in India.

women are taking action...

Oxfam has been working in villages such as Basamadi to help women to understand their legal rights, and have the confidence to use them. Several women now have plans to stand in local and district elections – giving them a voice in decision-making processes that affect women, so that they can push for change. We are also working with partner organisations to help young women understand the risks of being abducted and trafficked.

to challenge tradition...

With support from Oxfam, women in Uttar Pradesh, India are taking action to protect themselves against abuse. Earlier this year, volunteers from the Mahoba district organised a bicycle tour to take the message about stopping violence against women to rural areas. The fact that they had learned how to ride bicycles was also a challenge to traditionally-held views about women’s mobility in the region.



Whether it is providing refuge from domestic violence, or offering legal rights advice, we work to overcome discrimination in all its forms



“I found meeting and working with women in South Africa so inspiring. Their knowledge and innovation ensured I returned with information and ideas that will be invaluable to our work in Scotland. Many, many thanks.”

Kay Simpson, Scottish Women’s Budgeting Group

➔ **to defend their rights...**

Here in the UK, as elsewhere, economic policies sometimes still place women at a disadvantage. So, as part of our UK Poverty Programme, Oxfam is supporting groups who are campaigning, at both national and local level, to ensure that women’s needs are taken into account in policy-making and budgeting processes.

➔ **and support each other**

In April 2004 we organised a ‘gender-budgeting’ exchange visit to South Africa. Representatives from Scottish local governments and non-governmental organisations, met with their counterparts in South Africa, to learn from their experiences of campaigning for women’s rights.



V.5 Press play: Trailwalker UK is an annual event organised by Oxfam and the Gurkha Welfare Trust, to raise funds for projects in Nepal and beyond. In June 2003, 200 teams raised a total of £500,000 in sponsorship – an amazing achievement. Tori Ray was one of the participants. She recently visited Nepal to see Oxfam’s work in action

In 2003, Trailwalker UK raised an amazing £500,000. Be part of next year’s event: visit www.oxfam.org.uk/trailwalker

...to Scotland

From Tajikistan...



Good health available on tap...

Before Oxfam began working in the Khatlon region of Tajikistan, Pardahol Nomratova did not have clean drinking water. Along with most people in Bahor village, she had to collect her family's drinking water from open irrigation canals and rivers. Since November 2002, an estimated 8,000 people have benefited from our work.

Oxfam worked with local communities to install 200 hand pumps in Khatlon, and provide Pardahol and thousands of other people, with clean, safe, drinking water. We've also trained local people to raise awareness about how to avoid water-related illnesses such as diarrhoea, typhoid fever, and hepatitis.



“Most people in this village used to get their water from the irrigation channels. It was easy to reach but really hard to drink because it's so dirty, the smell is terrible, and so is the taste.”

**Pardahol Nomratova,
Bahor village, Tajikistan**



Every day 37,000 people die from preventable diseases. Everyone deserves basic health services, clean water and sanitation

Since June 2003, Oxfam has refurbished 27 clinics in west Georgia to provide local people with affordable health care



 **around the corner...**

In Georgia, a simple health scheme is providing people with basic health care and essential drugs. For Ghaghu Darsania and her family, this means they can now see a doctor in a local clinic. Ghaghu used to have to travel 20 kilometres to reach the nearest doctor. Since June 2003, Oxfam partners have set up or rehabilitated 27 health clinics in west Georgia – one of which is in Ghaghu's home village of Natsatu. Once a family has joined the health scheme for a monthly fee of \$1, they receive free medicines and health care, and, with the agreement of the community, the poorest people pay no fee. Now families can get the care they need – without having to travel long distances or pay extortionate prices.

 **over the phone...**

This year, Oxfam helped to fund the 'LifeLine Rape Crisis' telephone counselling service in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. With our support, this local organisation has been able to recruit and train 12 HIV/AIDS counsellors. The service offers confidential support and advice for women who think they may be HIV positive or who have been diagnosed HIV positive.

"I have talked my neighbours into becoming members of the [Oxfam] health scheme, as I think we receive excellent health services and medicines for the whole family, for a minimal fee."

**Ghaghu Darsania,
Natsatu village, Georgia**



V.6 Press play: See how counsellors from 'LifeLine Rape Crisis' are helping people in South Africa to cope with being HIV positive

...to South Africa

From Bam...

“Oxfam is looking to hire local staff to work with us but when we ask for a local engineer or worker we get the same poignant answer, again and again: ‘They were killed in the quake’.”

Allan Bell, Humanitarian Co-ordinator, Bam earthquake



Often disasters can't be stopped...

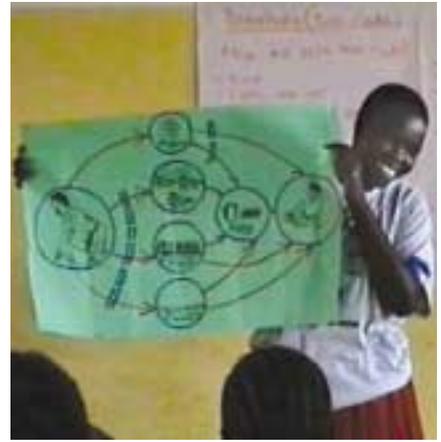
On 26 December 2003, a massive earthquake measuring 8 on the Richter scale, tore through the city of Bam, Iran. Tens of thousands of people were made homeless. 41,000 people were killed. Oxfam was there, responding immediately. Within five days, we had sent £50,000 worth of water equipment to the region – water tanks, tap stands, pumps, toolkits, and water purification chemicals. Our rapid response saved lives.

but Oxfam is ready...

Oxfam's emergency warehouse in Bicester, near Oxford, is the largest store of emergency equipment in the world. Six full-time staff are on call 24 hours a day, ready to respond at a moment's notice. It's this readiness that allowed us to respond so quickly in Bam. Much of this specialist equipment has been designed by our own Public Health Team. The Oxfam bucket, tank, and feeding kit are examples of equipment designed by Oxfam and now in use by other relief agencies around the world.

regardless of headlines...

The Bam earthquake made the headlines. But there are many other emergencies that happen, with little or no media coverage, and consequently little chance of major response from the general public. In these situations, we rely on the generosity of our supporters, as well as government donors such as the UN, ECHO and DFID. So when severe drought in southern Mauritania left thousands of families with no harvest, no food, and no income, Oxfam was able to respond.



Oxfam responds to emergencies in over 40 countries every year. As well as natural disasters, many emergencies are caused by conflict

Oxfam's emergency warehouse in Bicester, near Oxford, is the largest store of emergency equipment in the world

to save and protect lives...

And in Kitgum, Northern Uganda, an 18-year-old conflict has created a desperate situation for the Acholi society. Regularly, militia groups raid villages, and abduct children to increase their numbers. Each night, up to 20,000 people (75 per cent of them unaccompanied children) journey five miles into Kitgum – preferring to risk the dangers of sleeping on the streets to those of staying at home in their villages. Each night, Kitgum's population

can increase by 50 per cent and until recently the local people had been left to clean up every morning when the “Night Dwellers” left. Now, Oxfam is providing shelters, clean water and sanitation, as well as teaching people about health and hygiene. Of course this work will also benefit the people of the town. We are also working with others, advocating for the protection of civilians and finding solutions to the conflict.



V.7 Press play: The pictures above are of the journey that these people take every night to find some safety. Find out more about how Oxfam is helping this struggling community make life a little more bearable

...to Uganda

2005 Working to overcome poverty



An end to wishful thinking

Our work with those living in poverty has shown us that matters of health, education, equality, livelihoods and conflict are often inextricably linked. It's no good dealing with one without dealing with the other. To overcome poverty – to actually end it – we need to address them all.

An end to broken promises

In 2005, we're turning our campaigning attention to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) drawn up by the UN in 2000. The political events of 2005 mean that there is a unique opportunity for a breakthrough.

An end to poverty and suffering

With enough public pressure, politicians could change policies on trade, debt and aid, which would change the lives of 800 million women, men, and children living in poverty.

The UN Millennium Development Goals are to:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Give all children a primary education
3. Promote equality between women and men
4. Reduce the number of children who die before their fifth birthday, by two thirds
5. Improve the health of women, particularly during pregnancy and childbirth
6. Halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases
7. Improve environmental sustainability, including clean, safe water supplies
8. Ensure that rich and poor countries work in partnership on trade, aid, debt, and technology

“Next year offers campaigners a series of unique influencing opportunities. We owe it to the people living in poverty to grasp this chance and make the most of it.”

Owain James,
Campaign manager, Oxfam



MAKE POVERTY HISTORY

What makes 2005 so important?

- The G8 summit – a meeting of the world’s richest countries – is coming to Britain and will be in Scotland from 6 – 8 July
- In September, the UN Heads of Government Millennium Development Goals Summit will meet in New York to assess progress five years on from their original agreement
- The UK takes over the presidency of the European Union on 1 July
- The UK government’s Africa Commission will report back in April

The Millennium Development Goals Campaign

The MDGs are a set of targets that aim to halve the number of people living in poverty by 2015. But the world leaders that signed up to the goals in 2000 are making slow progress. Oxfam will be campaigning for action on a range of issues leading up to, and during 2005, including:

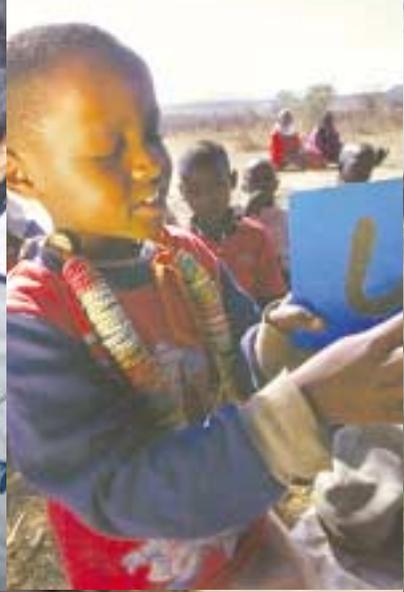
- Dropping unpayable debt;
- Getting other countries to follow Britain’s example and increase their global aid budgets
- Make trade rules work for the poorest people
- Call Britain to pledge more funds to the Education For All Fast Track Initiative

Make Poverty History coalition

Oxfam is not alone in making these demands. We’re part of a powerful, international coalition. Building on the successes of Jubilee 2000 and the Trade Justice Movement, it will bring together hundreds of organisations, and millions of people, with one call: Make Poverty History. Visit www.makepovertyhistory.org to find out more.



For the latest on the Millennium Development Goals Campaign, visit www.oxfam.org



The year in pictures Working with others to overcome poverty and



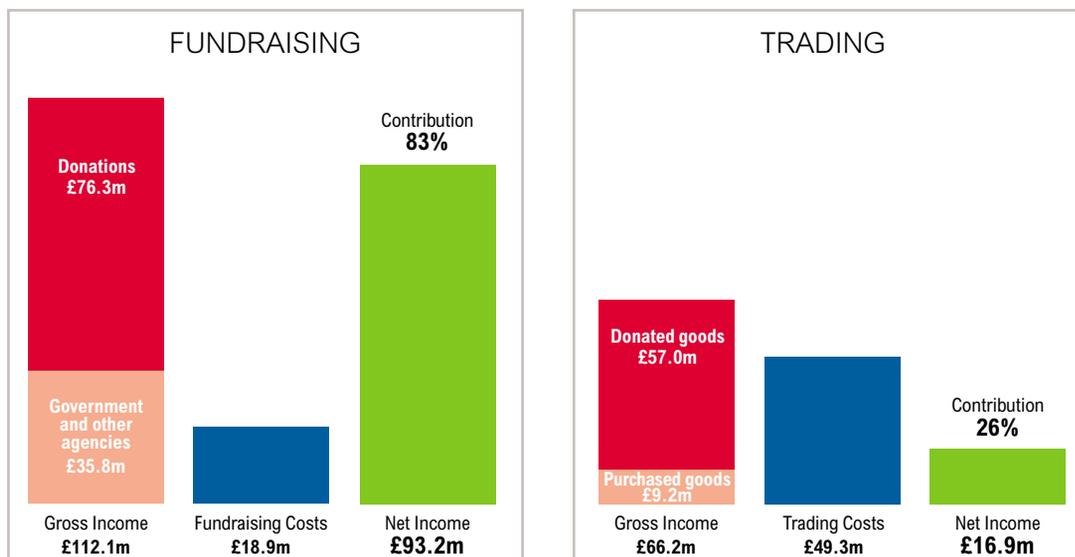


suffering through the most effective, appropriate and enduring solutions.



Where the money comes from

2003/04



Total Net Income

(inc. a total of £7.4m gifts in kind and miscellaneous income)

£117.5m

Transfer from reserves

£2.7m

£120.2m

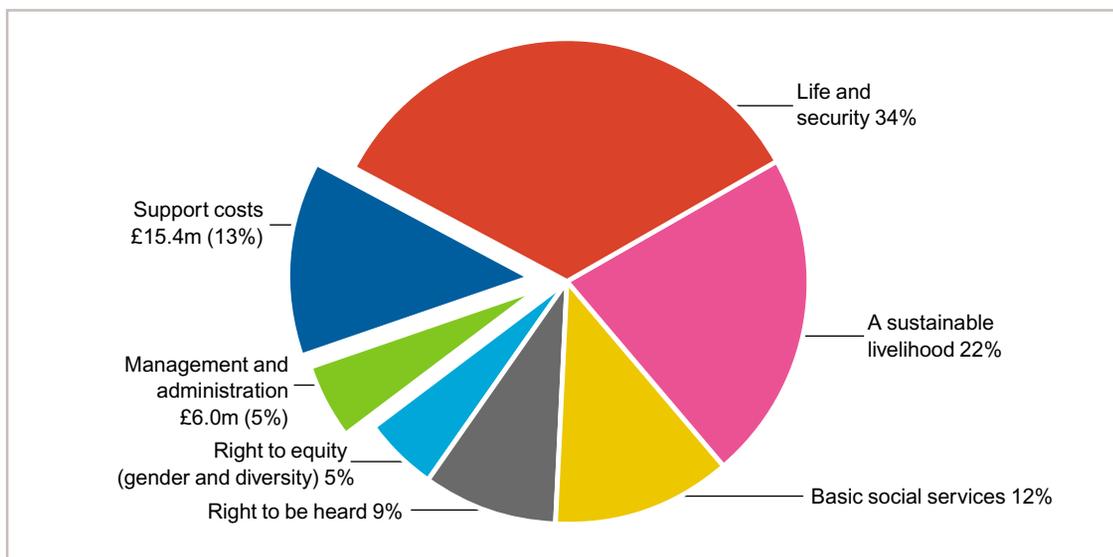


Shop success

Unrestricted income from our shops, including shop-donations, grew by 8% to £17.6 million. This was achieved by the real growth in shop sales, principally because of the strong growth in books

(+9%) and new products (+2%). Our new products range was the most profitable one we have had for over a decade, and provides a platform for more growth next year.

And where the money goes



Expenditure £120.2m

Alternatively, our spending can be split into the three main areas of our work:

- ➔ £50.4million on development work,
- ➔ £33.9 million on humanitarian (emergency) work,
- ➔ £10 million on campaigning and education.

£6 million was spent on management and administration of the charity, and £15 million on support costs (staff supporting, monitoring and managing the programme).

Special thanks to



The European Union



Department for International Development



The United Nations



Community Fund

Oxfam acknowledges funding from the Community Fund of £182,000 for HIV/AIDS in India, £235,000 for education in Mozambique, and £190,000 for UK Poverty. Oxfam acknowledges funding from the Commonwealth Education Fund (CEF) of £0 (2002/03: £72,000) and spent £45,000 (2002/03: £0) on CEF funded projects.

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**Oxfam works with others to
overcome poverty and suffering**

www.oxfam.org.uk

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