



Safer homes, resilient lives

Thank you for helping communities move from crisis to resilience.

Thanks to the generosity of Presbyterians across Ireland, access to clean water is now a reality for the community of Kyabona, Uganda. Women like Kate, pictured above, no longer need to make the arduous daily four-kilometre trek for water. She learned how to construct residential rainwater harvesting tanks, which have transformed the community.

Thank you

Thank you so much for your committed partnership and for your faithful support of Tearfund's work. **Your 2023 World Development Appeal has made a profound difference in the lives of people facing some of the world's most difficult challenges.** Your compassion and generosity have been a beacon of hope for communities moving from crisis to resilience.

A community washed away

In the low-lying Kurigram district of Bangladesh, communities are no strangers to disaster. Monsoon rains and heavy flooding are a repeated reality, often washing away the homes and livelihoods of families like Momina's. When floodwaters rise, it's not just a home that is at risk; it's everything.

Crops, which people rely on for both food and income, are destroyed. Wells and latrines are contaminated, leading to the rapid spread of waterborne diseases. In this region, where most people live in poverty, any disruption to daily life can be devastating.

Momina knows this all too well. When her house, situated on the riverbank, became submerged, her family was left destitute and without work. With no land of their own, Momina and her husband faced days without enough to eat. Their situation was heartbreaking, a hand-to-mouth existence constantly threatened by the next flood. But you saw their plight and stepped in to help.

Your appeal helped them build a safety net

Because of your 2023 appeal, communities like Momina's have been equipped to not only recover from disasters but also build a safety net to protect themselves from future shocks.

Inspired and supported by Tearfund's local partner, a new idea took root in Momina's village: Self-Help Groups. Momina joined the Shapla Sanirbhar Women's Group, a community of 15-20 people who meet weekly to save money and support each other emotionally and spiritually.

Tearfund's partner provided training on everything from health and hygiene to disaster risk reduction. This wasn't about handouts; it was about honouring the courage and resourcefulness of the community and giving them the tools to take control of their own future.

Momina received a loan of about £28 from her group, which she used to buy five swans. One year later, her poultry business had flourished.

By selling surplus eggs and birds, she had earned a profit of £95. This wasn't just a financial gain; it was a new way of living.

Momina now rears 50 ducks and sells 1,500 eggs annually. Her family is no longer worried about where their next meal will come from.



Momina and her husband are now filled with a new sense of hope and self-motivation. They dream of buying their own land and raising cattle. Inspired by their success, other villagers are now seeking their advice. Your support, through this appeal, helped turn one family's despair into an entire community's inspiration.

The incredible scope of your impact

The problems faced by people in places like Bangladesh are not isolated events. Crises such as floods, droughts, and conflicts are a global reality, and they disproportionately affect people living in extreme poverty. Weather-related emergencies have increased fivefold over the last 50 years. Your partnership is helping communities to get ahead of these disasters, not just react to them.

Your generosity through the 2023 appeal provided vital support to communities facing crises in 10 countries, helping them to rebuild their lives and plan for a more resilient future. Below are the facts and figures, followed by the kind of impact your giving has made:

Bangladesh - £83,000

Lebanon - £41,000

DRC - £33,000

Uganda, Ethiopia & South Sudan - £23,000

Central Asian states - £19,000

Iraq - £14,000

Ukraine - £12,000

Haiti - £12,000

Total: £237,000

In Bangladesh, Tearfund's partner was able to implement a project that impacted 1,775 people like Momina. Thanks to your appeal, **food banks were established** by 19 self-help groups, collecting rice for use in emergencies. 12 Village Model Farms were set up for integrated agriculture and livestock rearing.

Communities have developed Risk Reduction Action Plans, and there has been a significant increase in community awareness regarding nutrition thanks to facilitator-run health sessions. Community sensitisation has led to **a reduction in sexual and gender-based violence and child marriage**. Notably, advocacy training provided to community members resulted in the establishment of a pre-primary school for 30 children in a remote area.

In Lebanon, thanks to your appeal, Tearfund's local partners implemented three projects. Multiple crises— the arrival of over 1.5 million Syrian refugees since 2011, economic collapse, the Beirut explosion, the Covid-19 pandemic, and ongoing political instability—have made life incredibly difficult. The recent Gaza-Israel conflict has further worsened the situation, with thousands of people being displaced. But your funding has blessed the lives of 1,194 young people and caregivers.

The initiatives focused on **peacebuilding, psychosocial support, and community outreach**, enabling participants to learn conflict resolution skills, address mental health challenges, and



'The care and embrace they showed my son were unlike anything I'd seen before.'

work together on projects that beautified their communities and helped those in need.

These programs have helped participants turn their personal struggles into positive actions of love and reconciliation, fostering a sense of purpose and hope.

In Uganda, your appeal enabled Tearfund's local partner to **provide access to safe water and sanitation for 75,387 people**. 69 rainwater harvesting tanks were constructed for domestic use, particularly for use by the elderly and widowed, and eight more were built for schools and health centres. The project also protected springs, laid pipelines for a gravity flow scheme and provided training in crucial areas such as sustainable land management, water resource protection, and income-generating activities like goat rearing and beekeeping.

Sanitation and hygiene practices have been enhanced through the installation of handwashing facilities and hygienic pit latrines, alongside training for women and girls on menstrual hygiene management and the making of reusable pads (pictured). **This training aims to break down stigma and help girls stay in school with dignity**, while also empowering women with artisan skills to earn an income. These efforts have been instrumental in reducing waterborne diseases, improving overall health, and contributing to a more resilient population.



In Meskan, Southern Ethiopia,

farmers live a hand-to-mouth existence. Small plots of land and changing climate conditions have placed traditional farmers in a precarious position, with any crisis forcing them to sell assets to survive. Nearly a third cannot sufficiently feed their families. **But thanks to your appeal, 1,139 people have been equipped with new environmentally friendly and sustainable farming methods and tools** by Tearfund's local partner. This will enable them to improve soil fertility without the need for costly chemical fertilisers, yielding better crop harvests.

In addition, thanks to your appeal, women received business development training and have formed self-help groups to strengthen their economic resilience. They were also trained to construct energy-efficient stoves that use less firewood and produce less smoke, saving them time and money and improving their health.

In Haiti, your generous support has helped **communities transition from a sense of helplessness to a state of proactive preparedness against natural disasters**. Through the project, 134 community influencers were trained in disaster risk management, subsequently teaching more than 9,000 people what to do before, during, and after a disaster. Additionally, 24 volunteers were trained in first aid by the Red Cross, equipping them with life-saving skills. And finally, a school and a church had toilets and electricity fitted, so they now serve as temporary shelters when needed.

Your investment also fostered long-term hope and sustainability within the community. For example, 97 farmers received training on land preparation and were given 2,874 tree seedlings. This will help with

reforestation, improve soil health, and reduce landslides, while also providing a potential source of income and reducing food insecurity. These efforts have increased community resilience, ensuring that lives and livelihoods are better protected.

Nepal is highly vulnerable to natural disasters due to its unique geography and climate, and these events cause significant loss of life. Whilst Nepalese churches have been active in responding to disasters, they have often lacked a framework from which to learn, coordinate and engage. However, Tearfund's local partner has initiated the establishment of the multi-stakeholder Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) network to enhance the collective capacity for sustainable DRR initiatives.

This has fostered greater collaboration, coordination, and advocacy with training on first aid and search and rescue disseminated to church leaders and young people. This network comprises a diverse group of 21 faith-based and non-faith-based organisations across four provinces and 18 districts.

Your appeal enabled the network to provide a swift and coordinated response to the November 2023 Jajarkot earthquake. Your funding was instrumental in a collaborative effort that delivered essential relief aid, including food and supplies, to help displaced people survive the harsh winter. Warm clothing was given to children (pictured below), and local counsellors were trained to offer psychological trauma healing to



affected families. This response demonstrated the efficacy of the network, where members pooled resources to deliver essential aid to affected populations

In South Sudan, scattered conflict led to an average of about 1,800 people daily crossing the border into South Sudan¹. This mass influx of returnees and refugees has put additional pressure on limited services, creating tension, but thanks to your appeal, local peace committees have been strengthened by Tearfund's partner and conflict resolution strategies have been promoted among local communities and IDPs.

One of the County Court Judges testified that they have seen a **marked reduction in conflict and revenge cases** brought before the court due to improved relationships between the different communities.

¹ <https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/south-sudan/south-sudan-humanitarian-snapshot-april-2024>

Community facilitators and counsellors were trained in peacebuilding skills and trauma healing to prevent conflicts from escalating. These activities have contributed to greater social cohesion and reduced community conflicts, sowing seeds of peace and restoring hope for a brighter future.

In North-Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, armed conflict and tribal warfare have led to tension and instability between different ethnic groups and communities, with women in particular suffering from sexual and gender based violence.

But thanks to your appeal, Tearfund's local partner was able to train 44 peace and gender champions and 46 religious and community leaders on conflict transformation and positive masculinity.² These peace actors organised community dialogues that have led to **a noticeable reduction in inter-community conflicts, allowing free movement between previously hostile villages.**

The money that your appeal raised also funded entrepreneurship training for 235 unemployed young people and gave them a small start-up grant. **Many have now started small businesses, reducing poverty, one of the root causes of local conflict.** Meanwhile, church leaders were trained to mobilise community initiatives such as building public sanitation facilities and group agricultural projects.

Brutal conflict in **Ukraine** has sent more than five million people on a desperate race to escape. Homes and infrastructure have been destroyed. Families have been separated. Lives have been lost. Tearfund has been **strengthening 167 Ukrainian and Moldovan churches to serve** the immediate needs of people fleeing within and from Ukraine, leading to recovery and peacebuilding.

By working closely with volunteers and by using existing resources, costs were kept to a minimum. In 2023, your funding has enabled Tearfund's partner to provide **essential supplies and warm spaces to 21,306 people, helping them make it through winter.** 6,500 bread loaves were distributed, and 1,600 hot lunches were provided to those in the most vulnerable contexts (like the elderly receiving food from a church below).

² **positive masculinity** is a lifestyle that boys and men are encouraged to adopt that promotes gender equality and the end of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Using the Bible, the approach challenges harmful social and gender norms that contribute to violence against women and girls by addressing the underlying beliefs, values, and power imbalances.



‘For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.’

Matthew 25:35

Thank you!

Thank you for going the extra mile in not only choosing to give, but in facilitating others to respond in generosity. The solidarity of your prayers and giving has been such a meaningful source of encouragement in an unpredictable season when we’ve seen other donors close their doors.

Though you may never meet them, your generosity, a profound act of Christian faith and love, has enabled local churches and partners to be first responders and lasting champions of hope in their communities. Together, we are seeing people move from places of crisis to places of resilience, from despair to hope.

Your generosity has helped Tearfund’s partners—and the churches they work with—to function as centres of transformation in a world reeling from crisis. **Thank you for standing with people in their darkest moments and for equipping them with the knowledge and tools to rebuild their lives with dignity and hope.** Thank you for everything you have done and continue to do.

Your appeal touched more than 100,000 people

Thanks to you, 103,704 people like Momina in vulnerable communities have been able to move from crisis to resilience. A further 21,642 people benefitted indirectly.³ At this time, five projects are continuing until late this year. An addendum report will be sent on their impact in due course.

³ An indirect project participated through a direct participant. **‘if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday.’** activities. They benefit

Please pray with us

Gracious God,

We lift up all those facing the relentless grip of crisis today—those displaced by conflict, whose homes have been swallowed by floods, and those battling hunger and yearning for safety and peace.

Your word says you are a refuge for the oppressed. Comfort them in their deep sorrow, calm their fears, and provide for their every desperate need.

Guide and strengthen Tearfund's local partners and the courageous church leaders on the front lines. Grant them safety, wisdom, and unwavering endurance to continue their vital work.

Strengthen our hands to be your hands, and move our hearts to act with compassion.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Thank you!