

I(C)T

Annual Review 2013/14



INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S TRUST

## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

**This past year has seen a renewed focus in the media on child exploitation, child poverty and child trafficking, all in the context of the terrible phenomenon of modern slavery. Such attention to this darkest of human endeavours is always welcome as it often precipitates action and brings resources. But mass media attention can be fickle and temporary and, when the news moves on, so do the resources and impetus to bring about change.**

However, our Partners across the globe are dedicated practitioners, who are working tirelessly to improve the lives and futures for some of the most disadvantaged families in the world, with or without the attention of the media. So I feel it is vital that we continue to support them with the knowledge that their work with these disadvantaged children really does make a difference.

Because of our work, former street children are now educated, working and supporting families of their own; the parents we work with have adopted positive strategies to



love and support their children in school; women, often the most disadvantaged in poor communities, are now employed and providing for their families and making their voices heard.

That is why even with the economic constraints, The ICT has worked hard to maintain support for our existing projects and has even managed to expand our programme of work in Africa and South Asia.

Many charities like ourselves are still finding it difficult to raise the unrestricted funding we need to keep our offices and administrations resourced. Yet, even with all these funding constraints we are still making life better for those with whom we work.

In my view, it is only the dedication of our staff and our partners that make the real difference so, along with our supporters and donors, I feel it is our challenge to provide them with the resources they need.

**John Dunworth**  
*Chairman*

## OUR ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE YEAR

**The period April 2013 to March 2014 brought new challenges and opportunities for the International Children's Trust. The economic climate continues to hamper the funding of children's organisations overseas including our own fundraising. However, we have still managed to develop work with new Partners in Africa (Zimbabwe and Ghana) and Bangladesh, in line with our strategic ambitions. We have also strengthened our work in the UK by establishing an Internship programme, recruiting new Trustees as well as making links with local authorities.**

## PROGRAMME

**OUR PROGRAMME OF WORK IS STILL MAKING A DIFFERENCE TO MANY COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE WORLD, BY HELPING CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES BENEFIT FROM OUR EDUCATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES, LIFTING THEM OUT OF THE CONFINES OF POVERTY.**

### Ecuador: JUCONI

**Our Partner in Ecuador, JUCONI, delivers intensive family work in the poor barrios of Guayaquil and has extended their work to help children, families, and schools protect themselves from violence in local communities.** The programme is designed to create safe and secure environments for children at home and in their neighbourhoods,



Photo Credit: Juconi Ecuador

so they can benefit fully from their education and move toward independence in adulthood. Children growing up in these deprived and violent barrios of Guayaquil are often traumatised by their experiences, which inhibits their ability to benefit from schooling and participate fully in family and community life. JUCONI's work tackles parental violence in the home to create a stable home life for children to grow and develop. This programme is reinforced in both schools and the

community, giving children a greater sense of wellbeing and the ability to complete their education, enter the legal job market and find a route out of poverty.

### Ghana: YOUTH ALIVE

**Our new partnership with Youth Alive in Ghana started in 2013, and focuses on helping poor and vulnerable children in the Upper West and Upper East regions of the country gain access to full-time education.** This work cannot succeed unless there is full support from the family and the local neighbourhood to ensure that children can travel safely to and from school, so great efforts are being made to engage the whole community.

By strengthening child protection and monitoring children's vulnerability and signs of abuse in schools, we are working with teachers and community leaders to prevent; domestic violence, drug and alcohol abuse, female genital mutilation, forced and early marriage and giving children, and girls in particular, a better chance to make positive and informed choices about their lives.

More focused support is being delivered to a smaller group of highly vulnerable street children who, by the nature of their living conditions, are hard to reach. By providing access to free school uniforms, school fees, free text books and homework support clubs, we are able to give them an alternative to living on the streets and a sense of hope for their future.

Photo Credit: Youth Alive



This is new work, but we feel we have hit the ground running and are optimistic about the project's future development.

### India: ARUNODHAYA

**This last year saw work with our Partner, Arunodhaya go from strength to strength within the slum settlements of Semmencherry, Tamil Nadu, south of Chennai.** As with many of our projects, Arunodhaya is focused on working with children living on the streets and steering them away from illegal and dangerous labour by encouraging them back into school.



During the past year this enterprising project has set up;

- One Early Learning Centre
- Two Child Labour Centres
- Two Guided Learning Centres

The **Early Learning Centre** has established its curricula for children under 5, including the provision of nourishment and sleep routines and learning basic numeracy and literacy.

Children assimilated into the **Child Labour Centres** are provided with the national state age related curricula, but start with basic numeracy and literacy as well as science, history and physical education.

The teachers are trained to provide pastoral care for the children with a focus on nutrition and health awareness, as well as sexual and reproductive health for those young people that are becoming sexually aware and active.

Those in the **Guided Learning Centre** follow similar support on education but the focus is more closely aligned to formal school classes.

This enterprising project also runs a **Parents' Income Generation programme** which helps parents set up income generating initiatives and provides initial training in finance, business management and book keeping, including how to save, hold each other to account, and making decisions together. To date, they have set up: beauty shops, event equipment rental, toy making for shops in Chennai, making and selling food (idly and dosa for breakfasts), and rice trading.

This focus on social enterprise is a positive and more sustainable means of helping people out of poverty.

### ROTARY & INNER WHEEL OF MADRAS

**The 3 hostel centres in Selaiyur, Shollinganallur (Barbara Kelly Home) and Gummidipoondi, run by our Partners, the Rotary and Inner Wheel of Madras, continued to offer care and educational support for boys and girls at risk and in need of guidance to complete their education.**

Vocational training has developed in Gummidipoondi offering courses in welding, motor mechanics, electrical engineering, air conditioning and refrigeration; and pastoral care is offered to those children whose life experiences make structured learning difficult. Vocational training is also offered to the children staying in the Selaiyur hostel and the Barbara Kelly Home.

All 3 hostels offer recreational activities, which help young people lead full and well rounded lives.



### SARTHI

**Our innovative work with SARTHI, a small NGO, based in Patna, the capital of India's Bihar state, reintegrates vulnerable street children back into their families and formal education.**

Many of these vulnerable children have been found on the streets, and SARTHI works with the authorities to reintegrate the children back into their families or finds placements with new families. SARTHI ensures that the children return to full time education, and liaises between the Government sponsored homes and the children's families to create a fresh start for planning the child's future in education, training and legitimate work.



### SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION TRUST (SDET)

**SDET continues to offer support to local vulnerable children in the poorest and most disadvantaged areas of Virudhunagar district in Tamil Nadu, who have dropped out of school and are being pulled into dangerous labour.** They support families in making changes to their lifestyles in order to maintain their children's education.

Education is seen as a right for all children and responsibility is placed on the parents to support their children's education and provide for their families. Parents' beneficiary committees meet regularly to discuss and resolve the issues arising for the children and so keep them in education. In this way, children have been able to sustain their daily attendance and realise the benefits of education as they progress toward adulthood.

SDET also operates special schools, for disabled children in 25 communities surrounding Srivilliputhur and the outlying villages. These schools provide physiotherapy and educational learning for those unable to attend mainstream schools. The provision



Photo Credit: Chloe Dewe Matthews



Photo Credit: Maresa Maritz

includes academic and social education and basic life skills such as understanding money (shopping) and social outings with family and friends. Before the schools were set up, these children had no education at all, so SDET is a fantastic example of how marginalised children are being integrated into mainstream society.

### Mexico: JUCONI

**JUCONI continues to consolidate its work with three core beneficiary groups:**

- Street-living
- Street-working
- Street market-working girls and boys

Specialist consultants work closely with JUCONI staff to give them the skills and competencies to engage with these young people to create and sustain on-going relationships and steer them towards education and training.

JUCONI continues to evaluate its work in order to re-assess and adjust the programme delivery and impact. Importantly, it has expanded its training activities to include other professionals and organisations,

ensuring that their work with children at risk and their integration into mainstream education and an inclusive family-life, is sustained.

JUCONI expanded its therapeutic interventions with parents and children, using techniques such as **Video Interactive Guidance** and **sand tray** therapy with parents and children, in order to make a greater impact with these exceptionally vulnerable children in the poor barrios in Mexico.

### South Africa: NEW LIFE COMMUNITY PROJECTS (NEW LIFE)

**New Life, with our support, continues to ensure more vulnerable children in the Uitsig community of the Cape flats townships are able to access education, supported by caring, protective and responsible families.**

Out of school and street children and those at risk of exploitation, are provided with care, protection, informal schooling and reintegrated into mainstream education through their participation in home schools, staffed by members of the community.

These home schooled children are encouraged



to develop relationships with their peers, family members and other adults (including teachers), obtain literacy and numeracy skills all of which are essential preparations for successful education and progression into adult life.

This programme empowers the parents in the community to give them the tools to support and protect their children and ensure they access education and sustain regular attendance.

Our New Life collaboration addresses both the immediate needs (nutrition, shelter, protection, education) and the long-term needs (the family and community's capacity to support, care and protect sustainably).

Children benefit from a strong community-based support system that encourages them to stay in school, reject street-involvement and protect themselves from street violence and exploitation.

### Sri Lanka: SERVE

The ICT's Sri Lanka Partner, SERVE, continues to provide educational support to children in the most deprived communities of southern Sri Lanka. They have set up children and family resource centres that encourages parents to support their children in school. These activities include weekly sessions on;

- Aspects of children's behaviour and teaching respect for each other
- Spending free-time constructively and withstanding negative peer pressure

- The importance of education, knowing oneself, health and hygiene
- Counselling about family dynamics and school difficulties
- Liaison between children, school and families to sustain children's attendance and establish support required
- Regular library access sessions, computer training and homework support clubs

The children in the programme have increased their social networks through participation in focused activities such as sports events, good community interaction and learning about their cultural heritage. Parents attend monthly meetings to discuss their concerns about their children's education, which allows families to develop strong networks within their communities.

The ICT acknowledges and thanks all child sponsors, members, and donors for their support throughout the year, without whom we could not continue this vital and necessary work to bring vulnerable and disadvantaged children out of poverty. We would specifically like to thank: **The Beatrice Laing Trust, The Breadsticks Foundation, The Cobra Foundation, Comic Relief, Department for International Development, The Evan Cornish Foundation, Open Gate, Souter Charitable Trust, Three Oaks Trust and The Woodward Charitable Trust.**

## UK ACTIVITIES

**London 10K:** On July 14th, one of the hottest days of the year, a team of runners took part in the annual London 10K on behalf of The ICT. Thanks go to Vishal Bahri of the State Bank of India, Gareth Jones, Amy Hatton, Richard Chaves-Sanderson, Amber Wilson de Vries, and Arush Gupta, a student of LSE.



The Rotary of Coventry continues to support the children in the Rotary and Inner Wheel of Madras programme through the many welcome fundraising activities including a theatre night and coffee morning.

A partnership between The ICT and Lord Karan Bilimoria's Cobra Foundation was launched with a donation going towards our work in Bihar state, SARTHI. We look forward to future collaborations with them.

In October, Baroness Miller of Chilthorne-Domer kindly hosted our House of Lords reception, where we welcomed representatives from the Ecuadorian Embassy, Olympic swimmer Mark Foster and many of our statutory and trust funders and individual donors who have supported The ICT's work for many years.

## OUR FINANCES

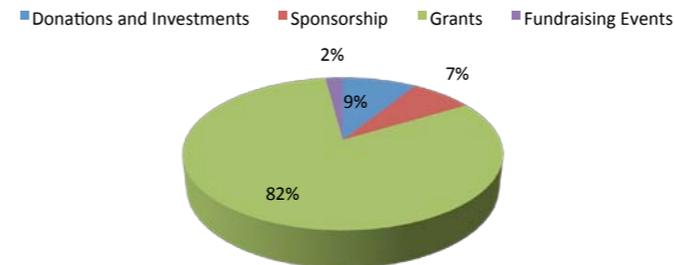
Once again, The ICT would like to say a huge thank you to all the individual supporters, organisations, trusts, foundations and grant providers, who continued generously supporting The ICT in the current economic climate. With their support, total income raised in the year was £565,112. This was lower than in the previous year, with grant income falling by 24%, due to the completion of 3 large grants in the previous year. As grant opportunities for some Partners diminished, The ICT began to develop new partnerships in both Africa and Asia, but as these were still at an early stage, only a small amount of income was secured in this financial year. However, The ICT is forecasting a significant increase in income for these programmes in 2014/15. The level of child sponsorship by individuals and groups

continued, and enabled the ICT to support some of the smaller programmes, and income from fundraising events increased and is forecast to do the same in the coming year.

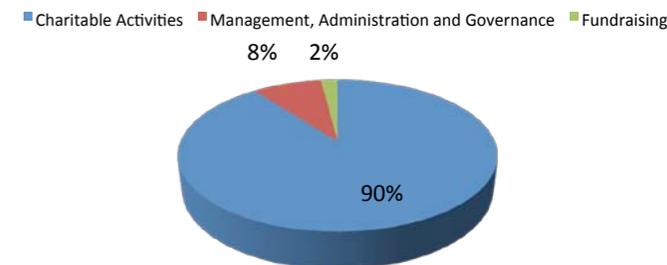
The ICT spent a total of £460,521 on charitable activities, which accounts for 90% of total expenditure for the year, and with continued tight management of UK overhead costs, governance, management and administration costs were just 8% and fundraising costs held at 2%. In all expenditure, The ICT worked hard to ensure that value for money was achieved at all times both in the UK and abroad.

The ICT achieved an overall surplus for the year of £66,539, with total reserves at year end of £373,263, due to increases in restricted funds held, and in the value of shares now shown as unrestricted reserves.

### Where the money comes from 2013/2014



### How the money is spent 2013/2014



### Trustees Statement

The summarised financial information shows the income raised for our activities, the cost of raising the income and the amounts spent on our charitable activities. The information is taken from the full financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2014, which were approved by the Trustees on the 25 September 2014. In order to gain a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity, the full audited financial statements, Report of the Council of Management and Auditors' Report should be consulted. Copies can be obtained from the ICT by calling 01733 319777.

**John Dunworth**

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



# ICT

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