



**AID  
CAMPAIGNING  
DEVELOPMENT**

Oxfam works with others to  
overcome poverty and suffering

[www.oxfam.org.uk](http://www.oxfam.org.uk)



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# We believe that people can end poverty

## Other Oxfam Corporate Publications:



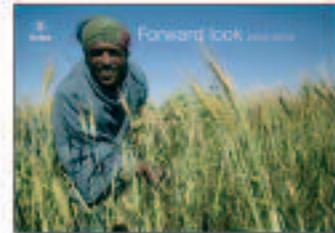
### Annual Report & Accounts

Financial results and performance for the year (to end April). Published October 2005



### Three-year Strategic Plan

Public report on strategic plans covering 2003/4 to 2006/7 inclusive.



### Forward Look

Annual update on the three-year Strategic Plan



### Programme Impact Report

Case studies of Oxfam's work around the world with poor communities, partners, and allies.

All available as a PDF at [www.oxfam.org.uk/about\\_us/index](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/about_us/index) \*  
or as a printed document from 0870 333 2700

\* Other reference documents also available online.

With special thanks to Soona and Edward Brown, supporters of Oxfam for many years, whose generous contribution in memory of David has paid for the paper and printing of this Review.

**Poverty is  
unacceptable.  
It can, and must,  
be overcome**

Think of the abolition of slavery, or the end of apartheid. At one time they seemed impossible. But all it took to achieve them was a movement of people who believed things could change – and who made that change happen.

And that's what Oxfam is – a global movement of people, passionate about overcoming poverty. People like you... and all the other supporters, volunteers, campaigners, partner organisations, and local communities we work with.

Together, we're already making a big IMPACT as we'll show you in this review. Of course there is much more to be done. But little by little, step by step, we're already changing the world.

And hopefully, in years to come, poverty will be a thing of the past – and we will have put ourselves out of business.

# MAKE POVERTY HISTORY

**In 2005 Oxfam has been part of *Make Poverty History* – the UK arm of a worldwide coalition of organisations and individuals campaigning to end poverty**

All of Oxfam's work – from campaigning and advocacy to development and emergency relief – is driven by the belief that poverty can and will be overcome.

That's why, in 2005, we're part of the massive worldwide alliance of organisations and individuals which forms the *Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP)*. Nine words sum up our goals: Trade justice. Drop the debt. More and better aid.

*GCAP* was formed in response to the unique opportunity offered by political events in 2005 to push this agenda and make major progress towards ending poverty. Decisions taken by rich-country leaders in 2005 really could dramatically improve the lives of millions of people.

On 3 February, thousands packed into Trafalgar Square (below) to hear Nelson Mandela's message to the world,

“Sometimes it falls upon a generation to be great. You can be that great generation.”  
**Nelson Mandela,  
3 February 2005**

as the campaign to *Make Poverty History* – the UK part of *GCAP* – was officially launched. Since then, the campaign has captured the imagination of the public, the media, politicians, and celebrities. Several million white bands, the campaign symbol, have been sold worldwide.

The G8 Summit in Edinburgh in July made some real progress on debt reduction and overcoming poverty – but there

is still much work to be done. World leaders have another two opportunities in 2005 – a UN Summit in September and a World Trade Organisation meeting in December – to make poverty history. Millions of people, all over the world, will continue campaigning throughout 2005 to ensure that they do.

Find out more – and help make poverty history – at [www.oxfam.org.uk/mph](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/mph)



# IMPACT



**“WE MUST BE THE  
CHANGE WE WISH TO  
SEE IN THE WORLD.”**

**Mahatma Gandhi**



Children from Oxfam's Turkana pastoral development project, Kenya

## Everybody has rights – to health, to education, to a voice...

All Oxfam's work is based on the belief that everyone has basic rights in five essential areas.

### **The right to life and security**

Every year, the lives of many thousands of people are shattered by natural disasters; even more are affected by war and conflict.

We believe that everyone has the right to a life free from fear and insecurity.

When disaster strikes, Oxfam is there – giving immediate relief. We're also working to reduce armed conflict and to protect civilians caught up in war and violence. See page 10.

### **The right to a sustainable livelihood**

Millions of people struggle to survive on the little they have.

We believe that everyone has the right to a sustainable livelihood – to be able to produce, or earn, all that they need for a secure life.

Oxfam is helping farmers to grow more food – and campaigning to make trade fair, so they can earn more for what they sell. See page 26.

### **The right to basic social services**

Good health and education are key to overcoming poverty.

Oxfam believes that everyone has the right to basic health care – and that all children should be able to go to school.

We're helping people to improve health services, responding to HIV/AIDS, and providing water and sanitation facilities to reduce disease. We're also helping to improve education services, and campaigning for education for all the world's children. See page 34.

### **The right to be heard**

People living in poverty often have no say in the decisions that affect their lives.

Oxfam believes that everyone has a right to be heard by decision-makers – local authorities, national governments, or international institutions.

We're working to ensure that poor and marginalised communities have a voice. See page 38.

### **The right to equity**

The majority of the world's poorest people are women. And many ethnic and cultural groups are treated unfairly.

Oxfam believes that men and women – and different ethnic and cultural groups – should all enjoy equal status.

We're working with community groups, to help them take control of their lives and challenge the negative views that keep them in poverty. See page 42.

# Right to life and security



Maria Coady  
Health Worker,  
Sudan



## When disaster strikes... Oxfam is there, working to save and protect lives

### Crisis in Darfur, Sudan

Conflict in Darfur has caused suffering on a massive scale. More than two million people have been forced to leave their homes. The Sudanese government limited NGO access to the region until June 2004. Since then, Oxfam has significantly increased its programme and is now helping more than 730,000 people in 20 locations in Darfur and neighbouring Chad. This is one of our biggest ever humanitarian responses.

In the camps, we're tackling the lack of drinking water and sanitation facilities which

threatens to cause widespread disease. Our engineers dig wells and latrines, build water tanks, and install tap-stands. Public health workers such as Maria Coady are also working with local people, teaching residents how to stay safe and healthy in camp conditions. The situation remains precarious, but so far we've prevented major outbreaks of cholera and typhoid.

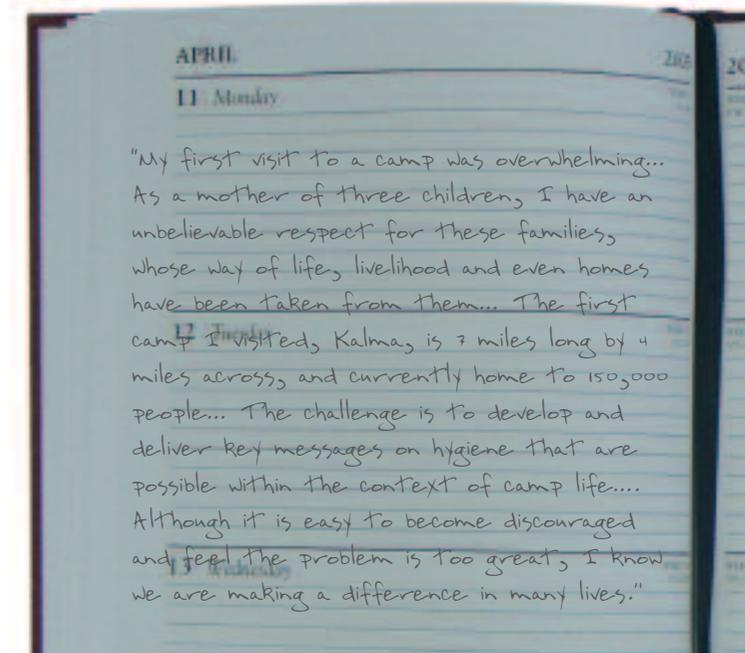
We plan to offer this level of support for the whole financial year of 2005-6, and will continue to help people rebuild their lives in the longer term.



"I have lived in Kalma camp for six months. Conditions were very bad when I first arrived... there were no toilets, and flies spread disease. Now things are much better. We have latrines and Oxfam has organised a campaign to clear rubbish away."

Ali, latrine attendant in  
Kalma Camp, Sudan

Farchana Camp, Chad, which provides shelter  
to 18,000 Sudanese refugees



Diary of Maria Coady, Oxfam Public Health Worker  
in Darfur, April 2005



Helen Mirren,  
actress, UK

## Night Commuters, Uganda

In December 2004, British actress Helen Mirren travelled to northern Uganda with Oxfam, to draw attention to what the UN Security Council has called the ‘world’s worst forgotten crisis’.

500,000 people have been killed and two million displaced in the 19-year conflict between government forces and the rebel Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA). Since the war began, at least 20,000 children have been abducted from their homes. Many are forced to witness their parents’ deaths; some have been forced to join the LRA and become killers themselves.

People are not safe to sleep in their homes at night. Every evening, 19,000 ‘night commuters’ (most of them children) travel into Kitgum town from the rural areas to avoid being abducted by the LRA. “Seeing these small night commuters walking to town every evening and back home again early next morning is an incredibly moving sight,” said Helen.

Oxfam is providing shelters, clean water, and sanitation for the night dwellers at 11 shelters in Kitgum, as well as providing water, sanitation, and income-generating support to a quarter of a million people sheltering in camps across Kitgum and Pader districts. With so many people gathered together in shelters and camps, we are also able to raise awareness of issues such as HIV/AIDS, through drama and other activities, and to challenge gender stereotypes by training women to work with us as van drivers and builders – helping to ensure the shelters are mosquito-proof and secure. At international level, we are working with others to find solutions to the conflict.

“One of the main things I’ll take away with me from this trip,” says Helen, “is the inspiration I get from people who have suffered such incredible hardship but somehow still manage to keep their society intact.”



“What I have seen here is the worst horror story you can imagine – a war that specifically targets children.”

Helen Mirren



Helen Mirren talking to a 15-year-old girl who was abducted by the Lord’s Resistance Army last year and held by the rebels for nine months. If you ask her what she saw, she just stares at the ground, too terrified to talk. She’s also afraid of what will happen when

she returns home, fearing that her family will no longer accept her and that the rebels will come to take revenge. Oxfam is helping many children like her to fit back into their communities and get their lives back to some sort of normality.



Rob Hadman joined the *Million Faces* petition in 2005



The Women's Association of Cyembogo II village, Rwanda, work the land together, despite coming from different ethnic groups, previously at conflict. Oxfam is involving women in all aspects of our peace and reconciliation work in Rwanda

## Peace-building, Rwanda

Oxfam is helping people in Rwanda to recover from the bitter genocide of the past, working with more than 50 local councils to train community leaders in conflict management and peace-building skills.

The needs of women have been thought about in all aspects of the training. Child-care provision allows them the time to undertake the course – and training materials are designed to ensure that non-literate women are able to participate. Domestic violence is examined as one example of 'conflict' – and traditional assumptions about the

relationships between men and women are challenged. Participants learn about the causes and consequences of conflict, and attitudes are changing: "Before the training, I was not confident in myself," says Domina. "Now I have confidence that I can do something for my society and I've been elected to the National Women's Council." Many of the women participants have gone on to become community leaders and have been selected as political representatives. After the course, all participants, women and men, are able to put their training to use, helping to build more peaceful communities.

## Meeting underlying needs

Oxfam is also giving small grants to help communities tackle the poverty they face – which is so often a source of conflict. Communities meet to decide how to spend the money, helping people of very different backgrounds to work together and understand each other. Many communities have used grants to buy small flocks of goats – which provide milk, meat, manure, and more goats, giving people a sustainable source of food and income.

## Working with others, we are campaigning to control the arms trade. We're also working to reduce armed conflict, and to protect civilians caught up in war and violence

### Control Arms

The illegal trade in weapons kills one person every minute of every day. Oxfam, as part of the *Control Arms* coalition, is campaigning for a legally-binding international treaty to control this deadly trade.

Direct lobbying of UK Foreign Secretary Jack Straw and Foreign Office officials – backed up by extensive media coverage and the massive public pressure of the *Million Faces* petition – won Mr Straw's backing for the

treaty. Now his support will be crucial in persuading other countries to sign up. As well as the UK, 14 countries including Germany and Kenya are now backing the treaty.

In July 2006, government representatives will meet at a UN Summit to discuss action on the arms trade. It's a great influencing opportunity and we'll present the *Million Faces* to them, showing how many people, all over the world, are prepared to put their names – and faces – to the call for an Arms Trade Treaty.

Campaigners, including Dunblane parent Mick North (second left), on Gun Destruction Day in the UK, July 2004



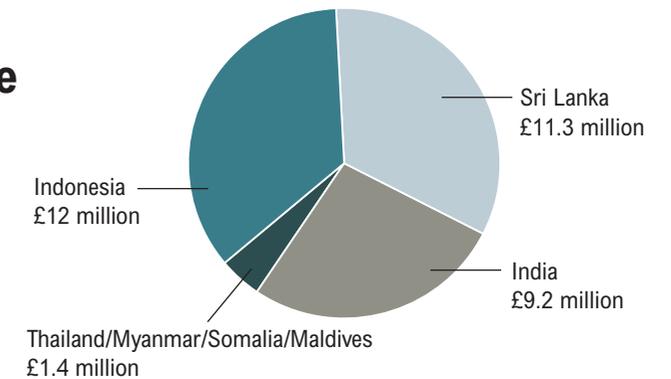


By April, cargo helicopters (chartered by Oxfam for the first time in our history) had delivered 440 tonnes of emergency assistance to more than 20,000 people who had been completely cut off by the Tsunami in Aceh, Indonesia

**Our response to the Tsunami was the single biggest humanitarian effort that Oxfam has ever undertaken. Thanks to the generosity of the public and institutional donors, members of Oxfam International provided emergency and long-term reconstruction assistance to around 1,600,000 people in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Thailand, the Maldives, Myanmar (Burma), and Somalia**

In January 2005, the Oxfam International Tsunami Fund was created – a trust fund composed of money raised by all 12 affiliates of Oxfam International. It ensures the highest possible levels of coordination and effectiveness of our programme, and enables the public to see how their Tsunami donations are used. The fund will total more than £132 million, of which no more than six per cent will be spent on administrative costs (which are essential).

It was neither desirable nor possible to spend all these funds at once, so we intend to spend them over three\* years, in ways that are in accordance with the varying needs and wishes of local people throughout the Tsunami-hit region. We are already making significant progress in helping people to rebuild and improve their shattered lives, but the scale of the disaster means it will be years before the reconstruction is complete.



**By the end of July, Oxfam International had spent over £34 million helping the Tsunami-hit region**



**In the wrong place: personal possessions were strewn across Asia's beaches by the Tsunami of December 2004 – powerful symbols of lives destroyed or plunged into turmoil. Although there's much that can never be repaired throughout the Tsunami region, we're determined to rebuild as much as we can**

\*Printed version of this document states five years, but this has now been changed to three years.

# ...Oxfam's largest ever response



▲ Where Oxfam is working in the Tsunami zone

Owing to a strong existing presence throughout the Tsunami-hit region, Oxfam has deep community links which are helping our reconstruction programme

### During our initial emergency response (January to March 2005) Oxfam:

- installed 700 latrines in camps in Sri Lanka, and trained more than 300 volunteers to teach basic hygiene messages
- delivered 55 million litres of clean water in Indonesia; repaired more than 1,850 wells, and supplied more than 3,850 latrines and sanitary facilities
- established or repaired water and sanitation facilities for around 7,000 households in southern India, and distributed food to more than 2,000 households.



In the immediate aftermath of the Tsunami, we asked survivors what they really needed, and distributed essential items to many thousands of families – from nappies and underwear to mosquito nets and saucepans

Top: a young man receives emergency household items at Thambaddai Camp in Sri Lanka

Far left: a young woman receiving kitchen goods in Aceh, Indonesia

Left: baby hygiene kits awaiting distribution in Sri Lanka

## ...from emergency to recovery

People were affected differently by the Tsunami, so our relief and reconstruction programmes are tailored to local wishes, responding to the needs of both men and women, and of people from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

We strive to ensure that the voices of communities are heard by aid organisations and governments. It's important that local people decide how they will benefit from reconstruction. Important issues, such as the ownership of land, have to be dealt with before people can be permanently rehoused; many of those displaced by the Tsunami had no formal land title, or have

lost proof of it. New safety zones for housing, further from the sea, have to be planned as well. We are supporting government efforts to deal with these issues in a way that's fair to everyone.

**Women in Sri Lanka work with coconut husks to make coir rope, brooms, and other household items to earn a living for their families. The pits in which the husks are soaked were flooded by the Tsunami, and filled with sand, rock, trees, and even vehicles. Oxfam paid the women to clear their pits in a Cash-for-Work scheme, so they could restart the production process and earn a living again**



“When we were given the keys to our new homes, I was so happy. Before then I was under a lot of pressure, my children were in different places. As soon as I held the key, I knew we'd be ok.”  
**Kaluhandadige Lalitha**  
**Tangelle, Sri Lanka**



### Links to normality

After installing water and sanitation equipment in Sagamam Camp, Sri Lanka, Oxfam staff join camp residents for a cricket match – a precious link with normality. “These three large water tanks supply the camp's tap-stands,” explains Suresh, a local Oxfam engineer.

“We employ local labourers. They lost their tools, so after this job, we'll give them a set so they can work elsewhere.” Between January and March in Sri Lanka, Oxfam directly provided 400,000 litres of water a day, and helped to deliver 300,000 more.

### Earning a living

Throughout the region, Oxfam Cash-for-Work programmes are driving the recovery process, while quickly injecting money into local economies to sustain them until people's long-term ability to generate income is restored. In Indonesia, more than 62,000 beneficiaries have worked to remove debris, drain saltwater from agricultural fields, and find recyclable material among the ruins.

In Sri Lanka, Oxfam has assisted more than 24,000 people through Cash-for-Work and livelihoods programmes, and there are plans to help an additional 12,000. At Tangalle, people are building themselves transitional housing through Cash-for-Work. Kaluhandadige Lalitha (above) has already moved in to her new home. “My house was so badly damaged by the Tsunami I felt I must do

something to help. Foreigners I don't know have given this house to me because of the Tsunami, and now it's my part to work in the team to build the houses. All I had has been taken by the Tsunami. When I am in a permanent house again I will restart my small sesame snack business. The salary I got from the labour work with Oxfam will keep me and my children for some time.”

# Gender equality throughout our work

## One wage for all

Oxfam is ensuring that women and men are equal partners in the rebuilding of their communities after the Tsunami. In Tamil Nadu, India, we initiated a Cash-for-Work scheme to restore the salt pans which provide a crucial livelihood for thousands of labourers. Working with local partner FACE, Oxfam paid the labourers to repair the salt pans which had been devastated by the

waves. Women are usually paid less than men, but Oxfam paid equal wages to all the saltpan workers – and is working with landowners and the government to try to ensure that the practice will continue.

“I used to get 50 rupees and now we’re getting 72,” says saltpan worker Anjammall (right). It’s not just about getting equal wages, it’s about getting equal rights as well.”

## Promoting security

More women than men were killed by the Tsunami – a situation that changed social structures profoundly. For example, many women survivors came under intense pressure to marry men widowed by the wave. Oxfam is working with communities throughout the region to highlight this issue and to help to relieve social pressure on women. In Sri Lanka, for example, our local partners from the *WE CAN* campaign to end violence against women painted water tanks in camps for displaced people with colourful murals condemning aggression towards women.



**Spreading the message: an Oxfam water tank in a Sri Lankan camp carries messages from the *WE CAN* campaign to end violence against women. The text reads “My father is always shouting at my mother. Why?” and “Violence destroys the whole family”**



Our largest long-term Tsunami programmes are in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and India, focusing on public health services, women's rights, earning a living, and shelter. In each country, we are helping local partner organisations to rebuild offices,

expand operations, and train new staff. We are also helping to co-ordinate aid work between governments, the UN, and agencies, minimising duplication and ensuring that the work takes place where it's needed most.

**“Our long-term plans are geared not just to getting people back to where they were before, but to help them break out of the poverty that caused them to be so vulnerable to disaster in the first place.”**

**Jasmine Whitbread,**  
**Oxfam's International Director**

**“Our boats were washed away and our nets completely lost in the Tsunami,” says Chinnaiyan, a fisherman in Cuddalore, India. “We found damaged boats in thorn bushes. With help from Oxfam, we've been able to repair them.”**



## Creating opportunity

Despite the scale of the destruction, there is opportunity in this disaster to help people to break out of the poverty that caused them to be so vulnerable

in the first place. In India, for example, once we have helped local farmers through Cash-for-Work to recover fields ruined by saltwater from the waves,

there are plans to give them more technical training, to help them increase production and be better prepared for future disaster.

## Grants for business, Sri Lanka



“My sewing machine was badly damaged by the Tsunami,” explains seamstress Mrs Rasidha. “When I heard about Oxfam’s grants, I applied and was given 5,000 rupees (\$50). Oxfam bought the machines in bulk so as to get a good discount. Initially, there was a great need to make uniforms for the children when they returned to school – most of these had been lost in the Tsunami. Oxfam paid us \$1 for each uniform under a Cash-for-Work programme. Now I make mainly dresses – it brings in money which we will put towards rebuilding our house.”

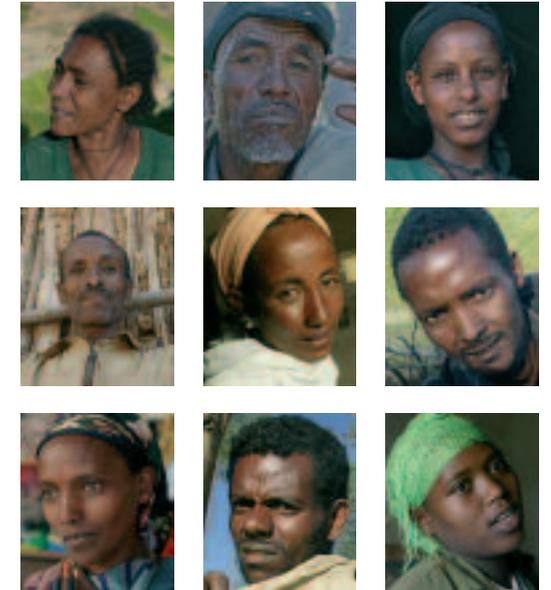


“When the Tsunami hit our village, we lost everything – all our possessions,” says 65-year-old Valliyammai. “Through an Oxfam grant, we were given 5,000 rupees (\$50), which enabled us to buy lights and nets so we can fish again. We sell the prawns to a businessman. This way we are able to earn some money so we can rebuild our house.”

# Right to a sustainable livelihood



Aberra Chane  
farmer,  
Ethiopia



**Oxfam is helping millions of small farmers to grow what they need and, through our work at national and international level, to earn more from what they are able to sell**

## Improving harvests, Ethiopia

Aberra Chane, from Kunchamedeb village in the northern Ethiopian highlands, once battled to provide enough food for his family. Today, they have enough to eat and are more positive about the future.

One of the problems that Aberra faces is Ethiopia's extreme weather: the rains often come too little, or too late, and then too heavily – making the soil almost impossible to farm. Oxfam staff showed Aberra and his community how to build stone channels in their fields to drain excess rain into shallow

ponds. Now waterlogging is less of a problem, the crops grow well, and there is water all year round. Oxfam also provided seeds that grow well on this land and give a better harvest.

These small changes have made a big difference: Aberra can now produce twice as much from the same plot of land. "I hope I will be able to provide everything we need now and will not have to ask the government for food aid," he says.

"I hope I will be able to provide everything we need and will not have to ask the government for food aid."

**Aberra Chane**

Oxfam will help up to 500,000 people in Ethiopia, such as these farmers above, to produce the food they need

## Increasing our impact

Now Oxfam will be able to help many more families like Aberra's – by dramatically expanding our work with small farmers in Ethiopia. During the next three years, we'll take the ideas that have worked well in one place and use them with many more communities, over a much wider area. We'll also work at regional, national, and international level for policies which will help farmers to produce more – and get a fair price for what they sell.



Pashke Prozhmi  
herb gatherer  
and farmer,  
Albania



Jimmy Navarro,  
La Central  
co-operative,  
Honduras



Many small farmers in Albania rely on selling wild herbs

### ❖ Breaking into the market, Albania

How can small farmers find buyers for what they grow – and make sure they get a fair price for their goods? In Albania, Oxfam is working with farmers' groups to help them develop and market their produce. And we are helping them to campaign at national level for policies which will help small producers, and at international level for fairer world trade rules.

#### Increasing incomes for herb gatherers

In rural Albania, many people gather herbs and forest fruits to sell for cash, to supplement the little that they can make from farming. In the past, they were

forced to sell to traders who gave them a low price for what they collected.

Since the formation of the Drini Valley Herb Association in Shkodra region, the herb gatherers process, transport, and sell the fruit and herbs collectively. Now they can provide a stable, high-quality supply to the trader – and demand a higher price. Association members such as Giyste Kola, who has seven children to support, have doubled or even tripled their cash incomes and have more to spend on food, clothes, and other essentials.

#### Tirana Trade Fair

A series of trade fairs organised by Oxfam has also helped Albanian farmers to market their goods. At these fairs, farmers can show wholesalers and traders what they produce – and 40 per cent of the farmers at the fair held in the capital Tirana in October 2004 secured contracts as a result. The fair was followed by a *Make Trade Fair* concert – including the Tirana Circus juggling apples and potatoes, and participants signing up to the *Big Noise* petition for fairer world trade rules.

### Excellent Progreso

Great coffee, stylish decor, friendly service... Progreso, Oxfam's new chain of Fair Trade cafés, has all of these – and more. The coffee comes from producer cooperatives which not only get a fair price for the coffee they grow, but also own 25 per cent of Progreso's shares.

The first two Progreso cafés, which opened in Covent Garden and Portobello Road, London, are attracting a growing crowd of regular customers: people

who appreciate a great cup of coffee which comes from farmers who've been fairly treated. "Farmers are involved in the whole supply chain, which means they gain more of the profit," explains former coffee-farmer Jimmy Navarro, who is now the export manager of the La Central co-operative in Honduras.

Progreso's sales are exceeding expectations, and there are plans to open 20 more cafés around the UK.





Irene Banda,  
campaigner,  
Zambia



Addis Ababa, November 2004: more than 300 participants in the Ethiopia Great Run took part in support of *Make Trade Fair*



✦ “I carried the voice of my whole community with me. We have to get a fair price for our coffee.”  
**Ayesha Mohammed, Ethiopia**



Oxfam Campaigners joined others at the Trade Justice vigil, Whitehall, April 2005

### Campaigning to make trade fair

Trade could lift millions of people out of poverty. Instead it's part of the problem. Poor countries are forced to open their markets – and cheap subsidised goods from rich countries undercut local farmers in their own markets, depriving them of the chance to trade their way out of poverty. Oxfam is campaigning to make trade fair.

#### ✦ Big Noise petition

Ayesha Mohammed (above) is one of eight million people worldwide who have signed the *Big Noise* petition calling for fairer world trade rules. She travelled from Deder district, Ethiopia, to Addis Ababa to give a trade justice message to then-EU Commissioner Pascal Lamy. “I carried the voice of my whole community with me,” says Ayesha. “We have to get a fair price for our coffee.”

Oxfam's global campaign to *Make Trade Fair* is working with millions of campaigners – from rich and poor countries – to achieve trade justice. In Zambia, 100,000 *Big Noise* signatures were collected in four weeks. “People want to help,” says local campaigner Irene Banda. “They understand this change may take time and may not occur while they are alive, but they're still willing to do it...for their children or generations to come.”

## Right to a sustainable livelihood



Minnie Driver, actress, covered in cotton

### Celebrities call for an end to dumping

With innovative campaigning *Make Trade Fair* has reached new audiences this year. UK and global celebrities agreed to have agricultural produce ‘dumped’ on them – to highlight the scandal that allows rich countries to subsidise their goods, and dump them on poor-country markets.

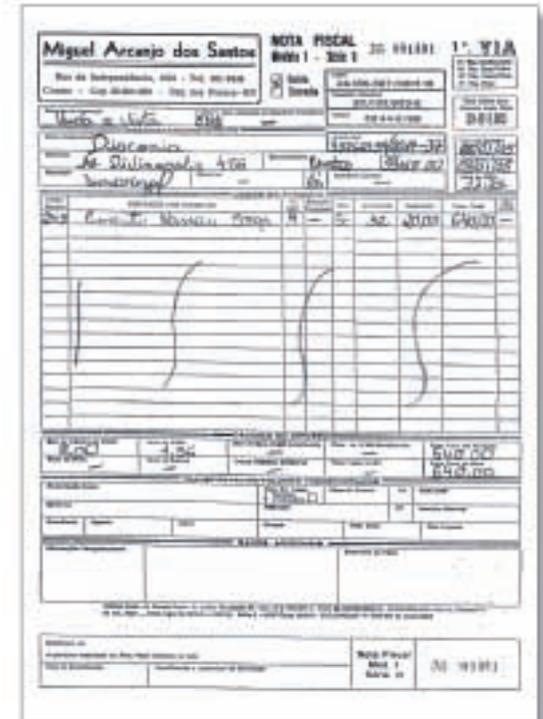
The eye-catching photos featuring Chris Martin, Minnie Driver, Michael Stipe (drenched in milk, right), Colin Firth, Antonio Banderas, and others, secured massive international media coverage for the campaign – and helped to shift the terms of the debate on agricultural dumping.



### Million cisterns, Brazil

Oxfam's 'million cisterns' project is making a real impact on the lives of thousands of people in north-east Brazil. In this semi-arid region, most people struggle to grow crops on the parched land, and do not even have a permanent supply of drinking water.

Oxfam is working with local organisations to build 16,000-litre tanks which collect water during the brief, intense rainy periods. Now people can irrigate their land, enabling them to grow enough to eat and to sell – and they have a permanent supply of drinking water all year round.



Receipt for concrete to build water cisterns, Brazil



# Right to basic social services



Owain James,  
MDG Campaign  
Manager

**Oxfam is working around the world with our partners and allies to ensure that millions of poor communities have access to the education and health care which will enable them to work their way out of poverty**

## Going for Goals

“Achievement of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) would mean that at least 500 million people are lifted from poverty,” says Owain James, Oxfam’s MDG Campaign Manager. “Fewer women would die in childbirth, fewer people would die from treatable diseases, more children would go to school, and the lives of millions of people would improve drastically.”

The MDGs, set by world leaders in 1999 to halve world poverty by 2015, include eradicating extreme poverty and hunger; achieving education for all; reducing child mortality; improving maternal health; and fighting HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases. *Make Poverty History* (see page 4) has been a key part of Oxfam’s

work towards the MDGs. The campaign has produced results through political lobbying, high-profile stunts, and millions of messages sent to world leaders by the public.

The UK government made poverty a focus of July’s G8 Summit. It has now announced unilateral 100% debt cancellation, alongside a G8 commitment to 100% multilateral debt cancellation, for certain poor countries.

“Despite this, the MDGs remain far from being met,” says Owain. “Already, an interim target – sending as many girls as boys to primary school by 2005 – will be missed. Oxfam will keep pressurising world leaders until the Goals are achieved, and surpassed, so that poverty really is made history.”

“Fewer women would die in childbirth, people wouldn’t die from treatable diseases, children would go to school, and the lives of millions of people would improve drastically.”

**Owain James,  
MDG Campaign Manager**



One small step towards the Millennium Development Goal of education for all by 2015: Vila Irma Dulce crèche, north-east Brazil. With Oxfam’s support, the community persuaded the local council to construct the school and provide equipment, teachers, and a free daily meal for the children



Maria, home-based care worker, Malawi



Artush Mkztchyan, patient, Armenia



Bicycle transport is essential to our HIV/AIDS care programme in rural Malawi

### Home-based care in Malawi

“In the past, a major problem was not knowing how to bath a chronically ill person,” says Maria, trained by Oxfam to deliver home-based care to HIV/AIDS patients. “We didn’t know how to handle patients; hygiene was a problem. Now we know and can teach others.” Oxfam has trained around 450 people such as Maria to deliver home-based care to more than 21,000 people in Malawi –

including counselling, hygiene services, and basic drugs. “These volunteers cheer me up,” says Aron Kamiza. “They give me hope that even if I’m HIV positive, I can live longer and get back on my feet.” Oxfam works with community leaders to increase understanding of the epidemic. Around 150,000 households have received HIV/AIDS prevention information, and

nearly 8,000 households headed by children or the elderly have been taught agricultural methods that are less labour intensive for them. We are helping orphans to complete schooling and vocational courses, and we’re fighting for the property rights of orphans, widows, and widowers. Worldwide, we’re tackling the impact of HIV/AIDS throughout our entire programme.

### Child-centred teaching, Viet Nam

In Tra Vinh, one of Viet Nam’s poorest provinces, Oxfam is training teachers in ‘child-centred’ teaching methods that are now normal throughout the developed world. Lessons are designed so that pupils participate actively, rather than simply listening to the teacher. “We see results immediately,” says Oxfam’s Programme

Coordinator Vu Thi Thanh Hoa. “Grades are better, and teachers see progress in individual students.” In the project area, 15.2 per cent of students were graded as ‘excellent’ in 2004, up from 5.8 per cent in 2001. The government is now promoting these teaching methods throughout the country.



Children make quicker progress in child-centred classes

### Improving access to health care

For nurse Vahe Nersissyan, running a clinic in the remote Armenian village of Khachik has been challenging. When Soviet rule collapsed in 1991, funding for basic services ended. “We were paralysed,” Vahe says. He received irregular wages for 10 years and treated people as best he could.

Oxfam became involved in 1994. Now our partner organisation, *Support to Communities*, is helping 128 rural Armenian communities to run health schemes. Members pay a small sum to receive basic treatment, free drugs, and regular visits from doctors. Vulnerable families receive the service for free. The scheme

provides primary health care to 80,000 people. Vahe treats around 100 patients each month. Artush Mkztchyan suffered a stroke in 2005. “Without the scheme I could have died,” he says. “Vahe gave me first aid and medicine. I feel secure knowing he’s nearby.” Artush now works again, growing vegetables and tending his livestock. In 2004, a joint working group was formed between Armenia’s Ministry of Health, Oxfam, and *Support to Communities* to decide how the government could adopt the scheme nationwide. The ‘Health for All’ message is starting to be heard.



Nurse Vahe Nersissyan outside his clinic, one of many revived by Oxfam’s local health care scheme

# Right to be heard



Givania Maria da Silva, local politician, Brazil



José Barbosa Dos Santos, campaigner, Brazil

## Oxfam is working with others to enable poor communities to speak out and make their voices heard

### Fighting for land rights, Brazil

In north-east Brazil, Oxfam is working with local partner organisation APOINME fighting for the rights of indigenous peoples. APOINME has already succeeded in getting the Brazilian authorities to recognise the rights of around 40 ethnic groups, and is calling for a further 18 ‘lost’ communities to be acknowledged officially.

José Barbosa Dos Santos (right) is vice-chief of the Xucuru de Ororubá people. “Our culture was stolen,” he

says. “We were locked into a cycle of poverty, kept at the bottom of society, working for next to nothing on someone else’s land.”

“Oxfam was a good partner – not only in supporting our fight to reclaim our land, but also on how to get the best out of it,” he adds. “Things are definitely better here; food production has improved, and so has people’s health. We used to be frightened to fight for our rights – but we are stronger now. We have lost our fear.”

### Finding a voice, Brazil

Oxfam is also supporting the people of Conceição das Crioulas to reclaim land that’s rightfully theirs.

The community, founded by six African women who fled from slavery during the 18th century, is home to 4,000 people. Throughout Brazil, there are around 1,000 such *Quilombola* communities, who are among the poorest people in the country and have suffered particularly badly from discrimination.

Givania Maria da Silva (right)

is determined to make sure that the rights of her community are heard at the highest level.

She has become the first person from a Quilombola community to be elected as a member of parliament – and was part of the movement that campaigned successfully for the government to recognise legal entitlement to her people’s land. “Without Oxfam’s support, I couldn’t even afford the bus ticket to go to council meetings, says Givania. “None of the progress we’ve made here would have been possible.”



Givania Maria da Silva



“We used to be frightened to fight for our rights – but we are stronger now. We have lost our fear.”

Barbosa Dos Santos, vice-chief of the Xucuru de Ororubá



Kait Laughlin,  
WestGAP,  
Glasgow



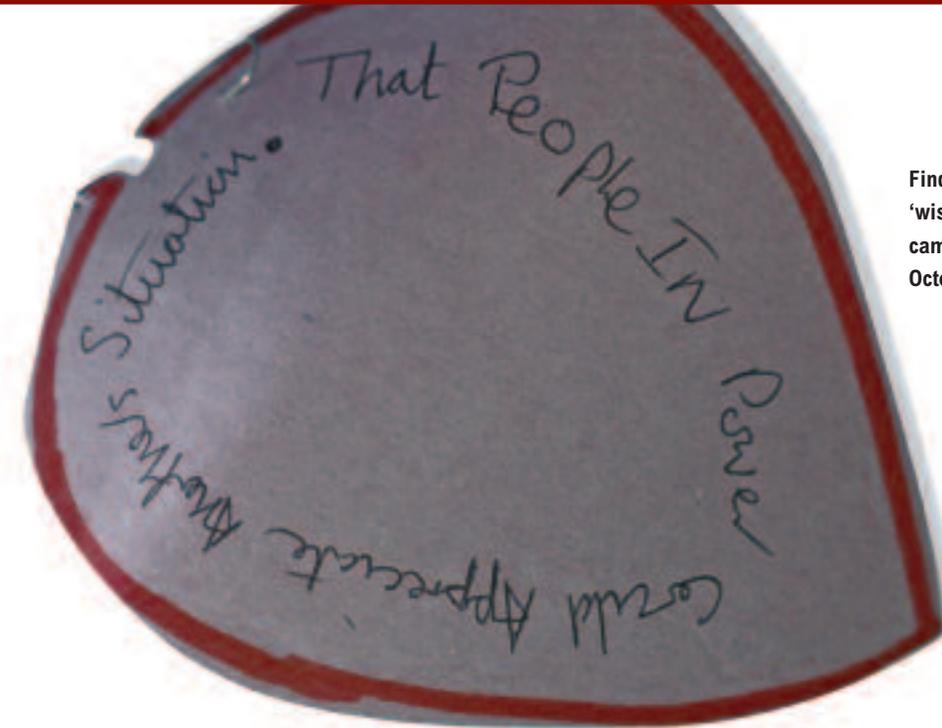
In Yemen, the government now considers the needs of women in the development of its policies

### Influencing the policy-makers

People living in poverty often have no say in the decisions that affect their lives. Oxfam is enabling poor communities to influence policy-makers at local, national, and international level to make sure their needs are considered.

**Yemen:** In Yemen, Oxfam worked with the Women’s National Committee to ensure the government brought issues affecting women into the poverty-reduction plans required by the World Bank to qualify for aid and debt relief. Issues such as women’s political participation, reproductive health, and violence against women are now considered in government policy.

**Georgia:** In Zugdidi district, Georgia, Oxfam is helping poor communities to monitor the local budget – to check that it is being allocated in a way that meets their needs and to influence how it is spent. Representatives have been trained in budgetary processes, and radio broadcasts have made people more aware of economic issues. Now changes have been made to the budget at the request of local people.



Finding a voice. Leaf on a ‘wishing tree’ at an anti-poverty campaigning event, Glasgow, October 2004

### Campaigning against poverty, Glasgow

“People don’t realise that there is poverty in Glasgow’s so-called affluent West End, but many people are struggling here in Partick,” says Kait Laughlin, of WestGAP’s Community Advice and Resource Centre.

WestGAP was set up seven years ago to give a voice to local people living in poverty. The organisation has been run by a dedicated group of unpaid workers. In October, with Oxfam’s support, Kait became

WestGAP’s first paid worker. Since then, WestGAP has been able to take on a second paid worker and is further developing its campaigning on poverty issues. It plans to invite local people living in poverty and decision-makers to a conference on ‘Community Consultation – fact or fiction?’. Those who attend will help to give a voice and a platform to those who feel neither heard nor consulted.



# Right to equity



Andy, young father, UK

**Around 70 per cent of the 1.3 billion people who live on less than a dollar a day are women and girls. Oxfam addresses the distinct needs of women – and men – in every aspect of our work**

## Supporting dads, UK

In the UK, the part which gender plays in poverty is often ignored. Oxfam’s UK Poverty Programme applies our experience of tackling gender discrimination in communities around the world to our work in Britain.

Single-parent families are one of the poorest groups in the UK, and Oxfam has worked with the Centre for Separated Families (CSF) in York since 1999. When the partnership began, CSF staff had long been aware that the group wasn’t attracting single fathers – a group which is often alienated in a society which sees

women as carers and men as providers. With our support, CSF has changed its approach to make its services accessible to men as well as women.

“I went along hoping I might learn something about being a dad to a stroppy teenage daughter, and I did!” says Clive, one of the fathers who attended a group for single parents. “Dads talked about how it can be difficult when daughters get to puberty and mums talked about being on their own with teenage boys and we all sort of learned from each other. I really got a lot out of that.”



Andy (16) feeding his baby, Joshua. Andy was initially separated from his son, but with support from CSF he has learnt parenting skills and now plays an important role in Joshua’s life



Seema and Shukarmani, campaigners, India



Ami, women's group member, Mali

### Campaigning to end gender violence, South Asia

Childhood friends Seema and Shukarmani in Jharkhand, east India, never imagined that one day they would stand up to the all-powerful village council.

When a neighbour accused Seema's mother of being a witch, she knew the outcome could be fatal. Together with her childhood friend, she used her knowledge of the law gained as a volunteer with the Free Legal Aid committee and challenged the village council's decision.

In Chittagong, Bangladesh, Jaanu believes that helping his daughter to cut vegetables does not make him less of a man. "This is household work, not a gender issue," he argues.

Jaanu and his wife Monwara have formed a group of

15 members in their community to enable more families to lead violence-free lives. In South Asia, violence against women takes many forms. Girls and women endure daily beatings, harassment for dowry, rape, 'honour killings', acid attacks, and verbal abuse. Deep-seated social attitudes consider such violence to be a private matter rather than a punishable offence.

In 2004 Oxfam, along with a coalition of more than 400 organisations across South Asia, initiated the *WE CAN End All Violence Against Women* campaign. Its message is simple: 'Violence against women is unacceptable. Working together, we can end it'. The campaign

focuses on peer-to-peer influence in families, neighbourhoods, communities, and social institutions.

Seema, Monwara, and Jaanu are among the thousands of ordinary women and men who have become 'change makers' for the *WE CAN* campaign: people who are prepared to break the silence and bring about positive change through their actions.

"No one has ever done such a thing in our community. Changing community attitudes is a slow process but it can be done. Together, we can end all violence against women," Seema says with conviction.

### Women in business, Mali

The livestock herders or 'pastoralists' of northern Mali are among the poorest and most vulnerable people in West Africa. Women pastoralists are particularly disadvantaged, having traditionally been excluded from education or from playing a role in public life.

With support from Oxfam partner Tassaght, the Intahaca Women's Association has started a business, curing animal hides and making leather products for sale. This provides the women with a vital source of income – and much more. Association member

Ami explains: "Before this we were very dependent on men. If my clothes were old and my husband didn't want me to have new ones, I couldn't because I didn't have anything of my own. Before, I didn't have shoes, but now I can buy them for myself."

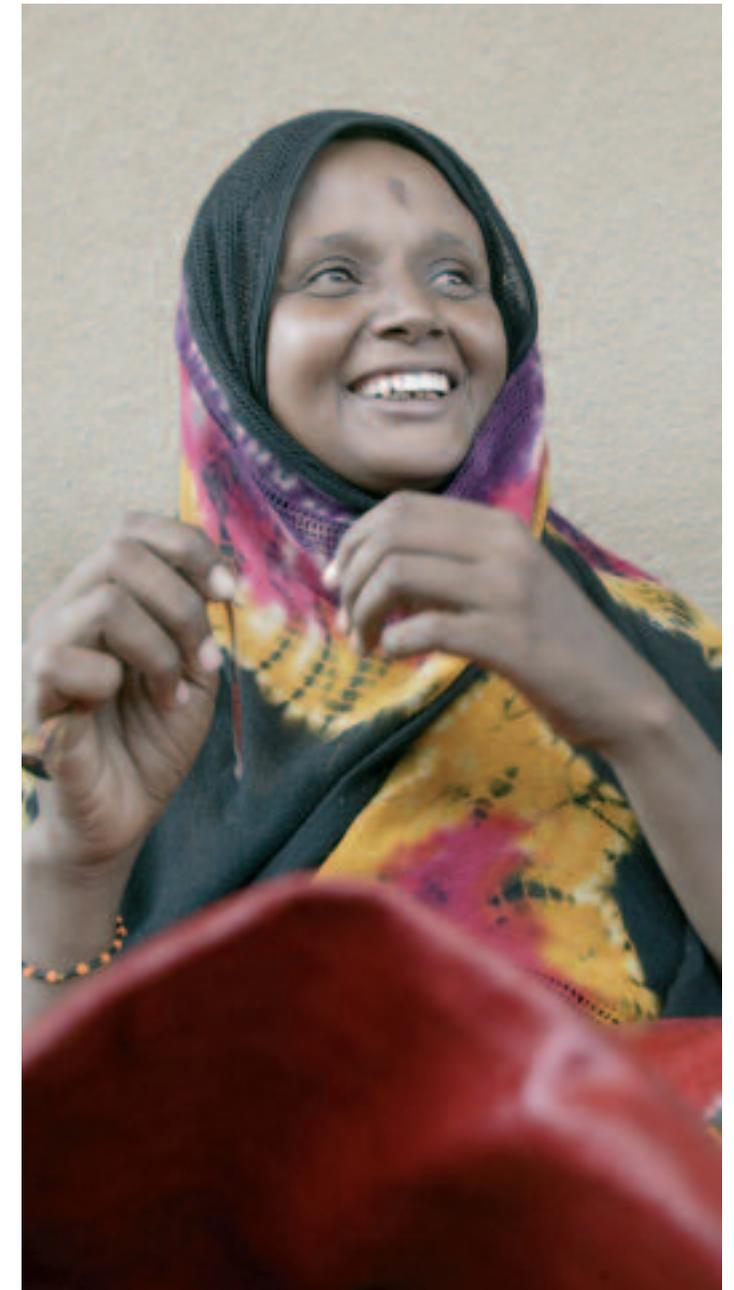


A street rally to mark the launch of the *WE CAN* campaign, Pakistan, 2005

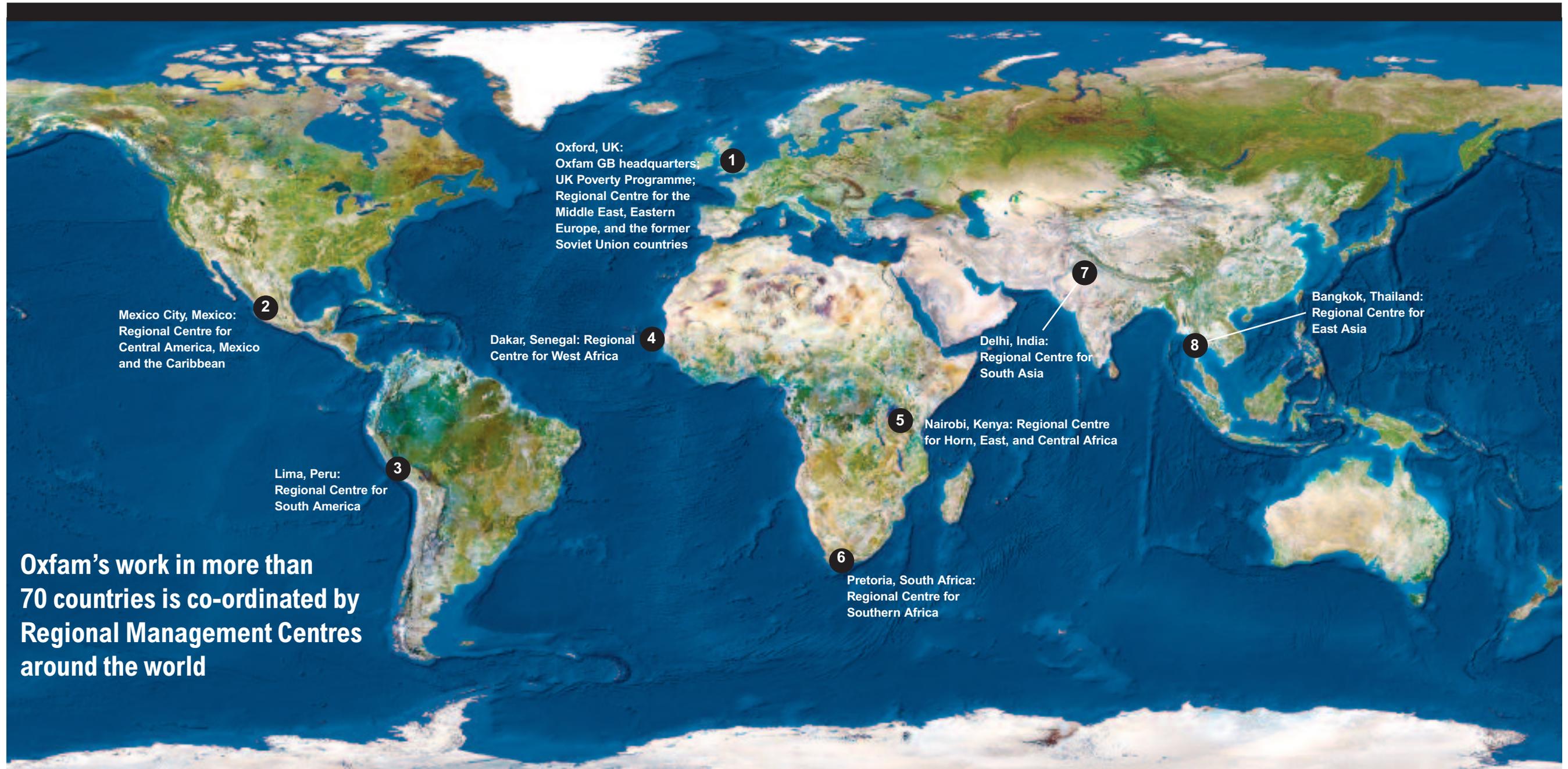
"Before this we were very dependent on men."

Ami, Mali

Ami (right) and the Intahaca women's group (below)

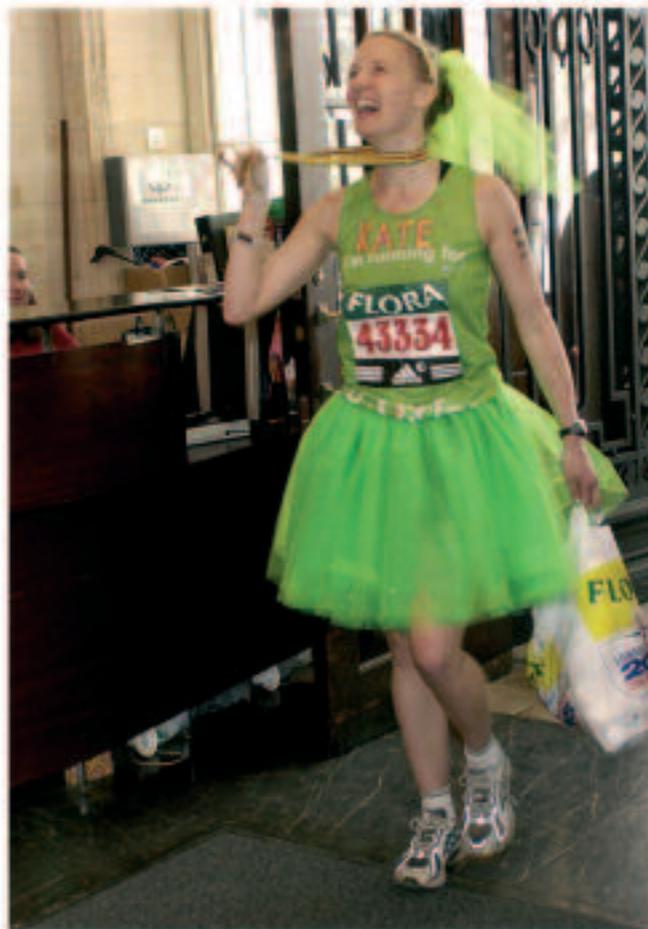


# Global Oxfam



# People who help make it happen

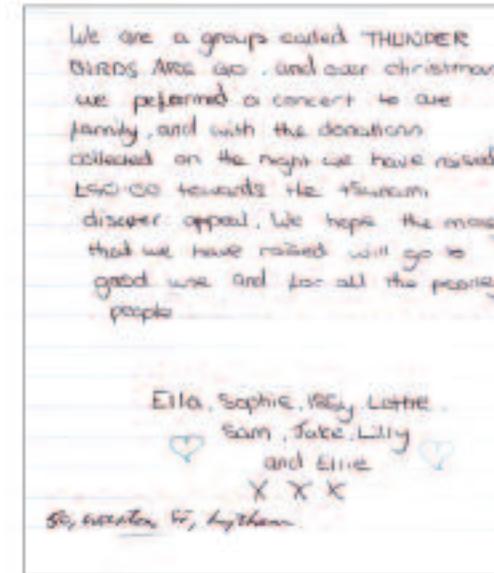
Throughout the year, hundreds of thousands of people and organisations in the UK supported Oxfam in many different ways. Here are just a few of the committed people whose dedication and energy help to make our work possible



## Fundraising

Nurse Kate Garton celebrates after completing the 2005 London Marathon. “This experience has been amazing,” said Kate. “I am about to exceed my £2,000 target for Oxfam, thanks to the generosity of my friends, family, and some total strangers.”

In 2004/5, more than 4,500 Oxfam supporters took part in the London Marathon, ‘Trailwalker’, our Global Challenges, and festival stewarding. Their efforts raised an impressive £1.18 million.



## Giving

The public response to the Tsunami was astounding. Many people held special collections at work or in the pub. Some donated cash they’d saved for a holiday. Others held special events to raise money.

Of course, this is just a snapshot of the generosity on which Oxfam relies, not just after an emergency, but throughout the year. More than half a million people currently make a regular monthly donation to Oxfam.

## Volunteering

Mark Chatham works in the Byres Road Oxfam Shop, Glasgow, twice a week. “The work Oxfam does is amazing,” he says. “We learn about it from the campaigns office. It’s a real incentive to working here.”

Mark is one of more than 22,000 Oxfam shop volunteers whose hard work and great ideas raised £20 million for us



in 2004/5 and brought our message to high street shoppers throughout Britain.

## Corporate support goes the extra mile

“Trailwalker was an awesome experience which will live with me for a very long time,” says Mike Lewis, leader of a team from architects firm Benoy, which took part in the sponsored 100km South Downs walk. “The knowledge you’ve done something to help others gives you a warm glow. I think we’ve raised around £6,000. It wasn’t easy, but if someone

asked me to do it again, I might just say yes!”

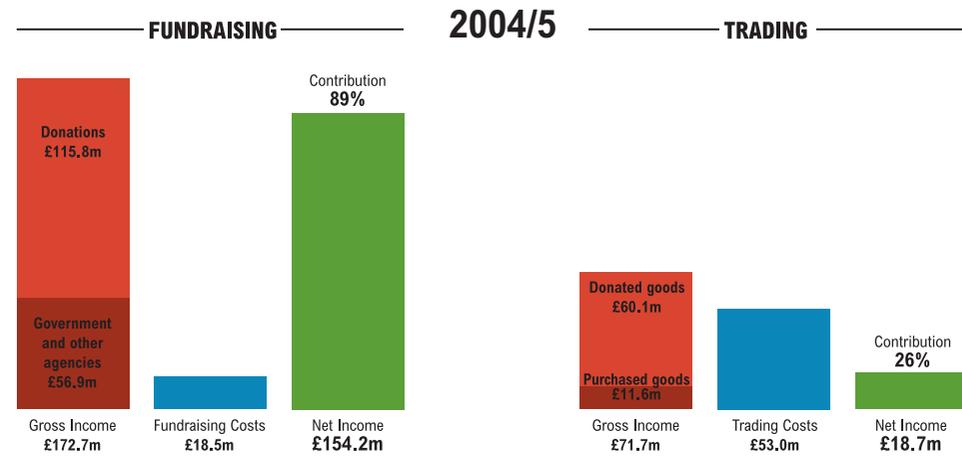
Companies are increasingly investing in charity relationships to boost employee motivation and customer loyalty. We believe that corporate engagement enables us to harness support and to influence companies in ways that impact positively on poor people’s lives.



The Benoy team is sprayed with champagne after the 100km Trailwalker course

# Where the money came from, 2004/5

# How it was used



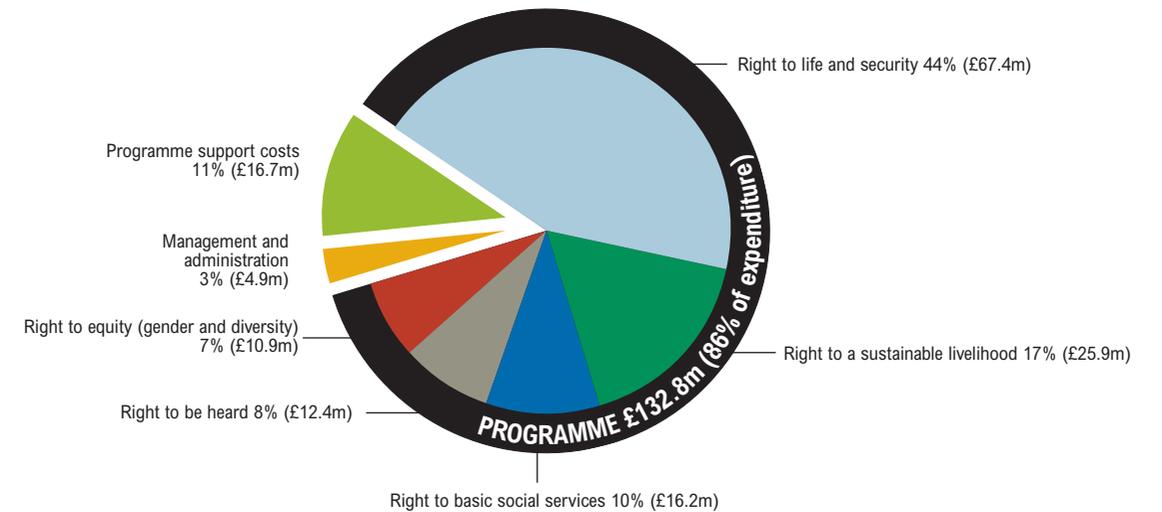
**Total Net Income £181.8m**

(inc. a total of £5.0m gifts in kind, and miscellaneous income)

Transfer to reserves £27.4m

**£154.4m**

## Expenditure £154.4m



### Shops' success

Oxfam shops had another successful year, with net income up nearly £2 million on last year to £18.7 million – a vital contribution to our budget. Sales of all categories of goods improved (including clothing), with particular success in books, bric-a-brac, and Fair Trade food and gifts. 32 new shops were acquired during the year – showing that the Oxfam retail network is in very good shape.

Once again, all this success is due to the incredible hard work of our network of dedicated staff and volunteers throughout the country.



### Oxfam Unwrapped

One of many new initiatives in 2004 was the launch of *Oxfam Unwrapped* – Oxfam's alternative gift catalogue. You give the gift – and a community overseas, which really needs it, receives it. Goats vied with i-pods as the nation's 'must have' christmas gift. More than 50,000 people have given a gift from the catalogue and *Oxfam Unwrapped* has now sold 160,000 gifts.



#### Africa (48%\*)

"Before, I could not grow enough for my needs. The government gave me food aid but I was leading a desperate life. Then Oxfam started the irrigation scheme and I started to grow vegetables. Now I eat what I want and sell the extra to get money. I've stopped receiving food aid from the government."

*Yemataw Deribe, farmer, Ethiopia*



#### Latin America and the Caribbean (15%\*)

Marta sells her coffee to La Central co-operative – which sells to Oxfam's Progreso coffee shops.

"As a farmer, I am privileged to work in Fair Trade. Please continue your efforts to make trade fair. Remember that we are there behind you, and there are millions of us."

*Marta Alicia Zepaeda, coffee farmer, Honduras*



#### Asia, Middle East, and Europe (37%\*)

"Equal wages were introduced for female and male labourers by Oxfam – the very first international agency giving an equal wage to women," says Dr Ravi Chandram, director of our partner organisation FACE in southern India, speaking about our Tsunami response Cash-for-Work programmes. "We want to develop this opportunity – a very good initiative of Oxfam."

*Dr Ravi Chandram, Southern India*

\* Percentages of expenditure by Oxfam GB International Division, excluding humanitarian, support and other central costs

**“ Politically, economically, socially, and morally, no one in our generation would be able to explain to generations to come how it is that with the resources available... we are allowing millions of people to die in poverty.**

**The essence of solving poverty is to enact a movement of solidarity touching everyone...The role of each one of us cannot be replaced by anyone else.”**

**Africa’s ‘First Lady’ Graça Machel – former Mozambican minister and UN expert on children’s rights – delivering Oxfam’s Gilbert Murray Memorial Lecture in February**



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, and to all our supporters.

**In particular we would like to publicly acknowledge the following:**



The European Commission



ECHO



Department for International Development



The United Nations



The Big Lottery Fund



Disasters Emergency Committee



Comic Relief

Oxfam acknowledges funding from the Big Lottery Fund for £195,154 for education in Mozambique, £325,817 for the UK Poverty programme and £143,438 for water tanks in Brazil. Oxfam received funding from the Commonwealth Education Fund (CEF) of £62,000 (2003/04: £0) and spent £79,000 (2003/04: £45,000) on CEF funded projects.

UNHCR, WFP, FAO, UNOCHA, UNICEF, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Development Cooperation Ireland (DCI), Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC), Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), KFW Coopération Financière Allemande, World Bank, The Government of Luxembourg, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Ford Foundation, Times Foundation, BP Foundation, Doen Foundation, FCO, Department for Work and Pensions.

Entwicklungshilfe Klub, Patmos Foundation, Stanley Thomas Johnson Foundation, Guru Nanak Sikh Secondary School (Hillingdon), The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund, The Sylvia Adams Trust, States of Jersey Overseas Aid Commission, States of Guernsey Overseas Aid Commission, Isle of Man Overseas Aid Committee, Band Aid Trust, Stavros S Niarchos Foundation, Women at Risk, D G Charitable Trust.

Atlas International Property Services, Aviva plc, Bettys & Taylors of Harrogate, C Brewer & Sons Ltd, Cafédirect, Cisco Systems, The Co-operative Bank, Co-operative Group (CWS) Ltd, Co-operative Retail, Deutsche Bank, EMI, Fatface Ltd, Highfield Electronics Limited, JCB, Johnson Matthey Plc, Laithwaites, Liberata, Linklaters, Liverpool Football Club, MTV Networks, Northern Foods plc, The Professional Footballers' Association, Refco Overseas Ltd, Renault F1 Team, The Royal Bank of Scotland Group, SABMiller, Sheppard Moscow Scotland Ltd, Somerfield, The Standard Life Group, Starbucks Coffee Company (UK) Ltd, Tomlinsons - The Third World Trust, Virgin Atlantic, Weil, Gotshall & Manges.

Our thanks also to Oxfam affiliates: Oxfam America, Oxfam Solidarité, Oxfam Hong Kong, Oxfam Intermón Spain; Oxfam Ireland, Oxfam New Zealand, Oxfam (Novib) Netherlands, Oxfam Québec, Oxfam Canada, Oxfam Germany, Oxfam Australia.



**Front cover picture:** Local people in Tamil Nadu, India, used to make a living evaporating seawater to extract the salt, before the Tsunami destroyed the walls of their salt pans. Oxfam is paying the salt-workers to rebuild the pans in a Cash-for-Work scheme, so they can restart the production process and earn an income.

Photo: Rajendra Shaw

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