



YEMEN: Children play during break-time at Al Kwod Othman School in Aden. This school is in one of the slum areas of Aden and is supported by Oxfam

Oxfam works with others to overcome poverty and suffering

www.oxfam.org.uk

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INDIA Members of a fishing cooperative preparing to haul in their nets. Sania village, Chattarpur, Madhya Pradesh. Oxfam partner Vikalp is encouraging communities to form co-operatives in order to fight for their land rights

Foreword

We want people to live in prosperity, not poverty, so the focus of our work is on how poor people can make a good living.



Prosperity and vulnerability

Oxfam works with people on their assets – their land rights, fishing rights or access to credit. We also work with people to increase their productivity and to organise themselves into co-operatives and small companies (1). For the last five years or so, we have been paying much more attention to how people can get a good deal in the market. Of course, that's not new either – Oxfam was a central player in getting the Fair Trade movement started.

But in the last 12 months in particular, our focus has been on ensuring that poor people have more power in markets. We have been supporting co-operatives to make sure they can produce enough goods and that the supply is guaranteed, so

that a good price can be negotiated in local or global markets (2). These co-operatives have been getting organic status for their products and have been improving the quality so that major buyers have become interested. This requires the business and financial skills to run small organisations, the skills for market analysis and for spotting market opportunities. These are not traditional NGO (Non-Government Organisation) skills, and more and more we are seeing the need to work with others, especially those in the private sector.

It feels like a pivotal moment for many of these small enterprises, and for Oxfam as well (3). In order to help these small businesses grow much

bigger, we are now seeking investment funds and affordable finance from banks. We're also beginning to look at linking up with major companies who will buy the products at fair prices, and into ways for processing and packaging to take place in the country of origin.

Our relationship with the private sector is changing. We will still campaign against organisations if they use their power to the detriment of poor people. We were delighted recently when, after a public campaign by Oxfam, Starbucks signed a distribution, marketing and licensing agreement that recognises Ethiopia's rights to control how its coffee names are used (4). This agreement could be worth millions of dollars to Ethiopian coffee farmers in the long term.

“Our focus has been on ensuring poor people have more power in markets.”

But equally, we want to work in partnership with those companies that are prepared to give small farmers a fair deal or to invest in improving their products. In the future, we will be doing much more work with the banking sector to look at how poor people can benefit from banking and other financial services. Prosperity is the aim, then, but we have to remember that poor people are also extremely vulnerable to slipping back into extreme poverty.

HIV and AIDS are diminishing people's ability to farm or earn a living – in Southern Africa, in particular, we are working to support communities' livelihoods (5). Conflict obviously destroys livelihoods, and we have been working with women in the camps in Darfur and Chad to help them earn some money. That is what they have been asking us for – they want to be able to fend for themselves (6).

And finally, droughts, floods and natural disasters. The people we work with are the most vulnerable to disaster because they don't have savings, resources or much else to fall back on. The effects of climate change are already hitting them hard, so as well as campaigning on this issue, we are also working with people as they try to adapt their lives (7). They are trying to become better prepared for disaster and to reduce the risks to lives and homes – by building houses on higher ground for example, or by diverting water courses to prevent villages from flooding.

Our work then, continues to cover diverse ground. But we believe this diversity will help us achieve the ultimate goal of making prosperity a reality for everyone.

Barbara Stocking
Director, Oxfam GB, July 2007



1 FISHING COMMUNITIES in India are setting up co-operatives to reclaim the right to fish on their local ponds. Working together, they are able to increase the earning potential of the ponds and find new markets for their fish. **See page 36**



2 IN WESTERN HONDURAS, Oxfam partner OCDIH is teaching communities about how to market their goods, and the competition they may face. The people of Sesesmil are now selling coffee to the international market. **See page 20**



3 OXFAM IS GIVING SMALL LOANS and business training to groups of Maasai women in Tanzania to develop new ways for them to earn a living. The women are now selling products, such as jewellery and crafts, to various markets including tourists. **See page 22**



4 AROUND 15 MILLION PEOPLE in Ethiopia depend on coffee for a living. By owning the rights to its fine coffee names, Ethiopia can help its farmers negotiate a better price, potentially increasing its revenue by US\$88 million a year. **See page 24**



5 IN ZIMBABWE, Oxfam is distributing vouchers to people living with HIV and AIDS, so that they can buy chickens and goats – a vital source of nutrition and income. **See page 30**



6 WOMEN IN EASTERN CHAD are being trained to build latrines in emergency camps. This ensures that the latrines are more suited to the women's needs, and the women learn new skills, gain confidence and earn a small income. **See page 45**



7 CLIMATE CHANGE is already affecting the lives of poor people. We are working to ensure that our projects – across the areas of development, disaster response, and campaigning – are adapted to the changing situation. **See page 14**

The year that was

SPRING

Campaigners march through the streets of Monrovia in Liberia during the Global Week of Action for Education. Oxfam and our partners in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Liberia, Mali and Niger used the week of action to call for qualified teachers for every school in West Africa.



JULY

A golden opportunity for fairer global trade is missed as World Trade Organisation negotiations break down. The livelihoods of millions of poor people remain at risk, as harmful EU and US trade practices are allowed to continue.



AUGUST

Oxfam calls on the British public to donate £1m to help people whose lives have been shattered by the conflict in the Middle East.



OCTOBER

Victory for the *Control Arms* campaign, as 139 governments vote to begin work on an international Arms Trade Treaty.



OCTOBER

The first Oxfam music festival is a massive success, with music-lovers bringing Oxfam's message to their communities in over 1,000 events across the UK. The Scissor Sisters (below) are among the big names supporting Oxfam, which raises half a million pounds.



DECEMBER

On World AIDS Day, Oxfam campaigners call for affordable medicines for all, and for the training of more health workers in developing countries to support people living with HIV and AIDS.



FEBRUARY

During British band Coldplay's Latin America tour, Oxfam volunteers collect signatures for the Big Noise petition in São Paulo, Brazil. Coldplay has supported Oxfam's *Make Trade Fair* campaign since its launch in 2002.



MAY

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL



SPRING

Team Oxfam raises more than £150,000 by running the 26 gruelling miles of the Flora London Marathon. Emily (above) is one of thousands of fundraisers, campaigners and volunteers whose passion and commitment help make our work possible.



SUMMER

Oxfam volunteers are out in force at festivals across the country, where they raise more than £500,000 for Oxfam and sign up thousands of new campaigners.



Oxfam 365Alliance: a life-saving partnership



SEPTEMBER

Launch of the Oxfam 365 Alliance – a unique network of companies, providing vital, upfront support for Oxfam's emergencies work, 365 days a year.



NOVEMBER

Oxfam supporters are among the 25,000 people marching in Trafalgar Square on the eve of global climate change talks in Kenya. The rally is organised by Stop Climate Chaos, a coalition of environmental and development organisations, including Oxfam, who are calling for the UK government to take firm action against climate change.

Oxfam wins a BAFTA for *Mapping our World*, a free online resource for teaching Geography. The resource was produced by our Development Education team, who work with schools across the UK to promote 'global citizenship'.



APRIL

Oxfam launches a £5m appeal to enable us to expand our emergency response in Darfur and Chad, in what has become the world's greatest humanitarian crisis.

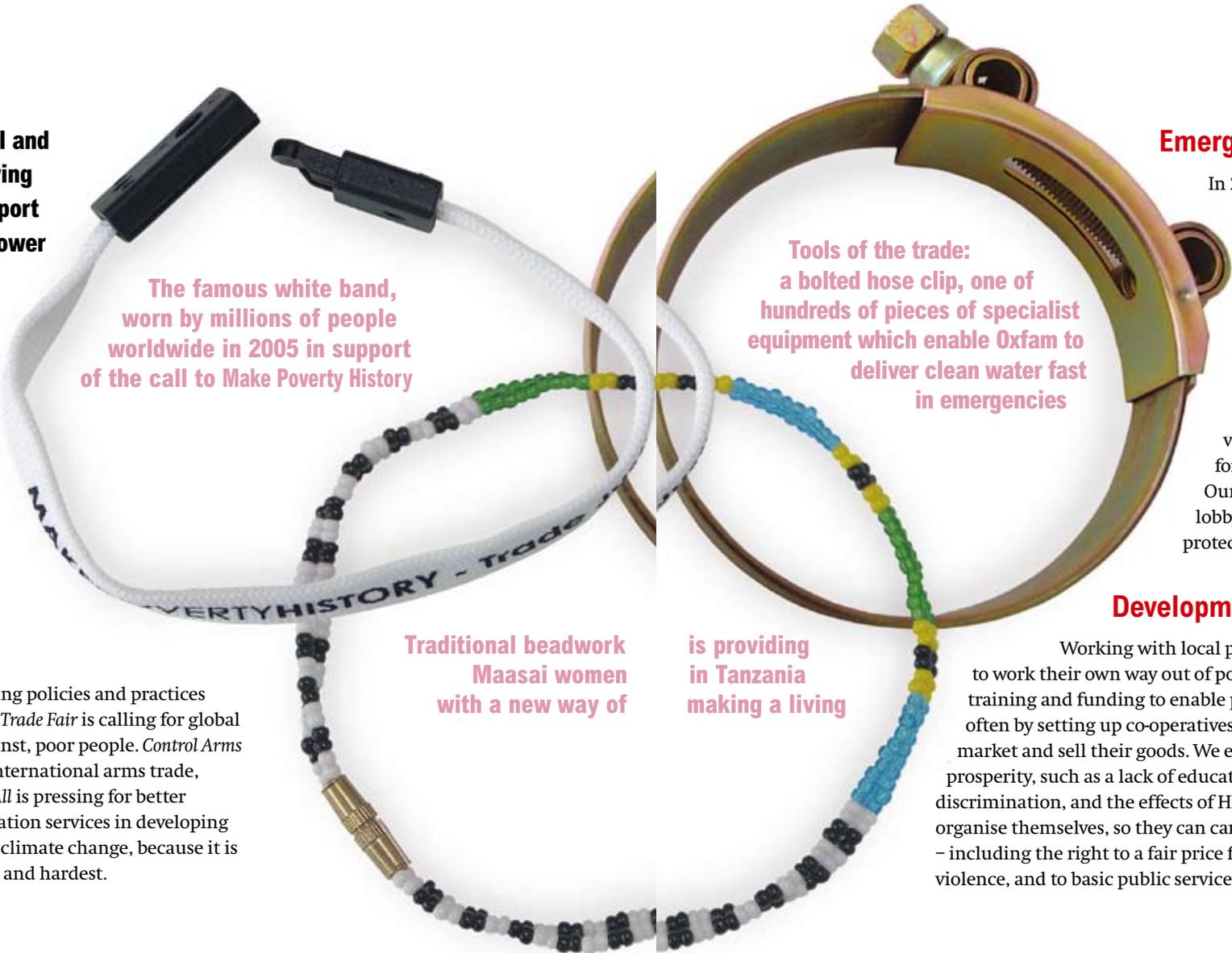
Oxfam's unique approach

Oxfam works at a local, national and global level. We provide life-saving aid during emergencies; we support long-term initiatives which empower people to work their way out of poverty; and we campaign to tackle the underlying causes of poverty. These aspects of our work are intertwined, mutually reinforcing, and must be used together if we are to end global poverty forever.

Campaigning

Oxfam's campaigns tackle the underlying policies and practices which create and sustain poverty. *Make Trade Fair* is calling for global trade which works for, rather than against, poor people. *Control Arms* is working for tighter controls on the international arms trade, which fuels poverty and suffering. *For All* is pressing for better health, education, and water and sanitation services in developing countries. We are also campaigning on climate change, because it is hitting the world's poorest people first, and hardest.

Oxfam is a movement of people working in a huge variety of ways to put an end to poverty. This movement includes: **1,500** local partner organisations worldwide; **6,000** paid staff in more than **60** countries; **20,000+** volunteers staffing **750** high street shops in the UK; **17,000,000**



The famous white band, worn by millions of people worldwide in 2005 in support of the call to Make Poverty History

Tools of the trade: a bolted hose clip, one of hundreds of pieces of specialist equipment which enable Oxfam to deliver clean water fast in emergencies

Traditional beadwork Maasai women is providing in Tanzania making a living

Emergencies

In 2006, Oxfam responded to emergencies in more than 30 countries. Our particular expertise lies in the provision of clean water and sanitation facilities, which are vital in preventing the spread of disease; we can also provide food, shelter, and essential equipment to people whose lives have been shattered by conflict or natural disaster. When an initial crisis is over, Oxfam stays to support people as they rebuild their lives. We work with vulnerable communities to help them prepare for, and minimise the impact of, natural disasters. Our work in emergencies informs our constant lobbying for more and better aid, and for the protection of civilians during conflict.

Development

Working with local partner organisations, we empower people to work their own way out of poverty. For example, Oxfam provides support, training and funding to enable people to earn a better and more secure living, often by setting up co-operatives which put individuals in a better position to market and sell their goods. We enable communities to overcome obstacles to prosperity, such as a lack of education and health care, gender or other discrimination, and the effects of HIV and AIDS. Oxfam also helps people to organise themselves, so they can campaign locally and nationally for their rights – including the right to a fair price for their goods, to a life free from domestic violence, and to basic public services.

visitors to Oxfam shops each year; **500,000** supporters giving a regular monthly donation; **245,000** people campaigning with us in the UK alone; **425,000+** customers buying from *Oxfam Unwrapped*; and the hundreds of thousands of people whose efforts we support to overcome poverty.



THE RIGHT TO LIFE AND SECURITY

Oxfam responds to emergencies, working to save and protect people's lives when conflict or natural disasters strike; we believe that everyone has the right to a life free from fear and insecurity

SUDAN Girls collect water at an Oxfam pump in Kebkabiye, North Darfur

Conflict and natural disasters are major causes of poverty and suffering for millions of people. Whenever lives, health and livelihoods are threatened, Oxfam responds; at any given time we are working in emergency situations in more than 30 countries.

The fight for survival, Sudan and Chad

Life continues to be a daily struggle for the two million people caught up in the Darfur crisis. For the men, women and children who are surviving in the many cramped emergency camps, located across Darfur and in neighbouring Chad, there is little chance of a return home. “Life is very different; it’s not like the life we were used to before,” says Khadeja Mohamed Ibrahim, who lives with her family in one of the camps. “We are sitting with nothing to do, there are no job opportunities, no income. There is not enough food. I hope peace will come soon, so we can go back to the villages. I hope we can return to our lives soon.” Suffering has also intensified because of the escalation of violence in the region. Chad was already hosting more than a quarter of a million refugees from Darfur; now 140,000 of its own people have been displaced by conflict.

Oxfam’s work in these two countries continues to be our biggest emergency programme in the world. In early 2007, we provided 500,000 people with clean water and sanitation facilities: we built latrines, and

erected water tanks and tapstands. Making sure that there is enough water to meet everyone’s basic washing and cooking needs is an ongoing challenge but, to help tackle the problem, our engineers are drilling new boreholes. This has greatly reduced the demand for water at pumping stations, where people were queuing for long periods, and means we are able to build more tapstands in and around the camps.

“Children everywhere need to be taught to wash their hands and keep clean, but especially here as the consequences can easily be fatal.”

All of this work is vital in helping to prevent widespread disease, but education also plays a key role.

Oxfam Public Health Promoters are running projects within the emergency camps and local communities, to make sure that adults and children are made aware of the health and hygiene risks they face. In Kalma camp, one of the largest

in Darfur, health promoters are using games and songs to teach children about the importance of washing their hands after using a latrine. The vast majority of people living in Kalma and other camps are women and children. These public health projects are not only fun for children, but also equip them with information that could keep them healthy and save their lives.

“Children everywhere need to be taught to wash their hands and keep clean, but especially here as the consequences can easily be fatal,” says Oxfam’s Khaled Suleiman. “We are trying to ensure that the children are exposed to our messages at every possible opportunity. The songs are just a part of our activities, and it is clear that children’s health has improved since the programmes began.”

Oxfam aims to increase its spending on water and sanitation by around 50 per cent over the next three years. This will help to improve living conditions for people caught up in emergency situations, such as the crisis in Darfur and Chad.



SUDAN & CHAD 1 Collecting water in D’jabal camp, Chad **2** A bar of soap can help save lives: washing hands after using a latrine is an effective way to prevent widespread disease; Oxfam distributes soap to people who live in camps and towns across Darfur and Chad **3** Pictures and words spread the public health message on the walls of latrines at a school in Abu Shouk camp, North Darfur **4** Girls and boys learn songs and dances about how to stay healthy, as part of Oxfam’s public health work with children in Abu Shouk camp, North Darfur



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3
4
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CONTROL ARMS 1 A man signs up to the Million Faces petition **2** The UN General Assembly voting board, 6 December 2006: 153 green lights and only one red **3** Just a few of the million people who supported the campaign's petition **4** A message to UN delegates in the corridor leading to the General Assembly **5** A media stunt to highlight the human impact of the arms trade

After three years of intense campaigning, the *Control Arms*¹ campaign achieved a massive victory in 2006 when governments voted to begin work on an international Arms Trade Treaty.

Victory for Oxfam's Conflict campaign

Sadly, the situation in Darfur is not unique. Armed violence kills 1,000 people every day and is a major cause of poverty and suffering. Yet there has never been an international treaty to regulate the trade in arms. After three years of intense global campaigning and lobbying, *Control Arms* achieved a historic victory at the United Nations General Assembly in December 2006; the governments of 153 countries voted to begin work on an international Arms Trade Treaty (ATT).

Since 2003, campaigners have been working hard to secure a treaty to control the spread of weapons in the world. And nearly three years to the day since the campaign's launch, governments finally supported the move to control arms. If all goes well,

the treaty will be ready by 2009-10, which is fast progress in UN terms.

Every year, nearly 200,000 people are killed in wars, and almost twice as many people lose their lives in incidents of crime and other forms of armed violence.

There were a lot of campaigning actions throughout 2006. There were '100 Days of Action' in the run-up to the UN Review Conference on Small Arms in July. Activists organised and took part in many stunts and the 'Million Faces' petition was presented to Kofi Annan, former Secretary General of the UN. The Review Conference

collapsed without agreement, but more governments expressed their support for tough arms controls. Several months later, in October, campaigners got the result they'd worked so hard to achieve when 139 governments voted in favour of the ATT proposal. By December, the final number of countries backing the ATT proposal rose to 153, with only the US voting against it.

"To go from a campaign launch three years ago to 153 governments voting in favour of the Arms Trade Treaty resolution is a real testament to the hard work of campaigners around the world," says Anna Macdonald, Oxfam's Conflict Campaign Manager. "Now, we need to keep the pressure on to ensure that an Arms Trade Treaty becomes a reality."

¹ *Control Arms* is a joint campaign by Oxfam, Amnesty International and the International Action Network on Small Arms.



Beatrice Boloyo lives in Mbindi camp, in the Democratic Republic of Congo. She was forced to leave her home because of conflict. "If I were the president, the first thing I'd do is bring peace to all the people, and I'd combat poverty. Where the population is suffering, I would bring peace. I want the peace that neighbouring countries have found. I want this country to be like them."

Climate change is already affecting the lives of poor people. In the last 25 years, natural disasters have increased five-fold, threatening people’s lives, homes and jobs. Oxfam believes that poverty cannot be tackled without taking climate change into account, so we are adapting our work – across the areas of development, disaster response and campaigning.

Tackling climate change

Poor people in developing countries are often the most vulnerable and least well-equipped to cope with the severe effects of climate change, despite being the least responsible for carbon emissions. People are often forced to live in areas most prone to the consequences of climate change, and they also lack the resources necessary to cope with, and adapt to these. Poor countries also tend to be heavily dependent on climate-sensitive industries, such as agriculture. If there is a drought, or if land is flooded, people may not have any other means of earning a living. They may also have no choice but to return to disaster-prone areas once the worst is over.

Oxfam is working with partner organisations in several countries – including Bangladesh, Peru and Kenya – to reduce the vulnerability of communities to natural disasters. This work is known as ‘Disaster Risk

Reduction’. It involves initiatives that help to lessen the effects of climate change; and – where life-threatening events, such as flooding or droughts, are expected regularly – it enables communities to adapt their livelihoods in preparation for a disaster, and provides relief in times of emergency.

If people understand the risks they face, and are trained in how to respond to an event, they can protect their homes, their work and, ultimately, their lives.

In Bangladesh, natural disasters are frequent occurrences. Every year, 30 to 70 per cent of the country gets flooded, and scientists agree that such incidences will only increase as global temperatures rise. So Oxfam partners have been working with vulnerable communities to enable

them to better prepare. One of the most successful measures has been the construction of cluster villages – small settlements raised more than two metres above the water level in high-risk areas. “Before the cluster villages, life was very hard for village people,” says Community Leader Mohammed Abu Ysef. “Every year the area flooded. Now we feel there’s no monsoon because we don’t face any of the problems.”

Oxfam is also campaigning for action on climate change – for rich countries to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and provide the resources to help poor communities to adapt to the changing climate. We are part of the Stop Climate Chaos coalition and the Up in Smoke network. As an organisation, Oxfam is committed to monitoring and reducing emissions associated with our own operations, including energy use and air travel.



Roger Rodríguez Carry is a member of JOVOS – young volunteers for disaster prevention – who have been taught by our partner PREDES in Peru about natural disaster and trained in how to protect their communities. “As soon as something happens, like the recent rock fall, we meet at the office and the committee tells us what to do. Some of us get stretchers, and others evacuate the people who need to be got out.”



CLIMATE CHANGE 1 Inside an Oxfam rescue boat, Bangladesh **2** The cluster village of Pepelia in Bangladesh has been raised to prevent it from flooding **3** Business as usual for customers and traders in the flooded streets of Dhaka, Bangladesh **4** A view of Sandia in Peru, which lies in a river basin. Communities in the region are working with Oxfam and partners to prepare for floods and landslides caused by heavy seasonal rains **5** A sign marking an escape route in the village of Sandia, Peru





EAST AFRICA 1 Members of Piyaya village's women's group at the grain store which they manage, Tanzania **2** Planting a variety of special drought-resistant maize seedlings **3** Animals suffer the full effects of drought, northern Kenya **ACCOUNTABILITY 4** People vote by placing a bean in the appropriate envelope **5** All the votes are counted and displayed on a white board, before the results are discussed

Across East Africa, around 13 million people are still struggling to recover from the effects of the 2005 drought – the most devastating since 1992. Oxfam initially provided food and water to people across the region, and is now supporting communities as they start to slowly rebuild their lives.

East Africa food crisis

People who live in parts of Kenya, Tanzania, Somalia and Ethiopia were severely affected by erratic weather in 2005 and early 2006 – recurrent drought, followed by heavy rainfall and floods caused devastation in many areas. The shortage of rains culminated in failed crops and the death of livestock. More than 784,000 people needed short-term support in the form of water and food provision. So in April 2006, Oxfam launched the East Africa Food Crisis Appeal, which has raised almost £2.5 million for our work in the region.

Oxfam continues to work with these communities to find longer-term solutions – to restore and improve their livelihoods, to reduce their vulnerability to future crises,

and to try to address the causes of that vulnerability.

Pastoralist communities, who depend on their animals for food and income, are most at risk; in many areas more than 70 per cent of their livestock died. The Ngorongoro district in Tanzania, is one area that was severely affected by the crisis.

“When there was a food shortage, traders would monopolise the food supply by hiking the prices so high that many people could not afford it.”

The people who live there are pastoralists. They have experienced several years of crippling drought. Oxfam has been working with these

communities to help make them less vulnerable to food and water shortages by funding the construction of grain banks. Today, the largest building in Piyaya village, Ngorongoro district, is its grain bank. Run by a local women's group, it can hold up to 2,000 bags of maize. This means that affordable food will still be available to families even during the most difficult droughts.

“When there was a food shortage, traders would monopolise the food supply by hiking the prices so high that many people could not afford it,” says Oxfam programme officer Rahab Kenana. “Now we're linking farming communities with this women's group, so they can compete with the traders. They're selling to the whole community.”

Voice of the people

Over recent years, discussion groups have been held with communities in some of the countries affected by the Tsunami and the Southern Africa food crisis, including Malawi, Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka. These aim to establish what people really think about how Oxfam has been working with them.

During these evaluation sessions, people are asked a series of questions and then have to rate Oxfam's performance. Some of the questions posed are: 'Did you feel respected by Oxfam staff?' and 'Did you know where to go with complaints?'. People are given one bean for each question,

Listening to the people we work with is crucial if we are to be properly accountable. In order to ensure we are working effectively and meeting people's needs, Oxfam has been piloting initiatives and asking for feedback from the communities we support. This is then used to inform how we work.

which they place into the appropriate envelope to show whether they agree, disagree or have no opinion. The envelopes bear happy, sad or neutral faces to ensure that everyone can give their feedback regardless of language or literacy issues. Participants are then given feedback on the results, and the ensuing discussions give staff an idea of the strengths and weaknesses of their approach.

In Malawi, 1,200 people were asked to vote on their relationship with Oxfam. Staff received an overwhelmingly positive response, with 82 per cent of people saying that they were happy with their

involvement in the programme, that they had been treated well and knew how they could make a complaint if necessary. We have also learned from the negative feedback, which we're using to improve our ways of working. For example, we are looking at ways to ensure that women feel more included.

Oxfam aims to put the needs of communities and individuals at the heart of our work, and to use what we learn to improve our accountability in the future. Over the next few months, we will be introducing similar schemes to at least one country in each region.



THE RIGHT TO A SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD

Oxfam is working for a world where everyone can make a secure living and provide for their families

HONDURAS Eulalia works in her vegetable garden in Copan, western Honduras. The vegetables are a major boost to her family's diet, as well as providing an important source of income. Oxfam is supporting farming families such as Eulalia's, as we believe that small-scale agriculture has the potential to overcome rural poverty in Honduras, and worldwide

Oxfam believes that small-scale agriculture has the power to help millions of people to overcome poverty. Over the next decade, we plan to ‘scale up’ our agricultural programmes to enable even more people to earn a reliable income from their produce – ultimately without Oxfam’s support.

Transforming rural communities, Honduras

Angelina Munguia lives in a mud hut in the isolated mountain community of El Copante in western Honduras. Until recently, she struggled to feed her household. “Life was pretty tight,” she says. “We used to eat only beans and tortillas with a bit of salt.” Now, thanks to practical support from Oxfam’s local partner OCDIH,¹ Angelina and her family have planted a vegetable garden where they grow carrots, tomatoes, green beans and more – providing them with fresh, nutritious food throughout the year. “An agricultural technician came here four days a month for four months and taught me everything,” she explains. “Our diet has really improved. Now I teach our community. For us, OCDIH has been like a light.”

The extreme poverty found in El Copante is typical of life in rural Honduras, where almost three-quarters of families live on less than £1 a day, and malnutrition is rife. But as far as Angelina and her neighbours are concerned, the vegetable gardens are just the beginning. “In a year, this community

will be able to grow vegetables on a much larger scale. They will be producing enough to trade,” says Dorise Velasquez, OCDIH Project Officer. “We are helping them to generate more income, so that they will be able to buy their own horses to take the produce to market. We are also teaching the community about where they might be able to sell their goods – and what challenges they might face with competition.”

“ We no longer say, ‘maybe life will get better’. Life is better.”

Jose Antonio Hernandez, farmer

The people of El Copante can take heart from the many rural communities in western Honduras which have transformed themselves through small-scale agriculture, with support from OCDIH and Oxfam’s other partners. For example, in Sesesmil, where OCDIH started a similar project seven years ago, the community now grows a wide range

of crops and even sells coffee to the international market. They have been able to set up a new school and a community centre. “We learnt about sustainable agriculture, and how to understand the markets,” says Jose Antonio Hernandez. “This cooperative is so successful that other people are looking to us for help.” Now Jose trains up to 50 people at a time on his own farm, sharing the techniques and knowledge which led to his community’s success.

Oxfam’s programme in western Honduras is proving that small-scale farming can provide a viable route out of poverty for large numbers of people. We will be ‘scaling up’ our agricultural work worldwide, so that more people will benefit from high-quality, sustainable agriculture. In doing so, we’ll demonstrate to governments and other decision-makers that small-scale agriculture is vital to poverty reduction, and deserves investment. Jose Antonio Hernandez needs no convincing. “We no longer say, ‘maybe life will get better’. Life is better.”

¹ Organismo Cristiano de Desarrollo (the Christian Organisation for Development).



HONDURAS 1 Felipe Hernandez Agulier spreads out coffee beans to dry in the sun **2** Jose Antonio Hernandez picking the last coffee beans of the harvest **3** Angelina Munguia at home with her nine-year-old son, Juan **4** Angelina’s garden. OCDIH teaches agricultural techniques which help communities to make the most of their generally poor-quality land **5** Before they grew vegetables, Angelina and her family ate little else but beans and tortillas



1 2 3 4 5
TANZANIA 1 Ndetia Kopia threading beads. The money she earns from beadwork has been a lifeline during the drought **2** Traditional Maasai crafts for sale at the Museum Centre **INDONESIA 3** Women painters training on the job **4** The unprecedented scale of reconstruction in Aceh means there is a high demand for skilled painters **5** Mat-weaving, one of many small business activities which have been made possible by Oxfam loans



New opportunities, Tanzania

The Serengeti plains and Ngorongoro volcanic crater are among Africa's top tourist attractions. But for the Maasai cattle herders, the region's popularity has come at a high price. They can no longer use many water sources which have been taken over by tourist lodges, and they are being denied the right to farm, graze livestock, or even build permanent houses on their traditional lands. A prolonged drought has made the situation worse, killing many of the livestock on which the Maasai depend. Oxfam is supporting the Maasai people to defend their land rights, and to develop new ways of earning a living. This reduces their dependence on livestock and turns tourism to their advantage. For example, Oxfam is providing loans to women's groups

to support small business ventures, such as making bead jewellery, trading in honey or livestock products and growing vegetables.

“ We found we could not live from cattle alone. Those beads kept us alive when our cattle were dying.”

“We used our loans to buy beads,” explains Ndetia Koipa, a member of one of the women's groups. “When we sold the beads, we were able to pay back what we had borrowed. Now we understand business. I have used the money to build a house, but the main use is to buy food. We found we could not live from cattle alone. Those beads kept us alive

when our cattle were dying.” Ndetia has also been involved in planning and constructing the Museum Centre in Ololosokwan, where up to 600 tourists a month visit to learn about Maasai traditions and to buy beadwork and other crafts. The centre has been developed by the women's groups with support from the village government and a grant of £2,250 from Oxfam. Now the women have a large, reliable market for their goods, and have been granted their request for ownership of the museum land. Rahab Kenana, Oxfam programme officer, says: “This beadwork has given these women an opportunity to earn an income – and it has given them a voice. For the first time, Maasai women are owning land.”

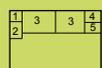
Oxfam's Tsunami response has helped almost two million people in seven countries to rebuild their lives, from constructing homes to providing clean water. Our focus is now on getting people back to work – and out of the poverty they lived in before the disaster.

Rebuilding lives, Indonesia

Mahmulia's village on the east coast of Aceh, Indonesia, was all but wiped out by the Tsunami in December 2004. Mahmulia is one of 37 women who are being trained and employed as painters – traditionally, a male occupation – through an Oxfam-supported scheme. Initially, the women will paint houses which were built by Oxfam following the disaster. With so much reconstruction in the region there is a high demand for skilled painters, and the women are likely to be in work for a long time to come.

With the money she earns, Mahmulia is able to support her family and pay for her sister's education. But this project is about more than simply creating jobs. It is also about empowering women to overcome poverty, and to enjoy opportunities that they didn't have before the Tsunami. Mahmulia says, “I want to be equal; I want to have the same chances to make money as men.” “We ask people what they need, and work with communities and

governments to find the best ways to make a difference,” explains Lisa Reilly, Oxfam's Deputy Programme Manager. “Providing a small loan that is paid back over time, offering relevant training, or providing the paint and rollers that women such as Mahmulia need to get back to work, are typical of our approach to helping people to rebuild their lives.” More than 52,000 people have received assistance with finding new work or rebuilding their livelihoods since the disaster.



MAKE TRADE FAIR 1 The deal with Starbucks could pave the way for similar deals to help producers get their fair share of profits **2** Amed Mohammed, one of the millions of Ethiopians who stand to benefit from the agreement **3** Irene Banda takes the *Make Trade Fair* message to London **UK 4** Polish construction worker. Migrant workers in skilled jobs are often at the mercy of 'gangmasters' who contract them **5** Homeworker packing hairnets **6** Oxfam-supported migrant workers' information evening, Manchester

Nearly 13 million people live in poverty in the UK. A major reason for this is that many of them simply aren't paid enough to make ends meet. Oxfam is working to end the exploitation of low-paid, vulnerable workers.

Campaign victory for Ethiopia's coffee farmers

“ If someone's life is being endangered because you want cheaper bananas, how does that make you feel? You might wonder, ‘But what can I do, I'm just little me?’ Just be conscious of what collective action can do, and identify your link in that chain.”

Irene Banda, Organisation Development and Community Management Trust, Zambia

The power of collective action which Irene, a leading activist on trade issues, advocates was clearly demonstrated last year. In response to calls from tens of thousands of Oxfam supporters, allies and Ethiopian coffee farmers, coffee

giant Starbucks agreed to a deal with the Ethiopian government that could lift millions of families out of poverty. Around 15 million people in Ethiopia depend on coffee for their living; the majority of them earn barely enough to cover the cost of production. By owning the rights to its fine coffee names, Ethiopia could help its farmers negotiate a better price – potentially increasing the country's revenue from coffee by an estimated US\$88 million a year.

In October 2006, Oxfam launched a campaign calling for Starbucks to support Ethiopia's plans to trademark its coffee brands, after the company had initially challenged the move.

More than 96,000 people worldwide contacted Starbucks by email, fax, phone, and by taking the campaign demands into Starbucks

stores. Early in 2007, their actions were rewarded when Starbucks agreed to sign a historic deal backing the trademarking initiative. The Starbucks agreement was an important success for the *Make Trade Fair* campaign. Hopefully, this will pave the way for other deals to ensure that producers get their fair share of the profits.

Irene Banda's message to people in the UK captures the spirit of Oxfam's *Make Trade Fair* campaign, which is calling for global trade that works for – instead of against – the world's poorest people. Irene, winner of the Sheila McKechnie International Campaigner of the Year Award in 2006, helped to recruit more than one million people to the *Make Trade Fair* campaign in Zambia. More than 20 million people all over the world now back the campaign.

Supporting low-paid workers, UK

Half of the 3.8 million children living in poverty in the UK have at least one parent in work. But they may still go to school hungry, or live in an unheated house, because their parents don't earn enough to live on.

Homeworkers who pack or assemble goods often receive less than the minimum wage – some earn as little as 70 pence an hour. Migrant workers in skilled jobs are often promised the minimum wage, but the 'gangmasters' who contract them don't pay them what they are due, or take unfair deductions from their wages.

Oxfam is working with low-paid workers to make sure that they know and claim their rights, and is campaigning to ensure that these rights are enforced by the government and employers.

“ I work very long hours and it's hard, backbreaking work. But the company gives me so little for every crate I pack that I can't make ends meet.”

Anonymous homeworker, UK

A project in Manchester is helping to inform men and women from many countries about the national minimum wage and health and safety laws. “I have friends earning £3 an hour in the slaughterhouse, working in appalling conditions,” says Marta from Poland. “Knowing their rights is the first step to claiming them.” With our partner, National Group on Homeworking, we are also

campaigning for better employment status for homeworkers, who often work long hours in difficult conditions, and are denied employment rights such as sick pay or maternity leave.

“Oxfam has a vision of everyone in the UK being able to do work that pays them enough to live on – in a safe and dignified condition,” says Kate Wareing, Director of Oxfam's programme in the UK. “There is a long way to go – but over the last year we have made progress. We have helped persuade the government to put more money into regulating enforcement of the minimum wage, and fining employers who flout the law – and we have significantly raised awareness about the situation of vulnerable workers.”



THE RIGHT TO BASIC SERVICES

Oxfam is working for a world where every person has access to education, health care, clean water and sanitation

BURKINO FASO Mr Madi teaching maths in Zigberi village. The community is building a new three-classroom school with support from Oxfam's partner ANN

The remote community of Zigberi was so determined to have a school that the villagers built one themselves. Made from dried millet stalks, it is hot and uncomfortable. Some children have to walk for half an hour to reach it. But every day it is full.

Lessons for life, Burkina Faso

The tiny village of Zigberi in Burkina Faso is hard to find. Surrounded by desert scrubland, with no obvious road, you could easily miss it. Its dozens of straw-capped huts spread across the sand in small clusters. And at first light, everyone is busy: pounding millet, collecting water, feeding children, herding cattle.

Here, in this remote, close-knit pastoralist community, a quiet revolution is taking place. Oxfam and partner organisation, ANN,¹ are helping children and adults to get the education they have been fighting so hard for.

“The community really wanted a school here,” explains Fadimata, the community education worker or *animatrice*. “People know that education can help children, especially girls, to get jobs, improve their lives.”

Fadimata has been working closely with all the families in Zigberi, helping them to push for an education. And it shows. Every afternoon, once all the daily chores are finished, people pack into the straw-roofed shelter that serves as a schoolroom. Men and women of all ages are learning to read and write for the first time. And less than a hundred yards away,

45 children are doing the same.

The community built the makeshift school using dried millet stalks, and tree branches. Oxfam provided the desks, the textbooks, the blackboard, the chalks. And once everything was in place, the community persuaded the local education authority to send them a teacher – Mr Madi.

“ I want all the children to get as much schooling as they can. That would make me very proud.”

Fadimata Walett Ibrahim

“I have been living and teaching in Zigberi for six months,” says Mr Madi. “Education is very important for everyone, but especially for pastoralist communities, which in the past have been forgotten by the government. The education authorities are doing their best, but there isn’t enough money.”

It’s a familiar story, not just in Burkina Faso, but throughout the region. Oxfam’s West Africa Education Programme was set up to improve school facilities in remote,

marginalised communities: providing desks and textbooks when there is a shortfall; helping the community to build wells and plant vegetable gardens so that the children can have at least one nutritious meal during the school day; and encouraging parents to press local authorities for more teachers and more support.

In Zigberi, the community was so determined to provide a good education for their children – to get a proper school building – that, rather than languish at the bottom of an education authority waiting list, they turned to Oxfam for funding.

“The community built the straw classroom and they did a good job”, says Mr Madi. “But it’s only temporary. It will be really good to get a solid, new school building. I think the children will be more motivated and inspired to learn.”

Thanks to a passionate belief in the power of education, and support from ANN and Oxfam’s regional education programme, the people of Zigberi will soon have a three-classroom school, that will give their children choices, opportunities, and a real chance of future prosperity.

¹ Association Nodde Nooto (‘When you call me, I will respond’).



WEST AFRICA 1 Women in Zigberi concentrate on their writing lesson. This is the first time that they have ever sat in a classroom and are looking forward to using their new literacy skills **2** Fadimata Walett Tokha watering the school vegetable garden at an Oxfam-supported school in a remote region of Mali **3** Rows of cabbages that will be used for the children’s free school meals **4** People who live in the harsh, unforgiving desert regions of Burkina Faso rely on their herds of animals for food, milk, leather hides and to earn a little money when they need to buy medicines or extra food

In Zimbabwe, many families affected by HIV and AIDS are among the very poorest people. Oxfam is working against a backdrop of economic collapse and acute food shortages to enable them to improve their health, overcome poverty and face the future with hope.

Positive living, Zimbabwe

Ntombizodwa Marufu is living with HIV. Her husband died of AIDS 14 years ago, leaving Ntombizodwa to raise their family alone with the little money she could earn from needlework. She can't afford the anti-retroviral drugs (ARVs) which could save her life.¹ Three years ago she was continually unwell, and her family – six children, two grandchildren, and the orphan she cares for – often went without food. But with the right support from Oxfam, and a great deal of hard work and determination on her part, Ntombizodwa has turned her life around.

Ntombizodwa is one of many people in Zimbabwe's Central Highlands who have benefited from Oxfam's approach to overcoming poverty and tackling HIV and AIDS – which includes enabling those affected by the illness to 'live positively'. She initially received vouchers from Oxfam to buy chickens and female goats, which have been a vital source of nutrition and income. "I've sold the chickens and baby goats at intervals to pay for food and school fees," she says. "The eggs are

really good for us, and we can sell them too. Now I'm strong enough to do knitting and sewing again."

"I love to live. I'm working very hard to improve my life. I'm still strong, still alive and able to do a lot for my family – I can leave them something to cherish."

Most people receive the vouchers in exchange for work in the community, but Oxfam gives them freely to elderly people, carers, and those who are too sick to work. Ntombizodwa also received seeds and a voucher to pay a neighbour to plough her land. Now she grows a variety of crops and vegetables, which help to give her immune system the boost it so desperately needs in the absence of ARVs. "My mother is ill less often now," says Mary, Ntombizodwa's eldest daughter. "We have food, and our mother is there for us again. She was too anxious and stressed before – but she's back now."

Oxfam is also constructing family latrines to improve and protect public health. At the community Health Club which meets each week, Ntombizodwa received a hygiene kit and learned how to keep her latrine clean. Oxfam set up the Health Clubs in conjunction with the local government and village health workers to teach basic hygiene and good nutrition to prevent illness. The clubs are open to people regardless of whether or not they have HIV or AIDS. "The Health Club is very important in my life," says Ntombizodwa. "It helps me to cope with my situation. It shows me that I'm similar to others who are healthy and I can mix with them."

Ntombizodwa's improved health and her ability to provide for her family mean that, even without the drugs that could prolong and enhance her life, she can now face the future with hope: "The future of my family is okay. I'm still strong, still alive and able to do a lot for my family – I can leave them something to cherish."

¹ Oxfam is campaigning to ensure that HIV and AIDS treatments will be available to everyone who needs them by 2010.



ZIMBABWE 1 Ntombizodwa **2** A village health worker uses illustrated teaching cards at the community Health Club. The cards show different threats such as eating old, fly-ridden food and not washing hands before eating **3** Drama group set up by Oxfam to communicate HIV and AIDS messages through traditional song, dance, poetry and plays **4** The livestock fair where people can exchange Oxfam vouchers for animals, or sell the offspring of animals they received from Oxfam in previous years





1 2 3 4 5
ARMENIA 1 Amalia Ohajanyan **2** Essential medicines are covered by the cost of the scheme **3** Nurse Melania Hovahnnisyan performs a routine checkup on baby Arman **INDIA 4** Protestors in Dehli demand that multinational drugs company Novartis drop the lawsuit which could stop India from producing and exporting affordable medicine¹ **UGANDA 5** A lesson on tourism at Pandwong school, Kitgum. The school has only 32 teachers for 3000 pupils

An Oxfam scheme which started in a single village has given thousands of poor people in Armenia access to basic medical treatment – and could revolutionise health care across the country.

Community health care, Armenia

When Soviet rule in Armenia ended in 1991, so did state funding for medical care. Hospitals and clinics began to deteriorate and many people suffered or died because health problems went untreated. Those living in isolated rural areas were worst-affected by the crisis in the health service. In 1995, Oxfam started working in just one village, to try out a simple community health scheme which had been successful in Africa. People were asked to contribute a small amount of money every three months in return for a functioning health

“ The health scheme has completely changed life in the village. Before, if we had a health problem, we had to pay 2,000 dram just to travel to Kapan. That’s the amount we pay per quarter for the whole family to belong to the scheme.”

Amalia Ohajanyan, health scheme member

clinic, free medicines, and a village nurse. Today, around 80,000 people in 134 villages benefit from the health scheme, which is now run independently by Oxfam’s local partner, Support to Communities.

Oxfam is encouraging the Armenian government to adopt and fund the community health scheme right across the country. “If this were introduced across Armenia we would see vast improvements in basic health care for poor people,” says Programme Manager, Margarita Hakobyan. “Now is the time for change.”

Campaigning for health and education

Every day around the world 4,000 children are killed by diarrhoea, and 1,400 women die in pregnancy or childbirth. At the same time, 80 million school-age children – most of them girls – do not go to school. A massive shortage of teachers and health professionals lies at the heart of the public services crisis: developing countries desperately need an estimated 1.9 million teachers and 4.25 million doctors and nurses.

The provision of basic public services is crucial to ending poverty. And only the world’s governments

can deliver them on the necessary scale. Oxfam is lobbying the World Bank to stop it pushing countries into privatising services – and to support the building-up of their public sector instead. We are calling for the governments of developing countries to devote more of their budgets to health and education – and for rich governments to make this possible by committing to increased, long-term funding.

Oxfam has also continued its campaign for affordable medicines for everyone. Throughout the year, campaigners put pressure on several

pharmaceutical companies that were embroiled in lawsuits to prevent developing countries from producing or exporting cheaper versions of branded drugs. The companies’ actions fly in the face of the World Trade Organisation’s formal agreement in 2001 to make life-saving medicines available to everyone. Oxfam wants the pharmaceutical giants to drop their legal actions, and put people before profits. For the millions of poor people who rely on affordable treatment, the courts’ decisions are literally a matter of life or death.¹

¹ In August 2007, Novartis’ challenge over drug patents was defeated in the Indian courts



THE RIGHT TO BE HEARD

Oxfam works with poor and marginalised communities. We help them to speak out about their concerns and needs, so that local authorities, national governments and international bodies listen and act

INDIA Dharam Das shouts slogans at a rally over land rights in Bandha Chandoli village, Chattapur. Local fishing communities started a movement to form co-operatives and reclaim control of their fishponds from the 'feudal lords.' Oxfam partner Vikalp is supporting their struggle

Control of natural resources by high caste ‘feudal lords’ is a major cause of poverty in rural India. In the Madhya Pradesh region of Bundelkhand, Oxfam’s partner Vikalp is providing advice and resources to enable fishing communities to free themselves from exploitation.

Fighting for land rights, India

Traditionally, fishing communities in the Bundelkhand region have been little more than bonded labourers, working the fishponds of the local elite.

“We were allowed to do some fishing but the feudal lords would take all of the profit, leaving us with only about one per cent of the catch for our own food. This is how we were treated,” says Chainu Prasad, from the village of Birora.

Oxfam works with local partner, Vikalp, who alert fishing communities to the benefits of setting up co-operatives, and giving them the skills and confidence to stand up against the old feudal ways. The fishers have been going from village to village to rally further support and so far, the ‘Machuarrah Sangathan’ – the grass-roots movement in the

region – has enabled 106 communities to set up co-operatives and gain control of their ponds.

“It was not right so we fought them,” says Chainu who is now Head of the Men’s Co-operative in Birora.

“ We went to court to get our legal right to fish on these ponds.”

“We gathered in huge groups, then we got the backing of our government. The feudal lords are still here, but they leave us alone generally. We have now got complete ownership of our two ponds.”

The fishponds close to Birora Village are now a huge asset for the community, and the fishers are full of ideas about how to increase the

earnings potential of their ponds and other local resources. As a co-operative, they are saving money from their catch to buy fish food, to restock their ponds and to pay for transport to market. One of the ponds is run solely by women. They catch the smaller fish themselves and pay the men five rupees a kilogram to catch the bigger ones, using the nets that are left in the pond overnight.

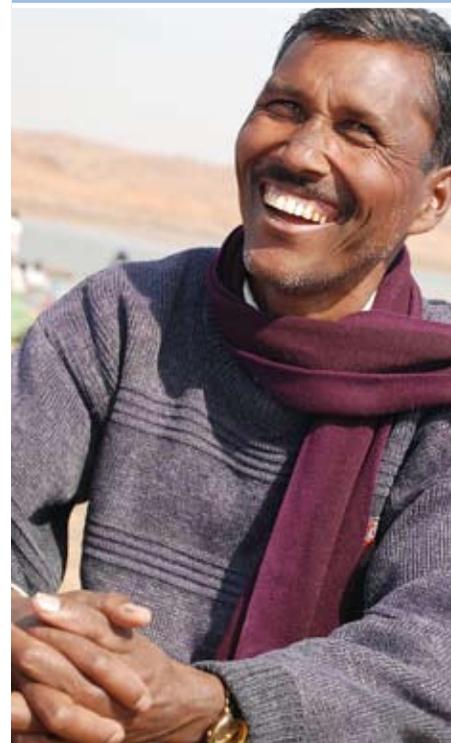
The success of the fishers’ campaign to make their concerns heard became even more obvious recently, when the government decided to provide additional support because of lack of rainfall in Madhya Pradesh. This support includes making funds available for pond repairing and deepening work, and waiving fishpond leases for co-operative members.

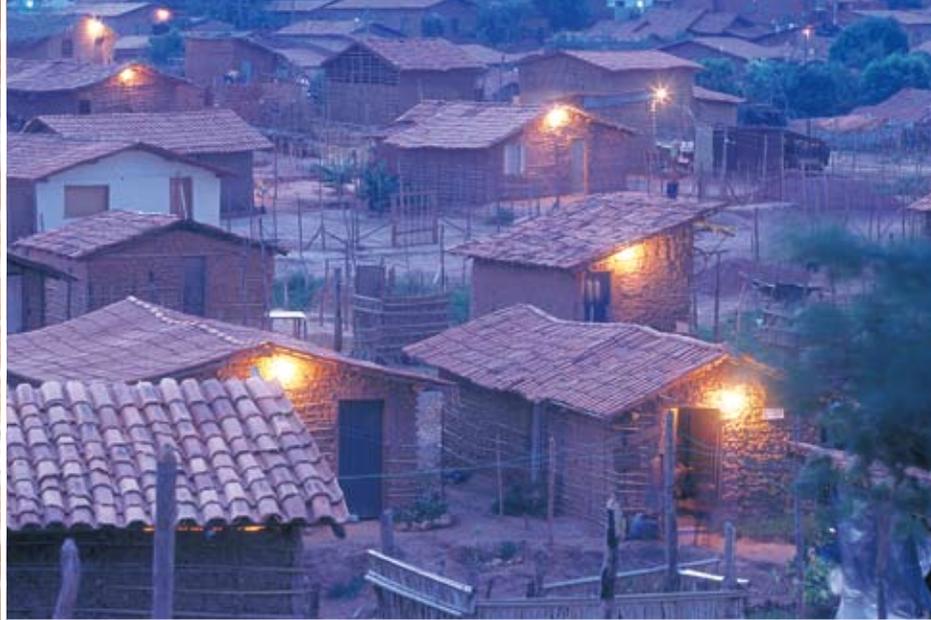


Omprakash Rawat, Head of Vikalp: “My aim is to make Bundelkhand free from all kinds of exploitation, and for people to have control over their own natural resources. We have 106 co-operatives that are now managed by fishing communities themselves, and we plan to increase this to 250 co-operatives by March 2008.”



BUNDELKHAND REGION, INDIA 1 Members of the co-operative fishing on the pond in Sania village, Chattarpur **2** Chainu Prasad **3** Bigger fish, such as Rohu and Katla carp, are caught using nets that are left in the pond overnight **4** Sarju Bai feeding the ducks. The women keep ducks on their pond for their eggs and meat, and as a means of providing fertiliser for the water and soil around the pond **5** Bagwati Bai holding roots of the lotus flower. These are widely used in cooking and for making pickle, or the women can sell them for 8 to 10 rupees per kilogram at market





BRAZIL 1 Neide with her husband and baby daughter, Maria. New homes are being built by the local council after the community association lobbied for them. **2** A housing estate in Teresina **SCOTLAND 3** Henriette Koubakouenda, one of the leaders of Karibu, speaking at a public rally **4** Young asylum-seekers work on an APIN video project which demonstrates that children in Glasgow welcome asylum-seekers, and challenges adults to do the same

Oxfam works with asylum-seekers and refugees in the UK to challenge negative media portrayal of asylum issues, and to encourage more positive attitudes.

Speaking out about asylum issues, Scotland

Beating the bulldozers, Brazil

In Brazil, 81 per cent of the population lives in urban areas. The rapid, unplanned growth of many cities, such as Teresina in the state of Piauí, has left a large proportion of the population living in squalor. Every day, another 20 families arrive in Teresina, swelling the mass of slums in the city by setting up make-shift houses on unoccupied land. In some cases, government officials do not recognise people’s rights to live on these lands. So the police frequently evict people, and bulldozers are sent in to raise their homes to the ground.

Neide de Jesus Carvalho lives in the neighbourhood of Parque Eliana. When their daughter was born, she and her husband decided to leave her parents’ house, where they were living with 12 other people, to try to claim a plot of land here. “We built

something really basic – just one room to sleep in and keep our few belongings. It took us three days to finish the house,” she says. However, ten days later the bulldozers arrived.

“ My husband snatched our belongings and I grabbed our baby daughter. ”

We had to stand by and watch while the bulldozer tore through our house. I felt that all our hopes had just been swept away. But we didn’t give up.”

The community got together to form a residents’ association and contacted FAMCC, Oxfam’s local partner, to ask for support. “They gave us advice on our rights, and how to lobby our local council to prevent another eviction order. We

went to the State Department... and also held a demonstration outside the Town Hall. As a result, our community was classed as ‘permanent’ and the city agreed to buy the land and give it to the families who had set up home here.”

Neide is now president of the residents’ association and also works for FAMCC. Her community is in the process of building brick houses to replace the mud shacks, and they also have electricity and clean water. Now they are pushing for other facilities, including a school and a health clinic. Neide is optimistic about the future: “When our community was first formed there were 56 families. Now there are 700 – all united and fighting for their right to their own home and the things that every human is entitled to.”

Mrs Mushaka was forced to leave her country¹ in 2001. She came to the UK with her four children, and due to the government’s dispersal policy, was sent to live in Glasgow. “It was very difficult at first,” says Mrs Mushaka. “When we arrived there was resentment and sometimes harassment from the community. People did not understand asylum as protection for people fleeing persecution and torture.

But Mrs Mushaka, as a leader of Karibu refugee women’s organisation, became involved in the Oxfam-funded Asylum Positive Images Network (APIN)² in Scotland, which trains and supports asylum-seekers to act as spokespeople in the media – and to speak to journalism students and other groups about their experiences. Talking about why they were forced to leave their homes, and the difficulties they encounter in the UK

– not being able to work, living on reduced benefits, and the threat of deportation – helps the media and public to understand the situation of asylum-seekers, and combats negative attitudes towards them.

“ When we arrived, there was resentment and sometimes harassment from the community. People did not understand asylum as protection for people fleeing persecution and torture. ”

“With Oxfam’s support, we have spoken to the public, to churches and even to policy-makers about what it means to be asylum-seekers,” says Mrs Mushaka. “Working with Oxfam has given me a platform to share my experience and the courage to speak out on issues that I feel

need action. Above all, it has given me the chance to be heard.”

Among other activities, APIN has published a guide for journalists about reporting on refugee issues, and also facilitates annual ‘media awards’ during Refugee Week to celebrate fair and good media coverage of asylum issues.

“Oxfam’s experience with refugees all over the world shows us the horrific circumstances that force people to flee... and the need to protect vulnerable people who can’t return home,” says Oxfam’s Jason Bergen. “We are making a difference. Research shows that public attitudes towards asylum are more positive in Scotland than in the rest of the UK. Oxfam’s work has played a significant part in this.”

¹ Country not disclosed for security reasons.
² The Asylum Positive Images Network is part-funded by the European Social Fund under the Equal Community Initiative Programme



THE RIGHT TO EQUITY

Oxfam works to overcome discrimination and inequality – major causes of poverty. We aim to redefine roles and encourage women's participation in all aspects of society

The majority of the world's poorest people are women, and gender discrimination is a major cause of poverty. Oxfam works with communities to address unequal power relations. We provide training to increase women's skills and knowledge, and to build self-confidence, enabling them to act on their own behalf.



1	3
2	4

YEMEN 1 Oxfam-trained midwife Maha, aged 20, with a baby she helped to deliver during her shift in the maternity unit of Sayoun General Hospital **2** As part of a two-year midwifery training course provided by Oxfam, students spend two days a week doing practical training **3** Barik Ahmed with his daughter, Anouf **4** Dr Lewen Taleb weighs a new-born baby

Transforming women's lives, Yemen

In Yemen, half of the population cannot get even the most basic health care, and a pregnant woman has only a one-in-five chance of being attended by a midwife. For women living in rural areas, there are many obstacles – the nearest clinic is often many miles away; transport may be too expensive or simply unavailable; medicine is often unaffordable; and there are few female doctors and nurses.

Oxfam started talking to communities and local authorities to see what could be done to improve the situation. As a result of these discussions, we began to train midwives and nurses, and to run refresher courses for existing health workers. There are now 24 Oxfam-trained nurses working in local

“ I feel lucky to be able to attend this course; I will have a good status in my community when I become a midwife. I hope to provide a good service to my community and I want to attract more girls to the school – that is my dream.”

Auras, aged 20, trainee midwife, Sayoun District, Yemen

hospitals, and 20 trained midwives, 15 of whom were immediately employed by the Yemeni health service. “Every day, when women patients leave me with smiles, I feel that I have done something good for them and the village,” says Amal, one of the first

midwives to graduate. “The course has changed my life. Now I have my own income. I think I will be the role model for girls in my community.”

The midwives aren't just improving health care in their community – they are changing attitudes towards girls' education, in a society where few girls go on to secondary school. “I never thought that I would send my child to school, but when I saw what the midwives were doing here I spoke to my brothers,” says Barik Ahmed. “We decided that we wanted our children to get an education, so that they could have the opportunity of becoming midwives. Now, five of our girls go to school – they are the first in this community to get an education. We say that education is a light.”





2	3	1	4	5
				6

HONDURAS 1 COMUCAP'S co-ordinator and founder-member, Marlene, sitting in 'green' coffee beans, that will be exported to Germany **2 & 3** Removing aloe vera gel from leaves **CHAD 4** Latrine slab, Amnabak Camp **5** Newly-built latrines **6** Fatime Brahim Anour



Poverty, illiteracy and domestic violence are widespread in Honduras, and women are particularly disadvantaged. Oxfam-supported projects have been enabling women to start their own businesses, which are increasing their confidence and independence.

Out of the shadows, Honduras

In the beautiful but impoverished La Paz district of western Honduras, a quiet revolution has taken place. A group of women has overcome massive odds – including poverty, illiteracy and discrimination – to create a thriving business exporting organic coffee and other produce. In the process, the group has profoundly changed the roles and status of women in their community.

COMUCAP (the Co-ordination of Farming Women in La Paz) was conceived in the 1990s by five women who decided to stand up to discrimination. They started a radio

station and held workshops to discuss domestic violence and women's rights openly. In 2000, Oxfam provided funds to enable the group to buy land and start growing coffee, aloe vera and other produce.

“ Women are among the most excluded groups in Honduras. We live in a culture where men make decisions and women stand silently in their shadows.”

Claudio Escobar, Oxfam Project Officer, Honduras

In just seven years, COMUCAP's 250 members have gone from farming one plot of land and selling their goods locally, to farming several plots collectively and selling their organic coffee and aloe vera juice to Europe.

“Before COMUCAP, a woman's place was in the home. We were trapped between four walls – completely dependent on our husbands. Now, we have our own salaries. Now, we know how to stand up for ourselves, to say: ‘This is my money,’ and as a result, men respect us more,” says Marlene Contreras, founder-member of COMUCAP.

A woman's perspective, Chad

Often in emergency refugee camps, it is the men who build the latrines and washing areas, and who decide where to put them. This can cause problems – for example, if these areas are poorly lit, or isolated, or if they lack privacy, then women will not feel comfortable using the facilities.

By involving women at every stage – from planning to building,

and ensuring that the new facilities are maintained in clean and safe working order – we can ensure that women will be able to benefit fully from the sanitation services provided.

Fatime Brahim Anour is a refugee in eastern Chad, where Oxfam is training women to build and install latrines. Working with

other sanitation assistants, she has helped to build 895 of them.

In the process, Fatime has learned new skills, earned a small income for the first time, and increased her self-confidence enormously. She now supervises a team of 10 paid sanitation assistants who train refugees to build and maintain their own latrines.



Celebrations for International Women's Day, in March 2006, continued in Liberia throughout the month, commemorating 'Women's Month'. Oxfam staff and partner organisations took part in workshops, courses and events, all designed to raise awareness of women's rights and roles in society. The women who took part were very enthusiastic and the local authorities have agreed to further Oxfam-run workshops in the future. Photo: Women's rights march in Suakoko, Liberia



From campaigners and volunteers to partners and fundraisers, hundreds of thousands of people and organisations support and work with us in different ways; all of their commitment, enthusiasm and skills help to make our work possible.

UK London, April 2007. Oxfam campaigners join with other supporters of the Trade Justice Movement to demonstrate against Europe's unfair trade deals. These deals threaten to destroy the livelihoods of millions of poor people worldwide. The protestors split into several groups to lobby every European embassy in London

People who make it happen

Scarlett Johansson, Oxfam ambassador

The Hollywood actress visited India and Sri Lanka with Oxfam in February 2007 and saw at first hand how vital investing in education and basic health care is to saving lives and lifting millions of people out of poverty. She also met girls at an Oxfam-funded school in Uttar Pradesh, India.



Linda Fulbrook, Oxfam shop manager

"We really focus on what we're doing – we set financial targets and try to surpass them. If we have a good week, we're so happy. We do lots of work in the community to raise awareness of the shop, and we recruit people all the time. I love this job and I hope I'll be doing it for a long time."

**Simon Lewis, Trustee of The Vodafone Group Foundation
Louella Eastman, Group Corporate Social Responsibility Director, Aviva plc**

The Vodafone Group Foundation and Aviva plc are founding partners of the Oxfam 365 Alliance. "Funding a rapid response team of aid workers and providing emergency supplies ensures that Oxfam can maintain a state of constant preparedness to respond to emergencies all over the world," says Simon. "As an insurance company, we understand the critical importance of an immediate response following a catastrophe, and we are proud of our association with Oxfam," says Louella.



Ahmed Adam Abdullah, member of Oxfam's drilling team

Ahmed is currently working with his team in Um Dukhun, West Darfur, to find water for people living in the region. "The drilling might be very hard but it's very enjoyable. Our aim is to bring water to whoever's in need, and we must be ready to face any problems."



Sajjad Khan, Oxfam partner

Sajjad works with our partner organisation the Sungi Development Foundation in Pakistan, which helped to oversee the distribution of emergency equipment to survivors of the Pakistan earthquake. Besides its emergency work, Sungi also carries out development and advocacy work.



Jimena Parra, Oxfam Campaigns Officer

Jimena is helping to build popular campaigning in Mexico and across Central America and the Caribbean; working with partner organisations, she is part of a team that's raising awareness about the effects of Regional Free Trade Agreements and the unfair rules threatening the livelihoods of poor communities.



Justin Okwir, Oxfam Livelihoods Programme Officer

Based in Kitgum, northern Uganda, Justin works with the local community to improve their food security, through the development of agriculture and cash-for-work schemes.

Kaltoum Ali Asad, Public Health Promoter

Kaltoum is a volunteer public health promoter in Abu Shouk camp, Darfur, where she lives. She talks to people about hygiene issues. "I understand what volunteering means and the impact it can have. It's very important to inform the community and encourage them to improve their hygiene practices."



Vaughan Evans, fundraiser

Vaughan is an Oxfam triathlete: he has trekked the Great Wall of China on a Global Challenge, run the Flora London Marathon and took part in Trailwalker 2007™ – all on behalf of Oxfam.

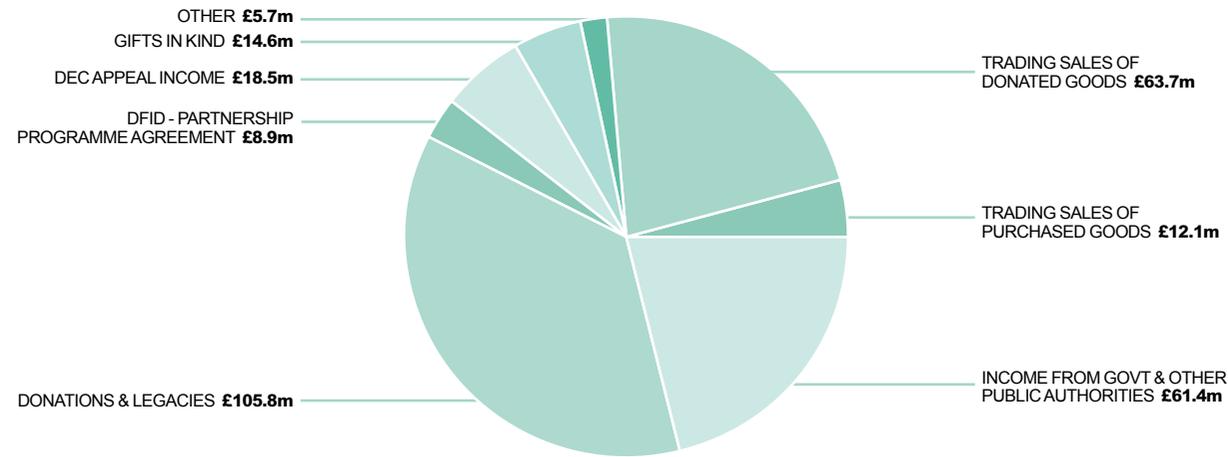


Susan Harrison, fundraiser and campaigner

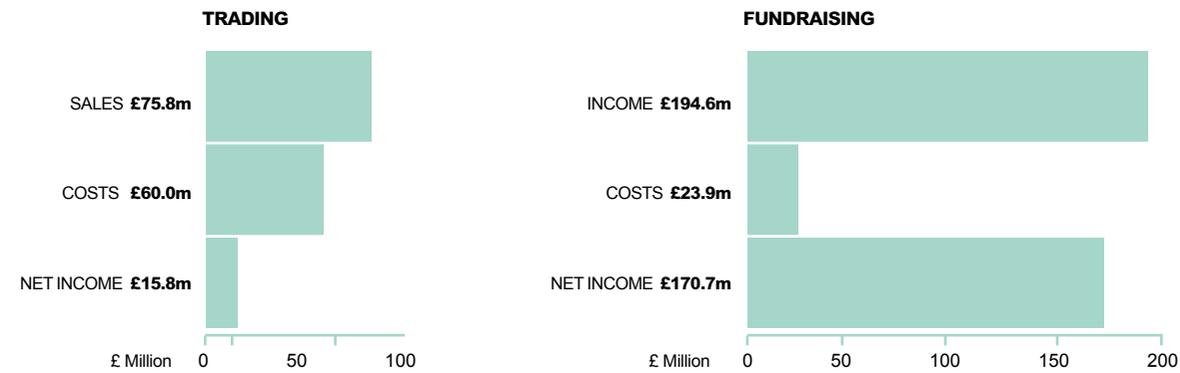
Susan trained for Trailwalker 2005, but ten days before the event she was injured in the London bombings and tragically lost her left leg. Still determined, she participated in the event in 2006. She has also visited Georgia to see our work and the country's health care facilities.

Where our funds came from

Total Income £290.7m



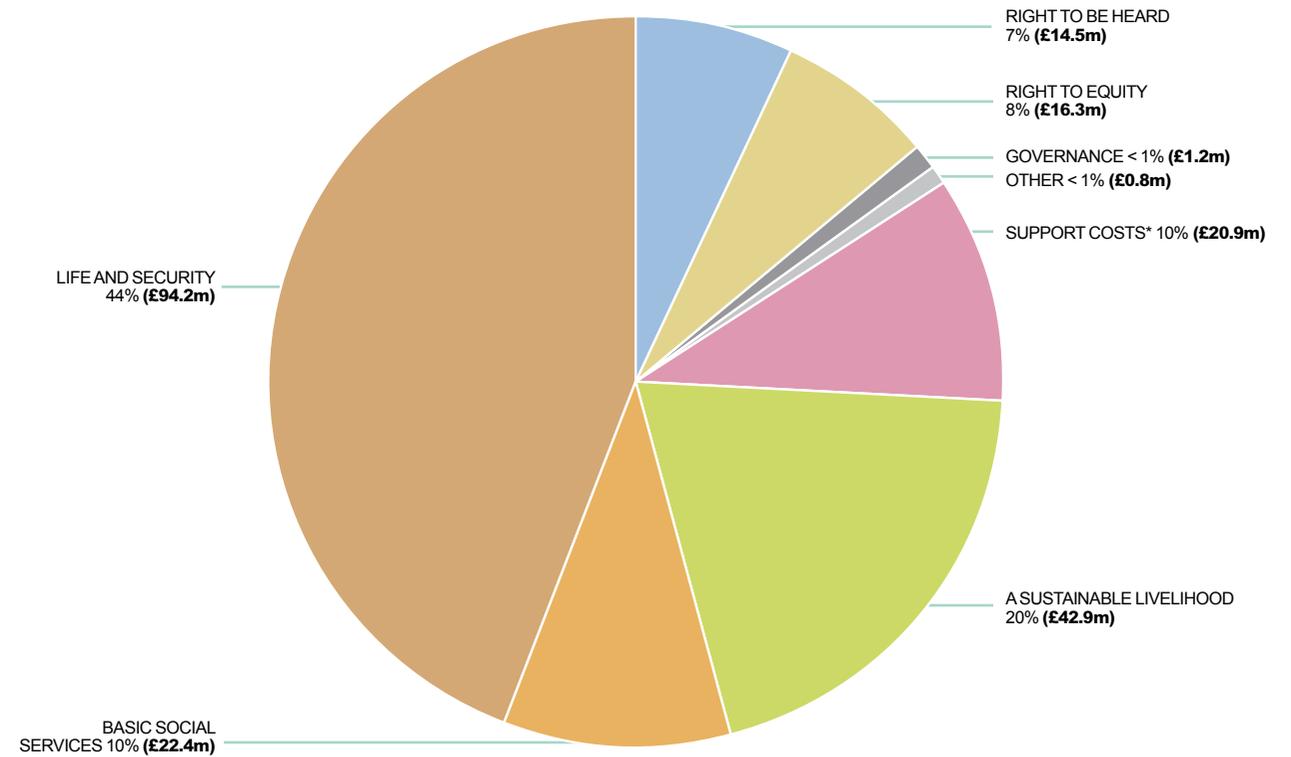
Trading & Fundraising Net Income



TRADING & FUNDRAISING NET INCOME **£186.5m**
 GIFTS IN KIND **£14.6m**
 OTHER NET INCOME **£5.6m**
TOTAL NET INCOME AVAILABLE FOR CHARITABLE APPLICATION £206.7m

...and how they were used

Charitable Expenditure £213.2m



* Support costs include support to the programme from Oxford, and the costs associated with supporting programme delivery at a regional level, eg finance, human resources and senior programme management. Support costs also include central finance, human resources and corporate communications costs.

Acknowledgements

Central to Oxfam's way of working are our relationships with numerous local partners and allies worldwide. Our sincere thanks to the many organisations and individuals who make our work possible.

In particular, we would like to thank the following:



The European Commission



ECHO



The United Nations



- (1) Roars not Whispers Programme (spend £223,032)
- (2) The Million Cisterns Programme in Brazil (spend £213,325)
- (3) UK Poverty Programme (spend £129,928)
- (4) Global Campaign for Education in Southern Africa (spend £654,063)
- (5) Mainstreaming Gender (spend £24,719)
- (6) School Improvement Programme in India (spend £49,710)

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Big Lottery Fund: for the Roars not Whispers Programme (1) from the Young People's Fund – Scotland for The Million Cisterns Programme in Brazil (2) and for the UK Poverty Programme (3).

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United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA)
United Nations World Food Program (WFP)
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Oxfam 365Alliance:
a life-saving partnership



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Solidarité (Oxfam in Belgium)

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